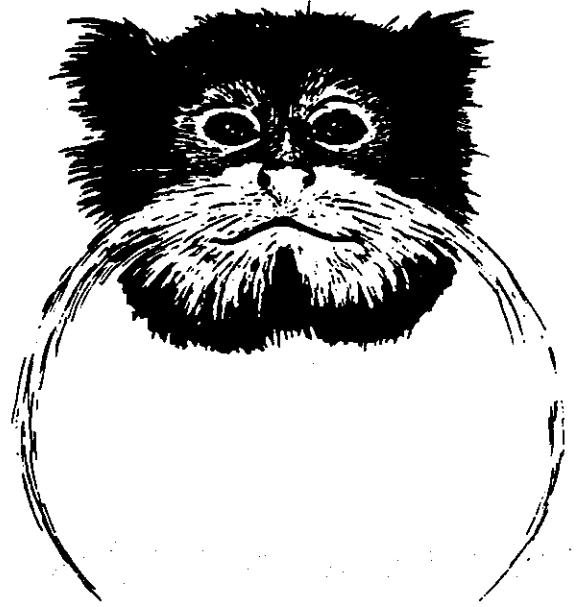


# IUCN / SSC PRIMATE SPECIALIST GROUP NEWSLETTER



Number 1

October, 1981

Editor:

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PURPOSE OF THE NEWSLETTER

This is the first issue of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group Newsletter, the main purpose of which will be to serve as a rapid means of communication among group members and other individuals interested in primate conservation. We believe that a newsletter of this kind has its place among the many primate journals now in existence, since no one journal specializes in primate conservation topics. In addition, given the publication delays in most established journals, most news of interest to primate conservationists often takes a year or two to appear. By circulating this newsletter, we hope to divulge newsworthy information on disappearing primates within at most a few months after the material is received.

We will try to issue the newsletter three times per year, usually after one of the three annual meetings of the SSC. This will enable us to report on the results of each SSC meeting and to make announcements about the next scheduled meeting so that members can attend those that are held in their region. However, we will not be bound by the thrice yearly schedule and will produce additional issues if the material available from group members warrants it.



The IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group Newsletter is produced and circulated courtesy of the World Wildlife Fund - US and the Dept. of Anatomical Sciences of the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

The News Section of this issue covers a number of projects that have been conducted in the past year, and contributions of this kind (maximum of two double-spaced typed pages) are welcome from all members. Since the editor is in the field for several months each year, we suggest that you send all contributions for the newsletter to the assistant editor.

Although the News Section will make up the bulk of the newsletter, other items of interest such as new members, projects funded, letter-writing campaigns, availability of field assistants, and meetings or literature of potential interest to members will also be covered.

We hope that you will all find the newsletter useful and interesting, and look forward to your contributions and suggestions.

### GOALS AND ORGANIZATION OF THE IUCN/SSC PRIMATE SPECIALIST GROUP

Although most of you are already quite familiar with our goals and the way in which the group is organized, we will briefly repeat them here for the benefit of new members and non-members receiving the newsletter.

#### Goals

The main goal of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group is to maintain the current diversity of the Order Primates, with dual emphasis on:

1. ensuring the survival of endangered and vulnerable species wherever they occur; and
2. providing effective protection for large numbers of primates in areas of high primate diversity and/or abundance.

We realize that activities underway in many parts of the world make it inevitable that a certain portion of the world's forests and the primates living in them will disappear. Our role as primate conservationists is to minimize this loss wherever possible. This can be accomplished by:

1. setting aside special protected areas for endangered and vulnerable species;
2. creating large national parks and reserves in areas of high primate diversity and/or abundance;
3. maintaining parks and reserves that already exist and enforcing protective legislation in them;
4. creating public awareness of the need for primate conservation and the importance of primates as a natural heritage in the countries in which they occur.

We are placing particular emphasis, especially in the Global Strategy for Primate Conservation, on conservation of habitat and furtherance of conservation education because

we consider both measures absolutely essential and in large part inseparable. Regardless of how broadly one wishes to define conservation, long-term survival of natural populations will not be possible if habitats are not conserved and if local people in the areas where primates occur do not fully support conservation efforts.

Two other important measures are:

- 5. determining ways in which man and his fellow primates can coexist in multiple-use areas; and
- 6. establishing conservation-oriented captive breeding programs for endangered species.

