

**JUNE
2011**

**EDITION 6
VOLUME 1**

**WILDLIFE
FOOD
GOLD**



**TAKE CARE OF
YOUR PLANET!**

**YOU CAN MAKE THE
DIFFERENCE**

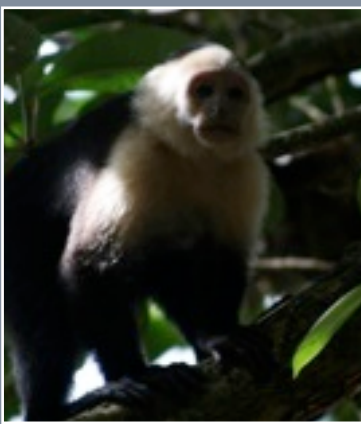
PRIMATE ALARM

Vietnam has with its 25 species and subspecies the highest number of primate groups of the countries located on the Southeast Asian mainland. Five of the species are endemic

to Vietnam, and they are also listed among the 25 world's most endangered primates. They are hunted for their meat and fur, bodies used for dubious medicines, and they lose their habitat. Especially langur and macaques

have dwindled to critical numbers which threatens the preservation of these species. It is in an alarming rate. Nowadays much effort is done to breed, research, and conserve endangered primates.

PRIMATES



WHAT ARE PRIMATES

The order Primates includes humans, apes, monkeys, and [prosimians](#). Most primates live in tropical or subtropical regions of the Americas, Africa and Asia. They are adapted to live in trees and on the ground. Almost all primates are active during the day and sleep at night. Primates are highly social animals.

Cuc Phuong National Park and Cat Ba National Park are located in the North East of Vietnam. Due to unique microclimates in this long-stretched country; a wide variety of flora and fauna can be found. These national parks are especially famous for the diversity of primate species. 5 species are endemic to Vietnam.

Cat Ba Island

Cat Ba Island is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Vietnam. The government declared the northern part of the island as [national park](#) in 1991. The adjacent [UNESCO Biosphere Reserve](#) was created to conserve its unique wildlife. Habitat loss is the main threat for the (critically) endangered primates. Also 1) the lack of partnership and commitment with the local communities and 2) the aspirations for development, and due to 3) the steadily increasing human population, 4) severe deficiencies in law enforcement; are causes for decline. As a [result](#), only 65 individuals [golden-headed langur](#) remain in the wild.

Conservation, research & education

In many places in Vietnam increased attention is given to conservation, research, and (environmental) education. [Cuc Phuong National Park](#) has a remarkable good visitor

centre. The center has greatly contributed largely to the public's knowledge about Vietnamese primates and their perilous situations. Awareness has been raised in both visitors and local communities. Numerous national and foreign TV programs and newspaper articles have reported on the center's work and the situation of the primates in the wild. Another important tasks of the centre is to educate school children about conservation and nature. A team of conservationists of the Endangered Primate Rescue Center is involved in the conservation and research of the primate species.

Endangered Primate Rescue Center

The [Endangered Primate Rescue Center](#) (EPRC), located at Cuc Phuong National Park, southwest of Hanoi, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rehabilitation, breeding, research, and conservation of endangered primates, and to the protection of their habitats. Established in 1993 it started with keeping confiscated primates. The final goal of the EPRC is the establishment of stable populations of highly endangered primate species in captivity as a source for further reintroduction programs. Thanks to many volunteers and sponsors this project is able to continue its efforts to save the primates.

