

## Crested Guineafowl

### *Guttera pucherani*

Family: Numididae, Genus: *Guttera*  
Recognized Subspecies: 0, Monotypic  
Conservation status: Least Concern  
Wild Pop. Trend: Stable  
CITES Not Listed  
USFWS: Not Listed

**Range:** Kenya, Somalia and Tanzania

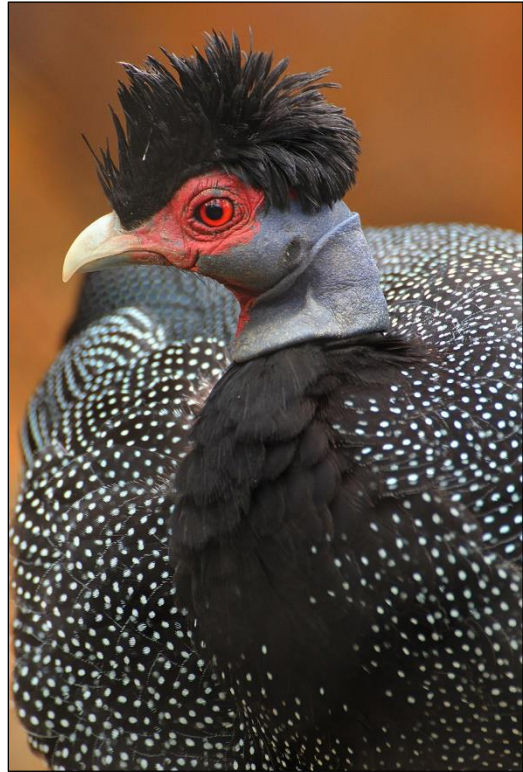
**Conservation Concern:** The Crested Guineafowl is listed as least concern by the IUCN. Habitat fragmentation and conversion of habitat due to the absence of mega mammals like elephants are thought to be putting pressure on the wild populations.

**Species account:** Originally this species was considered one of three subspecies of the Crested Guineafowl. Recent taxonomic re-evaluation has now split these subspecies into 3 recognized species. In the second version of the RCP, the Kenya-crested or Crested Guineafowl – the then *Guttera pucherani pucherani* – was selected for management because of its greater numbers within AZA.

A savannah specialist like the Vulturine Guineafowl, this species is a good addition to savannah-themed exhibits. Unlike the Vulturine, this species has bred more reliably in AZA collections.

**AZA Role:** Crested guinea fowl make excellent additions to mixed species exhibits. Their colorful plumage and unique crests are popular among visitors. Their calm demeanor has allowed them to work well in both covered aviaries and in large hoofstock yards. They do well in pairs, mixed sex groupings, and single sex groupings. Birds have been housed in hoofstock enclosures with flight restraint and some individuals have been trained to shift on and off exhibit. It is important to the health of the individual birds and the health of this population that when housing this species in hoofstock enclosures the birds have a safe place to nest.

**TAG Program Goals:** Of the species of guinea fowl currently in AZA, this species has the most known founder base and the population is growing. This species was first recommended in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the RCP and already has a published studbook and has undergone its first Breeding and Transfer planning session.



*Photo credit: Sacramento Zoo*

### Education Emphasis

- Flock social structure
- Habitat conversion

**AZA Connections:** The following table is not a guide of what the Crested Guineafowl can be housed with (although many of these are a possibility), but instead it is meant to show the range connections between other AZA recommended program species.



Crested Guineafowl chick  
Photo credit Sacramento Zoo

Crested Guineafowl <i>Guttera pucherani</i> recommended species by other TAGs within species range				
Common name	Scientific name	TAG	Program	Conservation status
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	PACCT TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Golden-breasted Starling	<i>Lamprotornis regius</i>	PACCT TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Superb Starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>	PACCT TAG	Candidate	Least Concern
White-headed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>	PACCT TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Taveta Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus castaneiceps</i>	PACCT TAG	TAG Monitored	Least Concern
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	PACCT TAG	TAG Monitored	Least Concern
Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	PACCT TAG	TAG Monitored	Least Concern
Red-billed Fire-finch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	PACCT TAG	TAG Monitored	Least Concern
Cut-throat Finch	<i>Amadina fasciata</i>	PACCT TAG	TAG Monitored	Least Concern
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	PACCT TAG	Candidate	Least Concern
Red-yellow Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus erythrocephalus</i>	Piciformes TAG	Red SSP	Least Concern
Fischer's Lovebird	<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>	Parrot TAG	TAG Monitored	Near Threatened
Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	Coraciiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>	Coraciiformes TAG	Red SSP	Least Concern
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
European White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	Ciconiiformes TAG	Red SSP	Least Concern
Cape Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	Charadriiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	Charadriiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Long-toed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>	Charadriiformes TAG	Unmanaged	Least Concern
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	Charadriiformes TAG	Red SSP	Least Concern
Black Crackle	<i>Zapornia flavirostra</i>	Gruiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
African Pygmy-goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern

Continued Crested Guineafowl <i>Guttera pucherani</i> recommended species by other TAGs within species range				
Common name	Scientific name	TAG	Program	Conservation status
White-faced Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Fulvous Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Macco Duck	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Phase-in	Near Threatened
Old World Comb Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Phase-in	Least Concern

\*\*Disclaimer: this information was collected in 2017. If you have interest in any of these species, contact the perspective TAGs. All range overlap information was determined using the IUCN Red List range maps.

### Conservation priority species that share the same range

- Reticulated Giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*
- Black Rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis*
- Hirola *Beatragus hunteri*

If your institution is supporting a field project with one of these species, see if your conservation partner is observing the Crested Guineafowl in their study/field site. If your Zoo displays one of the following species, the addition of an aviary for Crested Guineafowl can help illustrate the diversity of this biome at your institution.



Photo credit: Shutterstock