Lemur Fact Sheet: Red-bellied Lemur

Scientific Name: Eulemur rubriventer

Red-bellied lemurs are a medium sized lemur residing in primary forests and primary and secondary coastal rainforests. They live monogamously in bonded adult pairs with their offspring, creating small family units of 2-6 individuals. They exhibit some sexual dichromatism, with adult females having a large cream-colored patch on their bellies and adult males having white patches under their eyes resembling teardrops.

Diet

They are a frugivorous species of lemur but will supplement their diet with leaves, nectar from flowers, and even insects, mushrooms, and tree bark!



Geographic Range

The Red-bellied Lemur can be found along a thin, though long range from southern (Pic d'Ivohibe and the Manampatrana River) to northern (Tsaratanana Massif) Madagascar. The highest population size can be found in Ranomafana National Park.

Conservation Status

The Red-bellied Lemur is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List. Its current population trend is decreasing.

Threats

The primary threat to this species is forest fragmentation due to fires (slash and burn agriculture) and logging. Red-bellied lemurs are also at risk from hunting and capture for the pet trade.

LCN Members Working to Save Red-bellied Lemurs

Members that work with the Red-bellied Lemur include: GERP, Man and the Environment's Net Positive Impact program, and The Wildlife Conservation Society.

Where to See these Lemurs in Madagascar

- Ranomafana National Park
- Tsinjoarivo

Research Red-bellied Lemurs in the Scientific Literature

- Red-bellied lemurs are a pair-bonded species
- Leaping is the most common form of locomotion
- Species recognition using visual face cues
- Birth season and infant survival