

Status of South Asian Primates

Executive Summary of the Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (C.A.M.P.) for South Asian Primates

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Introduction

A Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (C.A.M.P.) Workshop for South Asian Non-Human Primates was held from 5-9 March 2002 at the State Forest Service College (SFSC) in Coimbatore, India. More than 50 field biologists from all over South Asia participated along with four Indian zoo personnel. The IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group was well-represented with members from South Asia, UK and USA, including the PSG Vice Chair for Asia. The workshop could take advantage of new information from the Indo-US Primate Project (MoEF/USFWS) in India, the University of Mysore Loris study in southern India and the Primate Biology Programme (Smithsonian Institution) in Sri Lanka and several other smaller projects.

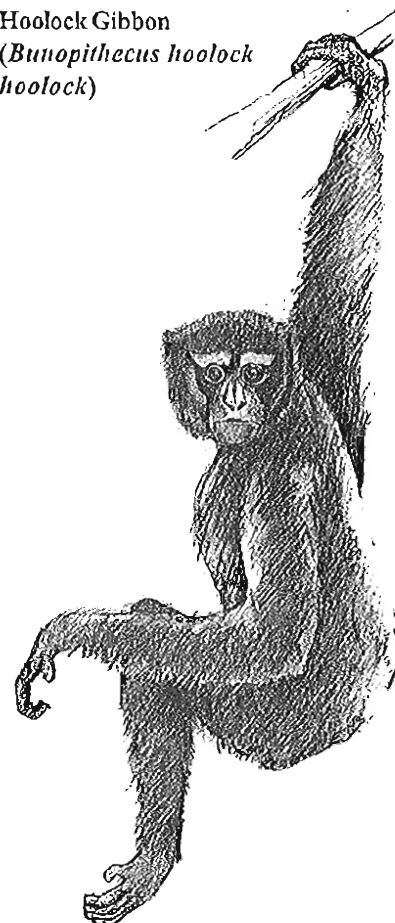
The South Asian Primate C.A.M.P. was endorsed by the IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group, the IUCN SSC Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, the IUCN Regional Biodiversity Programme (RBP), Asia and the Indo-US Primate Project. Conservation International, Primate Conservation, Inc., Chester Zoo, North Carolina

Zoological Park, Lincoln Park Zoo, Oklahoma City Zoo, Toronto Zoo, the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, and Appenheul Primate Park provided funds for the workshop.

The C.A.M.P. Process

The C.A.M.P. Process was developed by the IUCN SSC Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG). It includes assembling experts such as wildlife managers, SSC Specialist Group members, representatives of the academic community or private sector, researchers, captive managers and other stakeholders who provide the most current information in order to a) assign species and subspecies to IUCN Categories of Threat; b) formulate broad-based management

Hoolock Gibbon
(*Bunopithecus hoolock hoolock*)



Purple-faced Leaf Monkey
(*Trachypithecus vetulus*)

recommendations, and c) develop more comprehensive management and recovery programs *in situ* and/or *ex situ*. Extensive review is carried out by participants who desire to do so before the final Report is finalised.

The 2001 IUCN Red List Criteria (Version 3.1)

C.A.M.P. workshops use the most recent version of the IUCN Red List Criteria and Categories and, where

appropriate, the IUCN SSC Guidelines for Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at Regional Levels, as tools in assessing the status of a group of taxa. In the last decade IUCN has improved the method of assessing taxa by incorporating numerical values attached to the different criteria for threat categories. The 2001 version of the Red List Criteria and Categories use a set of five criteria (population reduction; restricted distribution; continuing decline and fluctuation; restricted population and continuing decline; very small population; and probability of extinction) to determine the threatened categories, which are Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU). Other categories are Extinct (EX), Extinct in the Wild (EW), Near Threatened (NT), Least Concern (LC),



Assamese Macaque
(*Macaca assamensis*)

Illustrations by Arnab Roy

List of South Asian Primates, C.A.M.P., Coimbatore, India, March, 2002
Scientific Name, Common Name and Status (R-Regional Assessment for South Asia*)

Loridae

1. <i>Loris lydekkerianus lydekkerianus</i>	Mysore Slender Loris	NT
2. <i>Loris lydekkerianus malabaricus</i>	Malabar Slender Loris	NT
3. <i>Loris tardigradus grandis</i>	Highland Slender Loris	EN
4. <i>Loris tardigradus nordicus</i>	Dry Zone Slender Loris	EN
5. <i>Loris tardigradus nycticeboides</i>	Highland Slender Loris	EN
6. <i>Loris tardigradus tardigradus</i>	Red Slender Loris	EN
7. <i>Nycticebus bengalensis</i>	Slow Loris	DD (R)

