



LEMUR CONSERVATION  
FOUNDATION

## Lemur News



*From Madagascar & Myakka City*

### **LCF's Madagascar Team Discovers a New Group of Silky Sifakas**



Our team (see photo above right) recently completed a lemur survey over several grueling months deep inside Anjanaharibe-Sud Special Reserve, near Camp Indri. We are very excited that we have found a second group of critically endangered silky sifakas (see photo above left) in the Camp Indri forest as well as many other lemur species.

The new group of silky sifakas was located near the Marolakana River, only a kilometer from the eastern park boundary. It is a large group with five group members including 1 adult male, 1 adult female and three juveniles. Our latest survey included months of walking five long transects (3km each) covering nearly 5 square kilometers in survey area. Only two groups of silkies inhabit this large area with an estimated density of 1.7 individuals per square kilometer.

Sadly, this is a much lower population density compared to most other lemurs in Madagascar, or indeed most primates in the world. Only an estimated 400 to 500 silky sifakas remain in Anjanaharibe-Sud Special Reserve, which may contain nearly 40% of the remaining population. Learn more about this species at the [Wikipedia page](#), which includes videos, audio vocalizations and pictures of this critically endangered lemur. You can also help protect silky sifakas through LCF's [symbolic adoption](#) program.

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## Are Ring-Tailed Lemurs Headed for Extinction?



Ring-tailed lemur expert, [Dr. Lisa Gould](#), visited our lemur reserve in Myakka City, Florida and gave a presentation on the alarming rate of population decline in this once thriving population of iconic lemurs. Drs. Gould and Sauter co-authored a [paper](#) estimating that only 2000-4000 ring-tail lemurs are left in the wild. Habitat destruction, forest fragmentation, hunting, and capture for the illegal pet trade have led to the drastic reduction. Their work brings attention to the urgent need for immediate action to save lemur habitats and the importance of conservation breeding programs as an assurance against lemur extinction.

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## New Infants Offer Hope for the Future of Lemurs

Breeding season has come to an end and now we await the start of infant season! As an [AZA certified-related facility](#), LCF works with the Prosimian Taxon Advisory Group to manage conservation breeding programs for [ring-tailed lemurs](#) (endangered), [red ruffed lemurs](#) (critically endangered), [mongoose lemurs](#) (critically endangered) and [collared brown lemurs](#) (endangered).

Although we will continue our intensive efforts to protect wild lemurs, these programs are becoming more and more important as wild populations become increasingly vulnerable to extinction. If you would like to support LCF's conservation

breeding program and the protection of wild lemurs, consider a [symbolic adoption](#).



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### Thank you to IQuest and South Florida Museum



LCF recently presented to the [IQuest](#) program at the [South Florida Museum](#) on the preventive care programs at LCF, including enrichment, proper nutrition, and preventative medicine. As a 'thank you' the participants donated some much needed items to the lemurs, including towels, applesauce, milk crates and a fantastic paper chain created at the event! Thank you to everyone who donated and for having us at your event!

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### Help Celebrate World Wildlife Day



March 3rd is [World Wildlife Day](#), and we challenge you to mark your calendar and do one thing on this day to help protect lemurs and the world's wildlife. Use a [reusable bag](#) for your shopping, recycle, inspire a love for your favorite wildlife, or support the Lemur Conservation Foundation and other organizations that are working to help protect wildlife and critical wildlife habitat.

Consider a donation today and help save lemurs

Donate



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