The first of these recognizes that only a limited portion of the world's primates will survive in undisturbed parks and reserves. In many other places, man and his forest-dwelling nonhuman primate relatives will have to learn how to coexist. Primate conservationists will have to determine which of the existing forms of forest exploitation do the least damage to primate populations and will have to encourage use of these wherever possible.

The second measure takes into account the fact that some severely depleted, highly restricted species and subspecies may simply not survive in the wild because all of their remaining habitat will be destroyed. Conservation-oriented breeding programs may be the only hope for such species. However, breeding programs of this kind should be considered a safety measure and should not replace efforts to save wild populations if any chance of saving these remains.

Finally, primate conservation can be furthered by:

- 7. ending all illegal and otherwise destructive traffic in primates; and
- 8. ensuring that research institutions using primates are aware of the conservation problems and that they are using primates as prudently as possible, without threatening the survival of any wild populations.

(Taken from the first edition of the Global Strategy for Primate Conservation and from Mittermeier, R. A., Primate Eye 16: 24-30, 1981.)

Organization

At the present time, the Primate Group is divided into five sections, representing the four major regions of primate diversity plus a special section for miscellaneous activities. A graphic representation of group organization is given on the following page.

ORGANIZATION OF THE IUCN/SSC PRIMATE SPECIALIST GROUP

IUCN/SSC PRIMATE  
SPECIALIST GROUP

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

Responsible for conservation of:  
16 genera &  
53 species

ASIA

Responsible for conservation of:  
12 genera &  
55 species

AFRICA

Responsible for conservation of:  
13 genera &  
46 species

MADAGASCAR

Responsible for conservation of:  
12 genera &  
21 species

SPECIAL SECTION

Misc. activities including conservation education, captive breeding, satellite imagery analysis, etc.

Composition:

16 members

23 members

11 members

6 members

4 members

## REVISION OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PRIMATE CONSERVATION

The first edition of the Global Strategy for Primate Conservation was prepared in January, 1978 and is now quite out of date. In preparation for the upcoming WWF Tropical Forest and Primates Campaign, to be launched in October, 1982, we are revising the Global Strategy and plan to publish it in three sections: South and Central America, Asia and Africa/Madagascar. A list of tentative project titles for each region is included in Appendix A of the newsletter. If any of you wish to prepare abstracts for the projects listed, add new projects, or make modifications of any kind, please contact us as soon as possible. As noted in an earlier circular, the format for abstracts should be as follows:

1. Title of project
2. Area where project is to be conducted
3. Approx. dates of project (or time span required if exact dates have not yet been determined)
4. Principal investigator(s)
5. Approx. amount required to conduct project
6. Objectives (a brief review of what the project plans to accomplish in terms of primate conservation)
7. Justification and Background (why the project is necessary, and what previous work has been done in the area)
8. Other primates in the area to be investigated (aside from the target species)
9. References cited (give all bibliographic information as in a scientific publication)
10. Map of the area to be covered

If you have any photographs of the primates and/or the habitats covered in your project, please send them together with the abstract. The map is also important, and should be of the country in which the research is to be conducted. It should show the location of the principal study area(s) and, if possible, the range of the species in that country. Please send maps and photographs that are of good quality, suitable for publication. Credit will be given both for preparation of the abstract as well as for any photographs or illustrations.

Abstracts should be kept to a maximum of five typed double-spaced pages, less if possible.

Please note that the Global Strategy will include a number of different kinds of projects, among them:

1. ongoing projects for which funding and personnel are already available;
2. projects for which full proposals have been submitted and for which personnel are available, but which have not yet been funded; and
3. projects which the group considers essential, but for which neither personnel nor funding are yet available.

Please also note that submission of an abstract to the Global Strategy is not considered a formal application for funds. It is merely a means of

listing the project in the SSC's plan for the next three years. Full proposals in WWF format (see Appendix B) will be required before a project can actually be considered for funding.

Several members, responding to the earlier circular requesting Global Strategy abstracts, commented that the list of projects appended to the circular was not a strategy, but rather just a list. Please let us clarify that the list in Appendix A is not intended to be a strategy at this time. It is merely intended to be a compilation of titles (based in part on the 1978 Global Strategy) for potential projects. Turning this compilation into an actual strategy will depend on input from group members. We need project abstracts and we need discussion of what you consider to be the highest primate conservation priorities in the region in which you are working. Without this, the Global Strategy will remain nothing more than a list.

