2024

FORMATION-CAD



Endangered animals

# Bengal Tiger

The **Bengal** tiger is a feline, and the most well-known subspecies of tiger. Also called the Royal Bengal Tiger, it is lighter and less imposing than the Siberian tiger. Its population, thanks to the protection actions of the Indian government, has been increasing for several years, in 2019, it probably exceeds 3000 individuals in India.

**Distribution and habitats**

The strongest population of Bengal tigers is found in the nature parks of Bengal and Bangladesh. They can also be found in central and northern India as well as Burma and Nepal. Tigers need an extensive living space on which they can hunt. They mark and defend territories of varying size that can exceed 100 km2 for a male. Because they are solitary animals, even a small population needs a large area in which to live and hunt. A tiger has several dens on its home range and uses the one that suits it best at the moment. It is a tiger more versatile than the others at the level of the biotope, it likes to frequent the forest (dense or clear), the savannah (shrub or discovery) as well as the marshes. It usually sleeps in the forest and moves in the morning and late in the day in open savannah and at the edge of marshes in search of water and prey.

A tiger looking at the camera

Description automatically generated

## Protection

In 1900, the Indian tiger population was estimated at between 40,000 and 50,000 individuals. By 1972, that figure had dropped to 1,850 and the Indian government established national parks to safeguard its tiger population. A protection program has put it back to about 4,000 in 1984.

The latest census of 2013 released by the Nepalese Minister of Forests and Soil Conservation, puts their population at 198 in Nepal and Bhutan, 150 in Bangladesh, 200 in western Burma. The 2007 census gives 1,411 tigers in India. This figure is lower than that of the 1973 census when Project **Tiger** was launched. In contrast, in the 2014 census, there were 2226 tigers across India, which predicted that the tiger population in India would continue to skyrocket.

**Giant Pandas**

The giant panda is perhaps one of the most powerful symbols in the world when it comes to species conservation. In China, the giant panda is a national treasure. For WWF, the panda has special significance as it has been our organization’s symbol since 1961.

## What does he eat?

The panda (which has a carnivorous digestive system but has adopted a vegetarian diet) depends almost exclusively on bamboo for its diet. Its daily menu therefore consists of bamboo leaves and stems in very large quantities (between 12 and 38 kg per day), since this plant has very little nutritional value.



**Population of Panda**

In the 1980s, there were as few as 1,114 pandas in China. But the most recent estimates are around 1,800 individuals living in the wild. Their population has increased by 17 per cent over the last decade alone. In 2016, the International Union for Conservation of Nature changed the panda’s status from “Endangered” to “Vulnerable” on the IUCN’s Red List of Threatened Species.

## Where can it be found?

The giant panda could once be frequently seen in southern and eastern China, as well as Myanmar and northern Vietnam. Due to population growth and extensive development activities, its range is now reduced to some 20 patches of isolated forest in the mountains in Sichuan, Shaanxi, and Gansu provinces.

The panda's habitat covers the Great Sichuan Plain. To the north are the Qinling mountain range and to the west are the Minshan, Qionglai, Liangshan, Daxiangling and Xiaoxiangling mountains.

## Avoiding the worst for the panda

After 30 years of slow but steady progress, the giant panda's status has now changed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species from endangered to vulnerable. The decision is a recognition of the work done over several years by the Chinese government, local communities, nature reserve employees and WWF. (WWF, s.d.)

# Great White Shark

With a maximum size of more than 6 m long, it is one of the largest predatory fish currently living in the oceans. The population of great white sharks has declined by 75% in the Northwest Atlantic.

It is considered a dangerous shark since it is responsible for attacks on humans, the vast majority of which are non-lethal. Nevertheless, contrary to popular belief, it is not a "man-eater" and man is not a prey for it, most attacks being due to a visual analysis error of the shark. The great white shark has a very varied diet: pinnipeds, fish, sea turtles, cetaceans...

