

Cross River Gorilla

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Cross River Gorilla Latest News

Deep within the Nigeria-Cameroon border's misty mountains, the critically endangered Cross River gorilla struggles for survival, with fewer than 300 individuals remaining.

About Cross River Gorilla

- It is a **subspecies of the western gorilla**.
- Scientific Name: *Gorilla gorilla diehli*
- With **fewer than 300 individuals** estimated to exist in the wild, it is the **most endangered of the gorilla subspecies**.
- They are the **most endangered primate in Africa**.
- Cross River gorillas are scattered in at least **11 groups across** the rugged, hilly terrain that straddles the **Nigeria-Cameroon border** on the African continent, known as the **Cross-Sanaga-Bioko Coast Forest ecoregion**.

- **Lowland, submontane, and montane forests** situated **on the upper drainage of the Cross River** on either side of the border provide habitat.

Cross River Gorilla Features

- These gorillas have **brownish-grey or black fur**. However, the **face, hands, and feet have no fur** at all.
- They have **cone-shaped heads, above which rests a reddish crest**.
- **Adult males** sport a **silvery swath of hair down the center of their backs**, a notable feature they share with all adult male gorillas, **earning them the descriptive nickname “silverback.”**
- These gorillas are **very social** and usually **live in groups of 2 to 20**.
- The groups are **led by a dominant male**.
- Apart from the dominant leader, there are 6-7 females and their children.
- They are **herbivores** and usually feed on branches, nuts, leaves, and berries that they hunt for from different plants.

Cross River Gorilla Conservation Status

It is classified as **‘Critically Endangered’** under the IUCN Red List.

Source: [TOI](#)

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