We also request that all projects suggested for the Global Strategy include some indication of practical application. Although many theoretically interesting projects on behavior and ecology can be conducted on endangered primates, the limited conservation funds available and the urgency of the situation for many species make it essential that we concentrate on projects that have some immediate relevance to the survival of the species/ habitats of concern. In particular, we seek projects aimed at:

1. establishing new protected areas (e.g., national parks, reserves, sanctuaries) for endangered and vulnerable species;
2. evaluating and improving existing protected areas;
3. developing management plans for endangered primate species and their habitats;
4. doing basic survey work in high priority areas about which very little is known;
5. developing conservation education programs for local people in the areas in which primates occur.

The situation of the majority of primate species continues to decline and concentrating on projects like these is the only way in which we will be able to ensure the survival of a representative cross-section of all living members of the Order Primates.

We hope to be preparing the revised Global Strategy over the next six months, probably starting with the Neotropical region and moving on to Asia and Africa. We hope that all three sections will be published by the time the Tropical Forest and Primates Campaign begins.

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#### LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGNS

One of the ways in which the Primate Group can generate action on

behalf of primate conservation is through letter-writing campaigns. Every year, a number of situations arise in which a government has to be encouraged to take action on behalf of a particular species, park or reserve or congratulated for positive steps already taken, and one of the best ways to accomplish this is through a barrage of letters from the international conservation community. Since we are a large group, we can be very effective in this regard.

Thus far, we have had three campaigns, the first to encourage the establishment of a national park in Panama, the second to discourage the export of chimps and gorillas from Uganda and to request increased protection for two important reserves for gorillas, and the third to encourage the Japanese government to implement an important management plan (developed with assistance from the Japanese International Cooperation Agency) for the Mahale Mountains National Park in Tanzania. Several other campaigns will be initiated in the near future, and we hope that all of you will be willing to participate.

#### AVAILABILITY OF VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS

Every year, we receive a number of requests from people interested in taking part in field projects involving primates. Frequently, these people, many of whom are university undergraduates or beginning graduate students, are willing to pay their own way and work as volunteers to learn more about primates and field research techniques. A substantial portion of these people will probably continue in conservation and we believe it important to help them along in the early stages of their careers. To facilitate this, we will use a section of each newsletter to list names, addresses and specific interests of people wanting to take part in primate field research. Furthermore, if group members require volunteer assistants for any of their projects, they may advertise here as well. In this way, we hope to make available yet another untapped pool of labor and enthusiasm for primate conservation.

#### PRIMATE GROUP MEMBERSHIP LIST

At the present time, the Primate Group is composed of more than 60 members from all the major geographical areas in which primates occur. The roster of names and addresses is now being revised and updated and will be included in the next newsletter.

#### PRIMATES IN THE IUCN RED DATA BOOK

The next issue of the newsletter will also include a list of the world's endangered, vulnerable and rare primates from the IUCN Red Data Book, Vol. I, Mammalia. If you have any new information on these or any other primates that you think deserve to be included in the Red Data Book, please it directly to:

Jane Thornback  
Species Conservation Monitoring Unit  
219 (c) Huntingdon Road  
Cambridge CB3 0DL  
England

Jane is compiler of the Mammal Red Data Book, and needs the help of all group members to ensure that this important reference work is always up-to-date.

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### PRIMATE GROUP PUBLICATION SERIES

The Primate Group has initiated two publication series. The first of these is entitled Miscellaneous Publications of the IUCN Primate Specialist Group, and is intended for short reports on various aspects of primate conservation. Most of these miscellaneous contributions are being published in Oryx, at least initially, and three have already appeared. Papers in this series should not exceed five double-spaced typed pages in length.

The second series is entitled Primate Conservation Monographs, and will be primarily for longer conservation reports (over 50 pages) that would be difficult to publish elsewhere because of their length. We feel that there is a real problem in conservation in that many potentially important final reports on field projects funded by WWF and other organizations never see the light of day. They are submitted by the researcher, perhaps read by a few people in the funding organization, and then quite frequently relegated to the file cabinet, never to be seen again. We hope that this series will at least partly remedy this situation for important primate projects, and we will be providing free circulation of these monographs to the countries in which the research was conducted. The series will be published in booklet form, and is being supported by WWF-US.