This type of shark is known to the public for having been the subject of Peter Benchley's bestseller *Jaws* and its film adaptation by Steven Spielberg.

## Reproduction

Its reproductive cycle is not well known. It is estimated that the male reaches sexual maturity at 26 years and the female at 33 years. It is ovoviviparous: the eggs develop and hatch in the uterus of the female, with uterine cannibalism (like other lamnids). The gestation time is not yet known, because until now a mating of great white shark has never been observed. It is estimated between 12 and 18 months. The breeding period is 2-3 years. Young great white sharks, at birth, measure between 1.09 and 1.60 m and are already predators capable of surviving. They breed in the spring. Its life expectancy is estimated at more than 70 years.

A shark swimming in the water

Description automatically generated Insert Caption – **Picture - FABRICE GUÉRIN**

## Feeding

The great white shark is rather solitary in nature, and it is rare for several individuals to gather to hunt. It sits at the top of the food chain in the ocean just below the killer whale. Due to its size, metabolism, and exceptional physical abilities, it has very few competitors, apart from the orca. It eats large fish (such as tuna, swordfish, or tarpon), sea turtles, seals and occasionally dolphins. The young feed exclusively on fish. According to the analysis of transmitters placed in their stomachs, great white sharks eat an average meal every three days, with a mass that is about 3% of their body weight. When prey is scarce, they can wait several weeks before feeding.

The rare cases of attack on humans are more considered as "accidents", mostly on surfers or windsurfers, an ovoid shape flapping "fins" on the surface and reminding this predator of its favorite prey. Its attack is divided into several phases: first the "teeth strike" that will bleed the prey, the great white shark does not swallow quarters of meat from a large prey on the first try. Then, when the prey is inert, then begins the actual feeding.

Picture 1 - Attack on humans

A shark with its mouth open

Description automatically generated

Attacks on humans end in most cases after the teething. Indeed, during the bite, receptors located in the mouth "taste" the prey, which allows the shark to know if it is sufficiently rich in fat. Man does not bring enough fat for the shark; The shark does not recognize the taste of its prey abandons it, and the rare fatal cases result from hemorrhage (artery or limb severed). It is obvious that the pressure exerted by the jaw (more than fifty centimeters in diameter) and teeth sharp like razor blades leave an impressive, often disastrous, result on a human body.

<https://www.fishipedia.fr/fr/poissons/carcharodon-carcharias>

# Polar Bear

## Where do polar bears live?

Polar bears live in the frozen Arctic landscape, the northernmost point on the planet. They are not found in Antarctica, even though the North and South poles are both snow-covered, icy-cold environments (Radio-Canada, n.d.).

Pictures 1 - FROM DICK & VAL BECK/POLAR BEARS INTERNATIONAL

A polar bear and its cubs on an ice floe

Description automatically generated

Polar bears range across the Arctic Ocean, in parts of Canada, Alaska, Russia, Greenland and Norway (Svalbard). They can walk on ice or swim long distances to find food or breed – sometimes roaming across vast areas up to 600,000 sq km

As sea ice melts, more and more polar bears can be found resting along Arctic coastlines. It is in these areas where their powerful sense of smell attracts them to garbage, stored food, dog teams and animal carcasses bringing them into greater conflict with Arctic people.

## Why polar bears are so important

Polar bears have a strong cultural significance for Arctic people, and beyond, polar bears are top predators in their food web. Which means they play a vital role in the balance of their ecosystem.

By helping protect the polar bear, we’re helping to make sure the Arctic food chain stays healthy, for the benefit of wildlife and people in and beyond the Arctic. The Arctic provides fish for millions of people, including here in the UK.

## Climate change

Climate change affects every corner of our planet – from the poles to the tropics, from the mountains to the oceans. Many of the world's biggest challenges, from poverty to wildlife extinction, are made more difficult by climate change.

