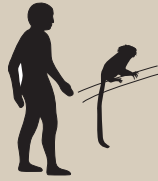




Cotton-Top Tamarin

Fast Facts



Scientific Name: *Saguinus oedipus*

Conservation Status: Critically Endangered

Extinct Threatened Least Concern



Body Length: 20–30 cm

Weight: 400–450 grams

Gestation: 140 days

Number of young: 1–2

Habitat: Rainforest

Distribution: North–western Colombia



Description

Cotton-top Tamarins have a distinctive white mane which tapers to a 'mohawk' above their head. They have white underbellies and a dark brown back and tail.

Diet

They are omnivores and eat insects, fruit, spiders, sap, blossom, leaves, nectar, birds' eggs, lizards and small tree frogs.

In the wild

Among tamarins, it is the female who chooses her mate. Cotton-top Tamarins form groups of 3–9 with a dominant pair and their offspring.

Cotton-top Tamarins are hunted by small native cats, birds of prey and large snakes.

Threats

Tamarins are at most risk from the loss of their natural rainforest habitat in South America. Threats to this species include logging for the timber industry, land clearing for agriculture and the illegal pet trade.

At Perth Zoo

Perth Zoo's Cotton-top Tamarins can be seen in the Lesser Primates area.