Anyone wishing to submit papers for either of these series, please contact the chairman.

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### NEW LITERATURE ON PRIMATE CONSERVATION

Each issue of the newsletter will include a list of new publications relating to primate conservation, together with the name and address of the author to facilitate requests for reprints. If any of you have published papers on primate conservation in the past year, please send us the titles and indicate whether or not reprints are available. We are also interested in listing unpublished reports provided that they are available for circulation.



N E W S                      S E C T I O N

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

Atlantic forest region of eastern Brazil a top primate conservation priority

The Atlantic forests of eastern Brazil once included some of the richest forests on earth and stretched, for the most part continuously, from the state of Rio Grande do Norte in northeastern Brazil to Rio Grande do Sul, the southernmost Brazilian state. However, this area was the first to be colonized and is now the most densely populated part of the country and also the center of agriculture, cattle-raising and industry. Forest clearance, which was already well underway in some parts of eastern Brazil (e.g., the state of São Paulo) in the last century, has increased tremendously in the last two decades, with the result that only tiny fragments of the Atlantic forests now remain.

Although never as rich as the vast Amazonian forests to the north, the Atlantic forests have a high level of endemism for both plants and animals. Primates are especially diverse, with six genera and 20 taxa found in the region. Two entire genera, Brachyteles and Leontopithecus, are endemic, and include some of the most endangered primates in the world.

In 1979, a survey project was initiated to determine the status of primate populations in existing protected areas in eastern Brazil, and especially in the southeastern "core area" of primate diversity (including the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Espírito Santo, the eastern part of the state of Minas Gerais, and the southern tip of the state of Bahia). This project, carried out jointly by the WWF-US Primate Program and the Rio de Janeiro Primate Center, also works in cooperation with the Brazilian Forestry Development Institute (IBDF), the Forestry Institute of the state of São Paulo, and the Zoology Dept. of the Federal University of Minas Gerais. Thus far, the project has surveyed a total of 23 national parks, national biological reserves, state parks and privately protected forests. Preliminary findings indicate that no less than 13 of the 17 taxa found in the southeastern "core area" are endangered, and two others are vulnerable. Of the endangered species, at least four are critically endangered, and must be considered on the verge of extinction. The status of the 17 taxa on which data are available is given in the accompanying table.

The project will continue its efforts in eastern Brazil, which, together with Madagascar, is probably the highest primate conservation priority in the world. Plans include large scale conservation education campaigns, improvement of existing protected areas and establishment of new ones in several key areas, training of Brazilian students, and captive breeding of the most endangered taxa.

Russell A. Mittermeier  
Adelmar F. Coimbra-Filho  
Anthony Rylands  
Isabel D. Constable

Table - Conservation status of primates in the Atlantic forest region of eastern Brazil (includes only the 17 taxa of the southeastern "core area").

Species	Status	Range
Southern Bahian marmoset ( <u>Callithrix kuhlii</u> )	Vulnerable	Southern tip of the state of Bahia
Geoffroy's white-faced marmoset ( <u>Callithrix geoffroyi</u> )	Endangered	Espirito Santo and eastern Minas Gerais
Buff-headed marmoset ( <u>Callithrix flaviceps</u> )	Endangered	Southeastern Espirito Santo and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais
Buffy-tufted-ear marmoset ( <u>Callithrix aurita</u> )	Endangered	Sao Paulo, and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro (apparently now extinct in Rio)
Common or white-tufted-ear marmoset ( <u>Callithrix jacchus</u> )	Not endangered	Native to northeastern Brazil; introduced into the city of Rio de Janeiro, and other parts of the southeast
Golden lion tamarin ( <u>Leontopithecus rosalia</u> )	Critically endangered	Lowlands of Rio de Janeiro
Golden-headed lion tamarin ( <u>Leontopithecus chrysomelas</u> )	Endangered	Southern tip of the state of Bahia
Golden-rumped lion tamarin ( <u>Leontopithecus chrysopygus</u> )	Critically endangered	Formerly the interior of Sao Paulo; now only two state reserves in S.P.
Northern masked titi ( <u>Callicebus personatus melanochir</u> )	Endangered	Southern Bahia and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais and northern Espirito Santo
Central masked titi ( <u>Callicebus personatus personatus</u> )	Endangered	Espirito Santo and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais
Southern masked titi ( <u>Callicebus personatus nigrifrons</u> )	Endangered	Sao Paulo and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro
Buffy-headed tufted capuchin monkey ( <u>Cebus apella xanthosternos</u> )	Endangered	Southern tip of the state of Bahia
Robust tufted capuchin ( <u>Cebus apella robustus</u> )	Vulnerable	Northern Espirito Santo, extreme southern Bahia and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais
Southeastern Brazilian tufted capuchin monkey ( <u>Cebus apella nigritus</u> )	Not endangered	Southern Espirito and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais south to Rio Grande do Sul
Northern brown howler monkey ( <u>Alouatta fusca fusca</u> )	Critically endangered	Northern Espirito Santo, adjacent parts of Minas Gerais, and southern Bahia
Southern brown howler monkey ( <u>Alouatta fusca clamitans</u> )	Endangered	Southern Espirito Santo and adjacent parts of Minas Gerais south to Rio Grande do Sul
Muriqui or woolly spider monkey ( <u>Brachyteles arachnoides</u> )	Critically endangered	Southern Bahia, through eastern Minas Gerais, Espirito Santo and Rio de Janeiro to Sao Paulo (now extinct in almost all of its former range)



