



Hainan Gibbon (Nomascus hainanus)

The Hainan gibbon is one of the most endangered primate species in the world, due primarily to past habitat loss and poaching. About 23-25 individuals remain, all in one population inhabiting the Bawangling National Nature Reserve (BNNR) on Hainan, China. A 2003 conservation planning workshop for this Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) species sparked numerous conservation management activities, including efforts to protect and restore potential gibbon habitat and stabilize the population. Despite these positive actions, the small size of this single population puts it at high risk due to stochastic events and other threats, precipitating the need for further planning. Find out more on the IUCN Red List.



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Key Workshop Goals

An international species conservation planning workshop was held from 18-20 March 2014 in Bo'ao, Hainan Province, China. Over 50 gibbon experts and stakeholders participated, including representatives from Bawangling National Nature Reserve (BNNR) Management Office, other government offices, universities, conservation NGOs, zoos and rescue centres, and local communities. Click on the text in the table below to learn more about the corresponding actions for each goal.

Population Status Constraints

Improve understanding of the fate of dispersing individuals. Strengthen capacity to detect gibbons, to enable improved monitoring of the known gibbon population at BNNR, and potential detection of other surviving populations within or outside BNNR.

Facilitate new group formation.

Increase monitoring efforts to allow confirmation of when the "catastrophe decline threshold" has been reached, triggering implementation of the Emergency Management Plan.

Habitat Constraints

Evaluate the extent, quality, and connectivity of suitable gibbon habitat in the BNNR landscape.

Enhance the connectivity of the habitat immediately surrounding the existing gibbon population. Connect fragmented habitat, increase their size, and improve the quality of habitat.

Strengthen the BNNR Management Office's capacity to protect habitats.

Improve understanding of human and environmental disturbance.

Impacts of Human Activities

Use local knowledge and resources to increase local income.

Policy and Communication

Enhance horizontal and vertical communication among authorities.

Enhance understanding, communication, and collaboration between authorities and academics.

Enhance communication and collaboration between authorities and communities.

Enhance public awareness for Hainan gibbon conservation.

More detailed information about the actions being taken to fulfill these goals can be found in the full bilingual workshop report available at http://www.cbsg.org/content/hainan-gibbon-international-conservation-planning-workshop-2014.

Workshop organizers: Zoological Society of London, Bawangling National Nature Reserve Management Office, IUCN China Primate Specialist Group, IUCN SSC Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) Workshop sponsors: Arcus Foundation and Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund