

Red Panda



On the verge of extinction

Why Red Panda conservation?

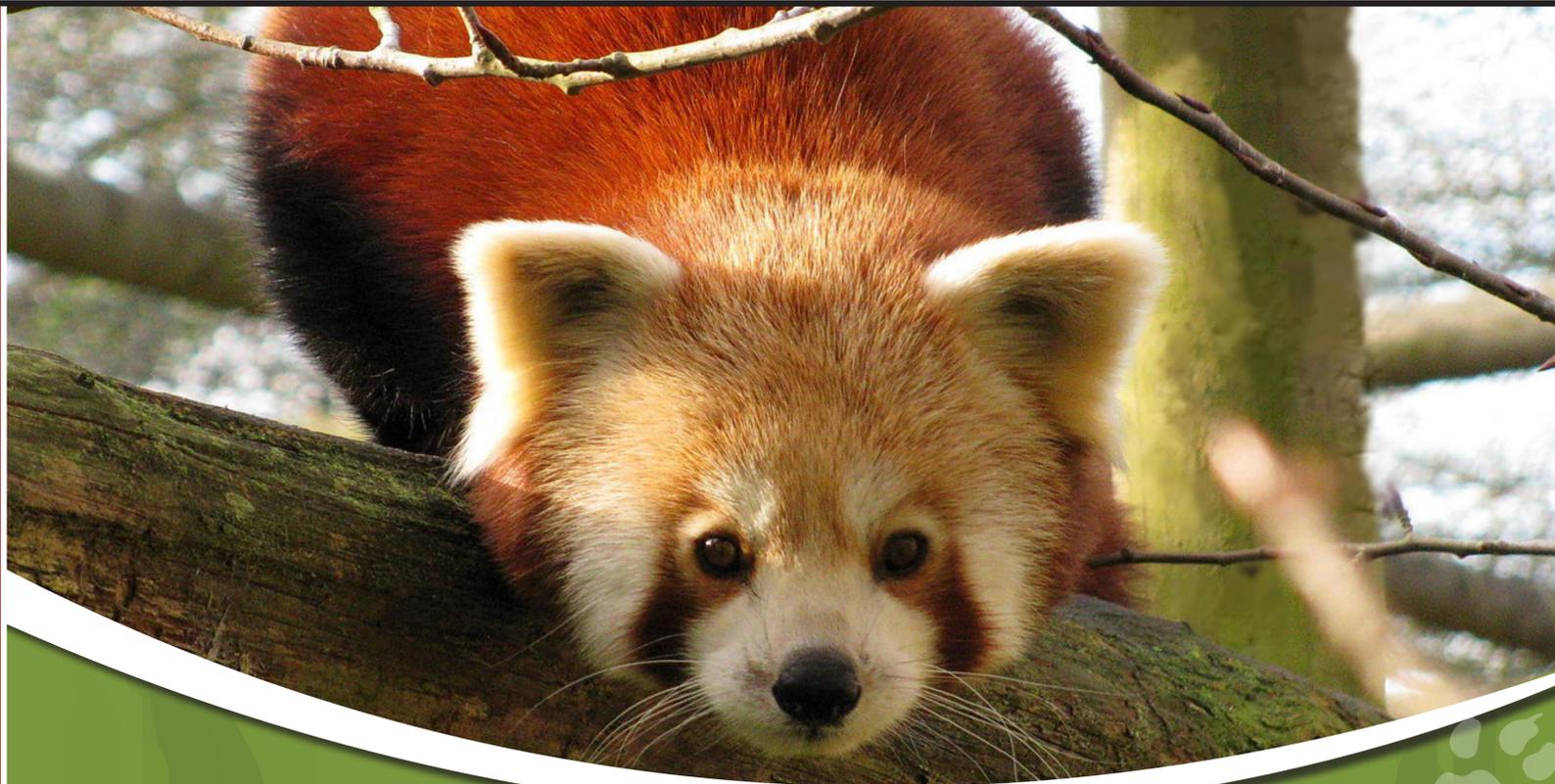
- Less than 10,000 remain in the wild. Only a few hundred of them in Nepal.
- The Eastern Himalayan Broadleaf and Conifer Forest of Ilam, Panchthar, Taplejung in Nepal is the habitat corridor for the Red Panda. This area is rapidly shrinking due to deforestation.
- The Red Panda is the indicator species and an umbrella species for the Himalayan Ecosystem.
- The Government of Nepal has protected the animal by the NPWC Act 1973.
- Local people can earn income from alternative and sustainable land use and the promotion of Red Panda eco-tourism in the region.

What You Can Do

- Become a member
- Adopt a Red Panda
- Sponsor a Forest Guardian
- Participate in International Red Panda Day
- Come on an Eco-Trip to see this elusive animal
- Volunteer for Red Panda Network
- Organize a fundraiser

International Red Panda Day

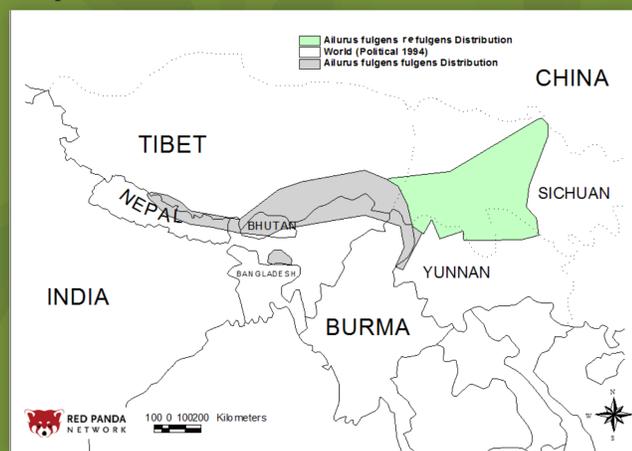
IRPD is a celebration in zoos, schools and corporate partners to create awareness of the Red Panda. Typically the third Saturday of September, it includes special events at zoos and schools.



Latin Name: Ailurus fulgens
Classified: Vulnerable (IUCN)

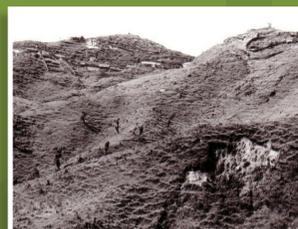
Red Panda Facts

The Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*) is the only species left in the family Ailuridae. They are generally found in temperate forests of the Himalayas at elevations of 1500 to 5000 meters and their range includes Nepal, India, Bhutan, Myanmar, and southern China. They are usually solitary, are efficient climbers due to their semi-retractable claws, and are most active at dawn and dusk. Like the giant panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*), their diet is mainly composed of bamboo (80-90%).



Threats

Habitat loss and fragmentation, poaching, and inbreeding depression. In China they have undergone a decline of around 40% over the past 50 years and are on the verge of extinction in Eastern Nepal.



Deforestation in Nepal



Forest guardians at work

Let's Work Together To Conserve This Endangered Species

What We Do

The Red Panda Network is committed to the conservation of wild red pandas and their habitat through the education and empowerment of local communities.

How We Do It

We accomplish this through species conservation initiatives, education and outreach, community development, and carbon mitigation. Our work includes:

- Conducting community-based baseline research on red pandas and their habitat in each of the countries in their range.
- Identifying and preserving unprotected red panda "hotspots".
- Assisting communities in devising socially and environmentally responsible forest management plans and income alternatives.
- Increasing local awareness of the important ecosystem services provided by the Himalayan ecoregion.