



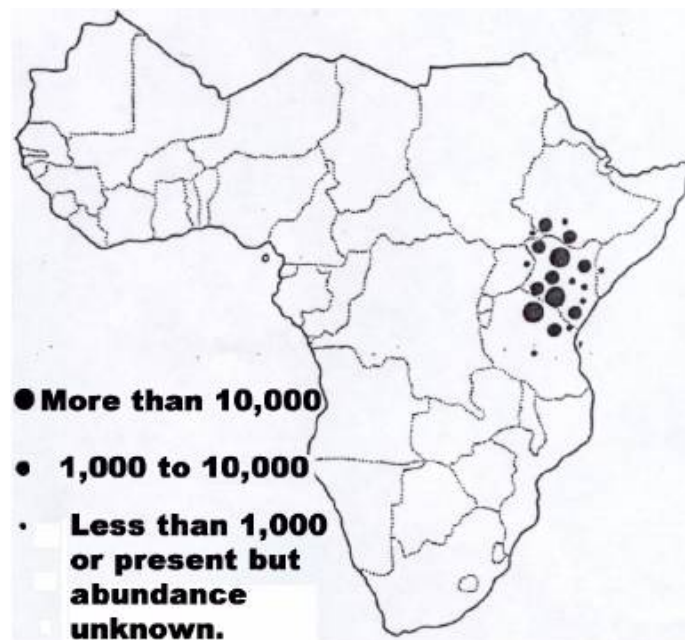
## **Grant's Gazelle, *Gazella granti***

**Legal Status:** Grant's gazelles are not protected by the U.S. Endangered Species Act, or its trade regulated by CITES. IUCN lists the Grant's gazelle as Lower Risk, Conservation Dependent. Like many other East African antelopes, however, its numbers are slowly decreasing over parts of its range although there are still enough large, stable populations to keep the total population at a satisfactory level.

**Description:** Grant's gazelles are large gazelles; males weigh 121-176 lb. (55-80 kg). Females are smaller, weighing 77-110 lb. (35-50 kg). Both sexes have horns; those of the male being longer (to 1.6-2.6 ft. /50-80 cm), thicker and more strongly ringed. The upper half of the body is fawn colored; the lower half and rump are white with a black stripe running down the thigh. Some 'subspecies' have a dark stripe located midway along their body.



**Distribution:** Grant's gazelles formerly occurred from southern Ethiopia to central Tanzania. Currently they are found in southeastern Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. Although a conservative estimate suggests a population of at least 140,000 individuals, their numbers are declining over all but approximately 25% of the current range.



**Habitat:** Grant's gazelles live in semi-desert and open savannas. During the season when many species migrate, some Grant's gazelles do not since they have a high tolerance of drought.

**Diet:** Grant's gazelles are dietary generalists, eating whatever is greenest. They consume herbs, foliage from shrubs, short grasses and shoots, depending on the season. They get the moisture they need from the food that they eat.



**Social Organization:** Outside the breeding season, Grant's gazelles form mixed groups that contain both sexes; during the breeding season, males become territorial, marking their territory with dung and urine. At this time, territories are defended from all other mature males. This usually begins with threat displays and can escalate to intense fighting between neighboring territorial males. Territorial males will attempt to keep females within their territories with displays but will not venture into the territory of another male when the females leave.

**Threats To Survival:** Despite the loss of parts of its range due to the expansion of agriculture, and the decline of some populations because of poaching and competition with livestock, Grant's gazelles remain widespread inside and outside protected areas. The species is considered stable at this point.

**Zoo Programs:** As of 18 May 2006, there were 89 individuals managed at 15 North American facilities. The AZA Antelope and Giraffe Taxon Advisory Group (TAG) manages this species through a Population Management Plan (PMP) and recommends a target population of 100 individuals within participating holders for education and



display. This target population will require close monitoring because current trends favor a noticeable surplus of males.

**Conservation:** Grant's gazelle's numbers and range seem to be secure in the wild at this time, although human settlement certainly affects their population. Since they are conspicuous and easy to kill, hunting may also impact their survival in the future.

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**Contacts:**

**North American Regional Studbook Keeper and Population Manager:**

Christy Poelker  
Saint Louis Zoo  
One Government Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63110 USA  
Phone: 314-781-0900 x251  
Fax: 314-647-7969  
[grantgazellestudbook@stlzoo.org](mailto:grantgazellestudbook@stlzoo.org)

**Wild Status:**

Stephen Shurter  
International Programs Director  
Gilman International Conservation Director  
White Oak Conservation Center  
581705 White Oak Road  
Yulee, FL 32907  
Tel: (904) 225-3396  
Fax: (904) 225-3395  
<mailto:steves@wogilman.org>

**Resources:**

African Wildlife Foundation – AWF: Wildlife: Grant's Gazelle  
[www.awf.org/content/wildlife/detail/grantsgazelle](http://www.awf.org/content/wildlife/detail/grantsgazelle)

IUCN/SSC Antelope Specialist Group – Northeast African Subgroup.  
[www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/sgs/neaasg](http://www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/sgs/neaasg).

Shurter, S. and Fischer, M., editors. 2006. AZA Antelope and Giraffe Advisory Group Regional Collection Plan, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org).