Cercopithecidae

8. <i>Macaca arctoides</i>	Stump-tailed Macaque	CR (R)
9. <i>Macaca assamensis assamensis</i>	Eastern Assamese Macaque	EN (R)
10. <i>Macaca assamensis</i> , Nepal population	Assamese Macaque	EN
11. <i>Macaca assamensis pelops</i>	Western Assamese Macaque	EN
12. <i>Macaca fascicularis aurea</i>	Long-tailed Macaque	CR (R)
13. <i>Macaca fascicularis umbrosa</i>	Nicobar Long-tailed Macaque	NT
14. <i>Macaca leonina</i>	Northern Pig-tailed Macaque	EN (R)
15. <i>Macaca mulatta mulatta</i>	Indian Rhesus Macaque	LC (R)
16. <i>Macaca radiata diluta</i>	Pale-bellied Bonnet Macaque	LC
17. <i>Macaca radiata radiata</i>	Dark-bellied Bonnet Macaque	LC
18. <i>Macaca silenus</i>	Lion-tailed Macaque	EN
19. <i>Macaca sinica aurifrons</i>	Wetzone Toque Macaque	EN
20. <i>Macaca sinica opisthomelas</i>	Hill Zone Toque Macaque	EN
21. <i>Macaca sinica sinica</i>	Dryzone Toque Macaque	EN
22. <i>Semnopithecus (Trachypithecus) johnii johnii</i>	Nilgiri Langur	VU
23. <i>Semnopithecus entellus achates</i>	Western Hanuman Langur	LC
24. <i>Semnopithecus entellus ajax</i>	Himalayan Grey Langur	CR
25. <i>Semnopithecus entellus anchises</i>	Deccan Hanuman Langur	NT
26. <i>Semnopithecus entellus entellus</i>	Bengal Hanuman Langur	NT
27. <i>Semnopithecus entellus hector</i>	Lesser Hill Langur	EN
28. <i>Semnopithecus entellus hypoleucos</i>	Dark-legged Malabar Langur	EN
29. <i>Semnopithecus entellus schistaceus</i>	Central Himalayan Langur	NT (R)
30. <i>Semnopithecus priam priam</i>	Coromandel Grey Langur	VU
31. <i>Semnopithecus priam thersites</i> ¹	Grey Langur	EN
32. <i>Semnopithecus priam thersites</i> ²	Grey Langur	EN
33. <i>Trachypithecus geel</i>	Golden Langur	EN
34. <i>Trachypithecus obscurus phayrei</i>	Phayre's Langur	EN (R)
35. <i>Trachypithecus pileatus brahma</i>	Buff-bellied Langur	DD
36. <i>Trachypithecus pileatus durga</i>	Orange-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey	EN
37. <i>Trachypithecus pileatus pileatus</i>	Blonde-bellied Capped Leaf Monkey	EN (R)
38. <i>Trachypithecus pileatus tenebricus</i>	Tenebrous Capped Leaf Monkey	CR
39. <i>Trachypithecus vetulus monticola</i>	Montane Purple-faced Langur	EN
40. <i>Trachypithecus vetulus nestor</i>	Western Purple-faced Langur	CR
41. <i>Trachypithecus vetulus philbricki</i>	Dry Zone Purple-faced Langur	EN
42. <i>Trachypithecus vetulus vetulus</i>	Southern Lowland Wetzone Purple-faced langur	EN

Hylobatidae

43. <i>Bunopithecus hoolock hoolock</i>	Hoolock Gibbon	EN (R)
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* Regional Assessment for South Asia (R); the remaining species have been assessed globally

¹ Indian population; ² Sri Lanka population



Bonnet Macaque
(*Macaca radiata*)

Data Deficient (DD) and Not Evaluated (NE).

The Workshop

Six South Asian countries were represented at the workshop: India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh with participants present, and Bhutan and Pakistan via email throughout the exercise. C.A.M.P. workshops use working group sessions alternating with review in several plenary sessions. In this workshop the groups were organised by region into a Southern India Group, a North-East Alliance Group, a North-Central Group, and a Sri Lanka Group.

One of the important issues that had been addressed in the workshop concerned the revisions in primate taxonomy. Participants were given access to an unpublished manuscript authored by Brandon-Jones *et al.* that incorporated changes resulting from a Primate Specialist Group (PSG) workshop in 2000, to published revisions by Colin Groves (2001) and other refinements. Primates are relatively well-studied in some South Asian countries, so a separate spreadsheet for listing the extensive locality data was provided. This very detailed locality data, coordinated with maps, and the presence of an experienced taxonomist, made it possible for participants to correctly identify the subspecies surveyed and assess them.

With the added advantage of having many working field biologists from the range of these taxa, there were

Table 1: Status of South Asian Primates

Category	Endemics	Non-endemics	Total
Critically Endangered (CR)	2	2	4
Endangered (EN)	20	5	25
Vulnerable (VU)	2	0	2
Near Threatened (NT)	5	1	6
Least Concern (LC)	3	1	4
Data Deficient (DD)	1	1	2
Not Evaluated (NE)	0	0	0
Total	33	10	43

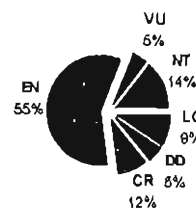


Table 2: Status of Endemic and Non-endemic taxa in detail

Status	Endemics		Status	Non-endemics	
CR	2		CR	2	
EN	20		EN	5	
VU	2		VU	0	
NT	5		NT	1	
LC	3		LC	1	
DD	1		DD	1	
Total	33			10	