* Polar bears are at risk of starvation during the thaw, according to biologists.
* Polar bears have to swim farther because of melting ice

Pictures 2 - From Steven Kazlowski / naturepl.com

A polar bear in the snow

Description automatically generated

# AFRICAN ELEPHANT

## Strong, smart, but vulnerable species

African elephants are the world's largest land mammals, with males, on average, reaching up to 3m in height and weighing up to 6 tonnes.

Picture 2 - From Wolfgang Hasselman

A group of elephants standing in a field

Description automatically generated

## Reason of danger

Following population declines over several decades due to poaching for ivory and loss of habitat, the **African forest elephant** is now listed as critically endangered. The **African savanna elephant**is also listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

The number of **African forest elephants** fell by more than 86% over a period of 31 years, while the population of **African savanna elephants** decreased by at least 60% over the last 50 years, according to the assessments. Both species have suffered sharp declines since 2008 due to a significant increase in poaching, which peaked in 2011 but continues to threaten populations. At present, there are around 415,000 African elephants in the wild. (Ham, 2021)

Other major threats to both African elephant species include the ongoing conversion of their natural habitats for agriculture and other land uses.

## Protection

We're doing all we can to help, from monitoring herds, to training community rangers and protecting habitat. In safeguarding elephants, we’re also helping support local communities through measures to reduce human-elephant conflict and initiatives to support local livelihoods. We need your help to protect them. (Mulama, s.d.)

# The Rhinoceros

Two species of rhino are found in Africa - the black rhino and the white rhino.

## Illegal wildlife trade

The rhinoceros is Africa’s armoured giant – like a tank on legs – and has been on our planet for millions of years. But right now, they need our help. Poaching of rhinos for their horns and habitat loss are huge threats to both white and black rhinos.

## Protection

The ‘southern’ subspecies of white rhino is a conservation success story, with the population recovering from under 100 in 1895 to over 21,000 individuals at the end of 2012. However, a surge in poaching in the last decade caused white rhino numbers to decline, with around 16,803 remaining in the wild today. Sadly, there are only two individuals from the ‘northern’ subspecies of white rhinos remaining in the world.

For the black rhino (slightly smaller, with a more pointed top lip) the worst period was between 1970 and 1992, when around 96% of them were lost to wide-scale poaching. Only around 6,487 remain in the wild today.

Pictures 5 - Lauren Arthur / WWF

A rhino lying in the grass

Description automatically generated  
<https://www.wwf.org.uk/learn/wildlife/african-rhinos>

Insert File **"African Rhinos"** at the bottom

# Statistical – Tiger

A close-up of a light bulb

Description automatically generated A screenshot of a tiger

Description automatically generated

A screenshot of a white and black text

Description automatically generated

# Statistical – Panda

A close up of a logo

Description automatically generated A panda bear holding a baby

Description automatically generated

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

See more information about PANDA

# Statistical – Great White Shark Profile

A screenshot of a white shark facts overview

Description automatically generated

**Great white sharks** (carcharodon carcharias) are the world’s biggest predatory fish, measuring on average 4.5m (15ft) in length. The largest recorded is thought to be 7m (23ft) weighing 2.5 tonnes. (Great White Shark Facts, s.d.)

Chart 1 - Great white sharks

# Statistical – Polar Bear

A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated A polar bear with its cubs

Description automatically generated

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

# Statistical– African Elephant

<https://ourworldindata.org/elephant-populations>

A pile of cut wood

Description automatically generated



A close up of a text

Description automatically generated

A graph with a line going up

Description automatically generated

**Reason of danger**

**See more information about African Elephant**

# Statistical – Rhino[[1]](#endnote-1) (Save the Rhino, s.d.)

A screenshot of a number of rhino species

Description automatically generated

A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated

Chart 2 - Rhinos poached in South Africa 2006-2022

A graph of a number of years

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

1. https://www.savetherhino.org/rhino-info/population-figures/ [↑](#endnote-ref-1)