Muriqui or woolly spider monkey (Brachyteles arachnoides)



Golden-headed lion tamarin  
(Leontopithecus chrysomelas)



Buffy-headed marmoset  
(Callithrix flaviceps)

### Primate Center established in Rio de Janeiro

The Rio de Janeiro Primate Center, inaugurated in November, 1979, is the world's first primate center devoted mainly to conservation of endangered species. Funded principally by the State Foundation for Environmental Engineering (FEEMA), the Center has also received support from WWF-US, the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society and the Wildlife Preservation Trust International. It is located approx. 100 km from the city of Rio de Janeiro, at the foot of the Serra dos Orgãos mountain range. Thriving colonies already exist for five endangered southeastern Brazilian callitrichids: the golden lion tamarin (Leontopithecus rosalia), the golden-headed lion tamarin (Leontopithecus chrysomelas), the golden-rumped lion tamarin (Leontopithecus chrysopygus), Geoffroy's white-faced marmoset (Callithrix geoffroyi), and the buff-headed marmoset (Callithrix flaviceps). Representatives of several other endangered taxa are also being kept in the Center, and plans are underway to establish breeding colonies for these and other endangered eastern Brazilian monkeys. Cooperative programs are also being developed with other breeding centers to establish satellite colonies that will ensure the long-term survival of the species of concern. The library of the Center is already one of the best primatological libraries in South America, and will be of great assistance in training Brazilian students.

Adelmar F. Coimbra-Filho  
Director, Rio de Janeiro Primate  
Center

### Poster campaign initiated for the endangered pied bare-face tamarin in Amazonas, Brazil

A poster has just been produced for the endangered pied bare-face tamarin (Saguinus b. bicolor) from Amazonas, Brazil. This monkey, which has a small range centered on the rapidly-expanding city of Manaus, is declining because of habitat destruction. It has been studied by a team from the National Amazon Research Institute (INPA) since the beginning of 1980, and an education campaign is now being initiated with a poster produced by the Rare Animal Relief Effort, in conjunction with WWF-US and INPA. The goal of the campaign is to convince the government to establish a large reserve for the protection of the pied bare-face tamarin and other species from this part of Amazonia.

José Márcio Ayres  
National Amazon Research  
Institute

## SALVE O SAUIM-DE-COLEIRA



Este pequeno macaco, que não chega a pesar ½ Kg, tem como nome científico Saguinus bicolor mas é popularmente conhecido como o "sauim-de-coleira".

A rápida expansão da cidade de Manaus nos últimos 10 anos, está ameaçando a sobrevivência deste sauim, outrora muito abundante nas matas vizinhas à cidade. Não deixemos que este primata passe para a lista das espécies do passado. Ajude a preservá-lo.

