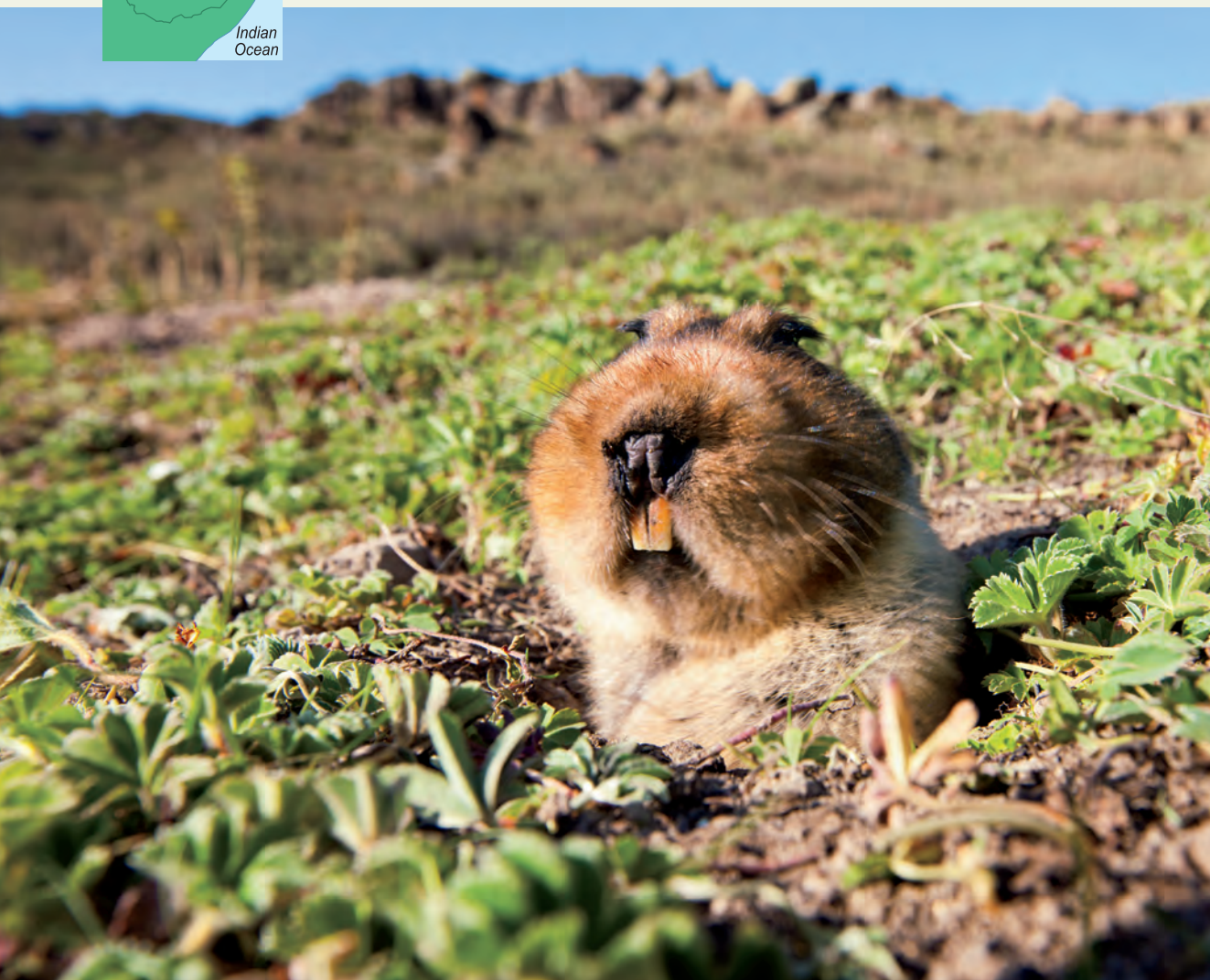




Giant Mole Rat (*Tachyoryctes macrocephalus*)

Size: Body length, 22 - 31 cm **Weight:** Up to 1.2 kg **Habitat:** Afroalpine wetlands, grasslands and moorlands in the Bale Mountains National Park of southern Ethiopia
Surviving number: Abundant locally; range small and declining



Photographed by William Burrard-Lucas

WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

Mighty bite. The giant mole rat is equipped with formidable incisors, which it displays as a warning when faced by rivals or predators. Its large teeth are also its primary tool when digging burrow systems, complete with a tunnel to a "hay pile" for rubbish and several foraging tunnels. Reluctant to stray far, the mole rat spends just an hour or so a day gathering grass and herbs with half its

stocky body still in the tunnel. But trouble comes home to it with predation by the rare Ethiopian wolf and raptors, plus overgrazing of its habitat by domestic livestock.

As Canon sees it, images have the power to raise awareness of the threats facing endangered species and the natural environment, helping us make the world a better place.



EOS System

Canon