

Harpy Eagle

Harpia harpyja



Range: southern Mexico
to Brazil

Size: 89-105cm (35-41 in)

Weight: 4.8kg (10.6lb)

9 kg (19.8lb)

Wingspan: 220 cm (87 in)

Diet: monkeys, sloths,
mammals and birds

Habitat: Rainforest

Eggs: 1-2 only one chick
raised

Incubation: 56 days

Fledging: 5-6 months

Sexual maturity: 4-6 yrs

Breeding: monogamous

Longevity wild: 35 years
captive 50 yrs

Subspecies: monotypic

IUCN: near threatened

Order: Accipitriformes Family: Accipitridae

With their short powerful wings harpy eagles are well adapted for hunting in the neotropical lowland rain forests. One of the heaviest raptors they commonly take prey that weigh as much as they do. Their feet, which possess talons the size of grizzly bear claws, are strong enough to crush the bones of their prey. Although the young fledge after five months the parents will still feed it for at least a year. Even though it's population is still substantial, especially in the Amazon Basin the harpy eagle numbers are decreasing rapidly due to deforestation.

Although widespread and in some places common, the harpy eagle has been listed as Near Threatened due to its current trend of decreased in population. It is also listed as Endangered by the USFW. Deforestation is currently the main threat to the harpy eagle. In addition many ranchers still hunt and kill the eagle due to fear of its feeding on livestock.

Captive breeding and re-introduction programs are taking place in Panama and other Central American countries in addition education programs have been started in Venezuela, Brazil and other South American countries