PRODUZIDO POR  
Rare Animal Relief Effort, Inc.  
c/o National Audubon Society  
250 Third Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

INPA

INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE  
PESQUISAS DA AMAZÔNIA  
Ladeira do Alvo 1100—Cala Postal 478  
Manaus—AMAZONAS 69101

DISTRIBUÍDO POR  
WORLD  
WILDLIFE  
FUNDUS

Two protected areas proposed for the Peruvian yellow-tailed woolly monkey

The Peruvian yellow-tailed woolly monkey (Lagothrix flavicauda) is found only in a small area of the Andes in northern Peru and is considered one of the most endangered primates in South America. Rediscovered in 1974 after not having been seen for nearly 50 years, this monkey, the largest mammal endemic to Peru, does not yet occur in any protected area. Two surveys conducted in 1978 and 1980 have located two areas appropriate for park or reserve status. The first of these, situated in the northern part of the state of San Martin, covers some 125,000 ha and is being proposed as a "Reserved Area". The second, in the central part of the same state, covers 565,000 ha and is being considered for national park status. The latter area, known as El Gran Pajatén, is also of great archeological importance, having within the proposed borders one of the most important series of ruins in Peru. In addition to protecting populations of L. flavicauda, these two areas would also provide sanctuary for a number of other disappearing species, such as the spectacled bear (Tremarctos ornatus), the giant anteater (Mylrmecophaga tridactyla), the giant armadillo (Priodontes giganteus), and a variety of endemic birds.

Mariella Leo Luna  
Lima, Peru

AFRICA

Sierra Leone establishes a major national park and ends all wildlife export

Work on the Outamba-Kilimi National Park in Sierra Leone (described in greater detail in the attached brochure) will begin in December, 1981. On September 18, President Siaka Stevens and a number of government ministers went to see the park area and held a meeting in the main town in the region to declare that the park project will be starting at the end of the year. He gave the project full government and presidential backing and requested that all people living in this part of Sierra Leone give it their support as well.

In addition, President Stevens declared that from December on all export of wildlife and wildlife products will end in Sierra Leone, and all people in the wildlife export business will have to close down. He also gave this important measure his personal backing and gave the Wildlife Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry the authorization to enforce it.

Included among the primates that will be protected in this important national park are the following: chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes), baboons (Papio anubis and possibly Papio papio as well), sooty mangabeys (Cercocebus torquatus), patas monkeys (Erythrocebus patas), green monkeys (Cercopithecus aethiops sabaues), mona monkeys (Cercopithecus campbelli), spotnosed guenons (Cercopithecus petaurista), red colobus (Colobus badius), black and white colobus (Colobus polykomos), dwarf galagos (Galago demidovii), and possibly lesser galagos (Galago senegalensis).

Geza Teleki  
George Washington University

News on a very rare and poorly known guenon from Nigeria

Cercopithecus erythrogastrer, commonly known as the white-throated or red-bellied guenon, is one of the least known of all primate species and seems to have one of the most restricted geographic ranges. It was first described in 1866 from a specimen in the London Zoo that had been shipped from Lagos, Nigeria. Since that time, only about 25 specimens have appeared in zoos and museum collections in Europe and the United States, but the place of origin of most of these animals is not known. A wild population was not located until 1938, when a few of the animals were collected in the Ohosu Forest Reserve, 60 km northwest of Benin City. Since that time, three further specimens have been collected in the wild, one in the Okumu Forest Reserve and two in the Sapoba Forest Reserve, both sites located about 40 km from Benin.

During a brief visit to southern Nigeria in January, 1981, two specimens of C. erythrogastrer were seen in the Ogba Zoo in Benin and two wild groups were seen on the edge of the Okumu Forest Reserve, indicating that the species still survives. However, given the tremendous pressure on the forests and wildlife in the area, it is probably seriously endangered and should be listed in the IUCN Red Data Book as soon as possible.

C. erythrogastrer is especially interesting in that it may represent a relic population of an ancestral Cercopithecus stock from which several other species have been derived.

John F. Oates  
Hunter College, City Univ.  
of New York

Mountain Gorilla Project improves the outlook for one of the world's most endangered primates

A combination of habitat destruction and poaching has reduced the population of mountain gorillas (Gorilla gorilla beringei) in the Virunga Volcanoes of East-Central Africa to about 200 animals as of 1981, about half the number estimated by George Schaller in a 1960 survey. When one of Dian Fossey's study groups fell victim to poachers in early 1978, several conservation organizations started fund-raising campaigns on behalf of this highly endangered animal and combined to form the Mountain Gorilla Project, which was launched in Rwanda in September, 1979.