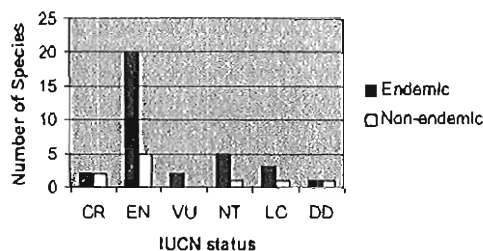
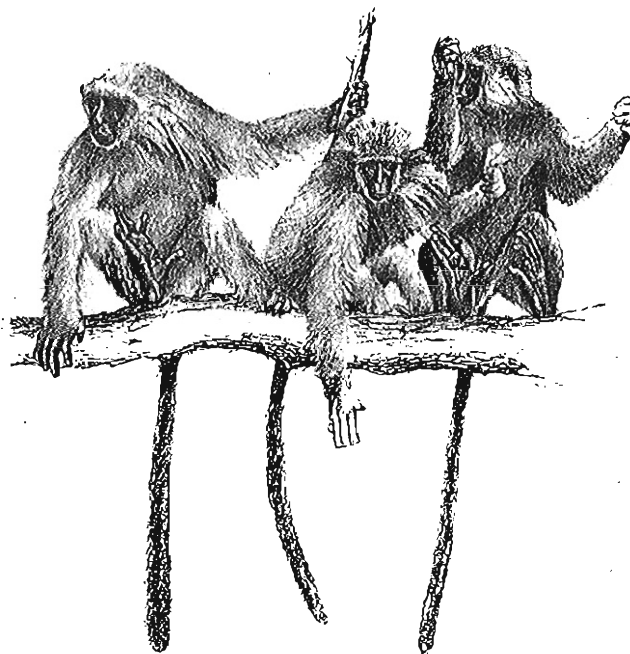


Figure 1: Endemic and Non-endemic primate

many more species and subspecies assigned to threatened categories than in the 2000 Red List of Threatened Animals, which used the revised PSG workshop taxonomy available then. In the C.A.M.P. workshop, 31 of the 43 primate taxa were categorized as threatened.

A Draft Report containing Taxon Data Sheets for all 43 taxa was given to participants at the end of the workshop thanks to the C.A.M.P. Data Entry Programme and hard work by recorders. This report reflects the corrections and comments that were returned on the draft Taxon Data Sheets. The output from the workshop has been submitted to the PSG Vice Chair for Asia for inclusion in 2003 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. This is an appropriate utilisation of information from local field biologists and primate students from South Asia, and a credit to their work.

There are at present 164 recognized zoos in India, which includes Large, Medium, Small and Mini Zoos / Deer Parks. As per current information (CZA, 2003) 52 of the Large, Medium and Small zoos in India, hold primates of various species. The status of some is uncertain because of recent taxonomic changes. The number in the 112 Mini-zoos and Deer Parks has not been updated by C.Z.A., but it is "considerable". In the remaining South Asian countries

there are 14 major zoos, all of which hold from 1-9 species of primates (Appendix 1). The C.A.M.P. workshop provided a forum and source of information for the Central Zoo Authority and the Indian zoo community to address ongoing revisions in primate taxonomy and nomenclature with reference to captive collections. The Conservation Breeding Working Group recommended that zoos with species and subspecies of uncertain taxonomies refrain from breeding them until they could be correctly identified to avoid unwanted propagation of hybrids.

Recommendations

A series of recommendations for research and management of South Asian primates was derived from Taxon Data Sheets filled out by participants in the workshop. Key recommendations for research were taxonomic studies, surveys and life history studies; and for management included habitat management, public education and monitoring. Participants also drew up individual species action plans for nearly all taxa. Special issue working groups were formed on the following subjects: urban monkey problems; funding field studies; education and species conservation action, and conservation breeding.

IV. THE IUCN Red List CATEGORIES, VERSION 3.1

EXTINCT (EX) -- A taxon is Extinct when there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. A taxon is presumed Extinct when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW) -- A taxon is Extinct in the Wild when it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range. A taxon is presumed Extinct in the Wild when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) -- A taxon is Critically Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Critically Endangered (see Section V), and it is therefore considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.

ENDANGERED (EN) -- A taxon is Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Endangered (see Section V), and it is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

VULNERABLE (VU) -- A taxon is Vulnerable when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Vulnerable (see Section V), and it is therefore considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

NEAR THREATENED (NT) -- A taxon is Near Threatened when it has been evaluated against the criteria but does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable now, but is close to qualifying for or is likely to qualify for a threatened category in the near future.

LEAST CONCERN (LC) -- A taxon is Least Concern when it has been evaluated against the criteria and does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable or Near Threatened. Widespread and abundant taxa are included in this category.

DATA DEFICIENT (DD) -- A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat. Listing of taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that threatened classification is appropriate. It is important to make positive use of whatever data are available. In many cases great care should be exercised in choosing between DD and a threatened status. If the range of a taxon is suspected to be relatively circumscribed, and a considerable period of time has elapsed since the last record of the taxon, threatened status may well be justified.

NOT EVALUATED (NE) -- A taxon is Not Evaluated when it has not yet been evaluated against the criteria.

