

HARPY EAGLE

Harpia harpyja

Order: Accipitriformes Family: Accipitridae



Range: southern Mexico to Brazil

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

Weight: ♂ 4.8kg(10.6pm) ♀ 9kg(19.8pm)

Diet: monkeys, sloths, mammals and birds

No. Of eggs: 1-2 only one chick raised

Incubation : 56 days

Fledging: 5-6 months

Caregiver : both parents incubate and care for young

Sexual maturity: 4-6 yrs

Breeding monogamous

Life span: unknown in the wild. Fifty years in captivity

IUCN: near threatened



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.

The Jacksonville Zoo and Garden currently has a thirteen year old male on exhibit this species is managed under a population management plan or PMP. At this time there are only sixteen harpy eagles in the U. S.