Nilgiri Marten

It is a vulnerable and little known carnivorous animal which is endemic to the Western Ghats. Nilgiri Marten looks like a civet or a mongoose and it most prefers higher altitudes. The present global population of the Nilgiri Marten is estimated below 1000.

The animal is placed in schedule 2 of the part 2 of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. Recent studies shows that Nilgiri marten is thriving in the Pampadum Shola National Park located on the southern portion of Western Ghats.

Shola forests

- 'Sholas' are patches of evergreen tropical and subtropical moist broadleaf forests.
- It is found in Southern India, particularly in the regions of Nilgiri, Palani Hills and Annamalai Hills.
- The Western Ghats and associated ranges in the states of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- The main varieties of Trees in this type of forest are Zenker, bishop wood, Indian mahogany, gular fig tree etc.