The Mountain Gorilla Project is a good example of productive cooperation among different conservation organizations. The Peoples Trust for Endangered Species (U.K.) and the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society have initiated a country-wide conservation education campaign. Together with the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, they have developed controlled tourism in the Rwandan sector of the Virunga Volcanoes (the Parc National des Volcans), and have successfully habituated three gorilla groups so that they can be viewed by small groups of visitors. The African Wildlife Leadership Foundation has also undertaken park protection work, in particular the training of park guards, and the World Wildlife Fund has contributed to the education program and has provided two vehicles to the Rwandan Office of National Parks. Other support has come from the U. S. Peace

Corps, the Belgian Technical Assistance Program and the New York Zoological Society.

All parts of the project have been undertaken in close collaboration with the Rwandan Park and Education authorities, and its success to date has demonstrated how much can be achieved when several organizations combine to tackle what none could afford to do alone. The education program has reached almost all the country's secondary schools and a large part of the population around the park. Wildlife clubs have started in several schools. All visitors to the park are accompanied by a trained guide, and go by foot. Those who can manage the trek can now be guaranteed good sightings of gorillas, which many of them describe as their most memorable wildlife experience. Thanks to this controlled tourism, the Parc des Volcans did not suffer an economic loss for the first time in its history. Indeed, it showed a considerable profit for 1980, thus providing a solid economic argument in favor of conservation. Thousands of snares and many poachers have also been removed from the park, which is now also free of the cattle that were previously grazed there.

As a result, the present outlook for the mountain gorilla is much more promising than it was just two years ago, and the Mountain Gorilla Project is seeking funds to consolidate the progress made thus far. In particular, it would like to extend the project to the other two countries that share the Virungas with Rwanda, namely Zaire and Uganda. International cooperation in border areas always presents problems, but there are some promising signs. All three countries have authorized a census of the gorilla population for 1981, and hopefully this will lay the groundwork for future cooperation.

Rosalind Aveling  
Mountain Gorilla Project  
Ruhengeri, Rwanda

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## MADAGASCAR

### Major program announced for Madagascar by WWF-International

WWF-International has announced a major, multi-faceted program for conservation in Madagascar. This program includes support for a WWF representative in Madagascar and for three sub-programs: 1) preservation of genetic diversity; 2) maintenance of essential ecological processes, and 3) sustained utilization of ecosystems. Three projects have already been approved for funding under the sub-program for preservation of genetic diversity, and they include management of the Ampijoroa (Ankarafantsika) Forest Station (Madagascar's single most important protected area and the habitat of seven species of lemurs), study and protection of the aye-aye at Nosy-Mangabe, and study of the vegetation of Ambohitantely Forest on the high plateau. The subprogram for maintenance of essential ecological processes will begin with a project aimed at strengthening the existing protected areas in Madagascar, which include two national parks, 21 natural reserves, and 11 special reserves. Sub-program 3 places emphasis on development of buffer zones around protected areas and formulation of policies for sustainable forestry practices. A project on conservation education is also included.

The Madagascar program is being carried out in collaboration with the Ministers of Rural Development, Scientific Research and Finance and Planning, the Chief of the Water and Forest Department, and the Chief of the Division for Protection of Flora and Fauna.

We are delighted that this program has been initiated, since Madagascar is unquestionably one of the top two or three primate conservation priorities in the world.

Excerpted from: WWF Monthly Report,  
January, 1981

## ASIA

### Survey to be conducted in the proposed Lanjak-Entimau Sanctuary in Sarawak

A survey is now underway in the proposed Lanjak-Entimau Sanctuary in Sarawak. This large and important area, which is located in the second, third, sixth and seventh divisions of Sarawak, East Malaysia (coordinates 1°19'N to 1°52'N and 111°52'E to 112°25'E) is perhaps the final refuge for the orangutan (Pongo pygmaeus) in Sarawak, and also an important area for the Bornean gibbon (Hylobates muelleri), several species of leaf monkey and macaques (Presbytis spp., Macaca spp.), and probably also the slow loris (Nycticebus coucang) and the Bornean tarsier (Tarsius bancanus). The survey will provide the basis for long-term management of the sanctuary, and is being carried out by the Sarawak Forest Department, assisted by a scientific team funded by World Wildlife Fund - Malaysia. Logistical support is also being given by the Royal Malaysian Air Force, and the project is being directed by Mr. Kron Aken of the Sarawak Forest Department.

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Juvenile bokkoi  
 (Macaca pagensis)



Infant simakobu  
 (Simias concolor)