

CENTRAL AMERICAN SPIDER MONKEY

Ateles geoffroyi



Range: Mexico to Panama

HBL: ♂ 30-63 cm (12-25 in)

♀: 30-63 cm (12-25 in)

Tail: 64-84 cm (25-33 in)

Weight: ♂: 7.4-9 kg (16.4-19.8 lbs)

♀: 6-8.9 kg (13.2-19.6 lbs)

Sexual Maturity 48-60 months

Gestation 226-232 days

Weaning: 24 months

Estrus cycle: 26 days

Habitat: evergreen rainforest

Food: fruit seeds

Activity: Diurnal

Lifestyle: Arboreal

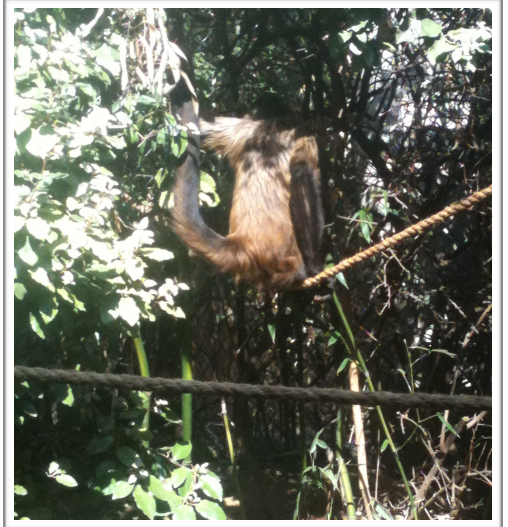
Social: fission-fusion 4-35 individuals

Breeding: Polygynandrous

IUCN: Endangered

Subspecies: 7

Longevity: 27 years



Order: Primates Family: Atelidae

The spider monkeys are the most acrobatic of the New World primates. Possessing a highly prehensile tail and having the ability to brachiate they can swing through the trees with amazing ease. The remarkably dexterous tail is hairless underneath near the tip and possesses ridges like fingerprints. As with human fingerprints these ridges help with the grip and contain unique loops and whorls. The tail is also very strong as spider monkeys will suspend themselves from branches holding on just by the tail. When moving leisurely spider monkeys will walk on all fours with the tail held high.

There are seven subspecies of the Central American Spider Monkey. Two of these subspecies *A.g.panamensis* and *A.g.frontalis* are listed CITES Appendix I and ESA Endangered. The rest of the subspecies are listed as CITES II. Much of this species habitat has been destroyed and it is believed that the population has declined by 50% over the last 45 years.