



Animal Behavior



# Golden langur Trachypithe...

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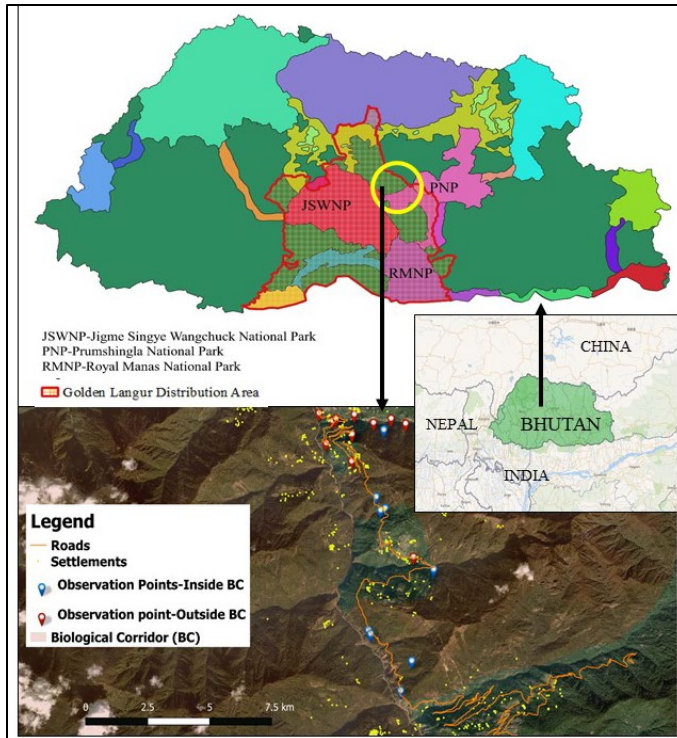
# Golden Langur (*Trachypithecus geei*) Sleep Sites in Central Bhutan

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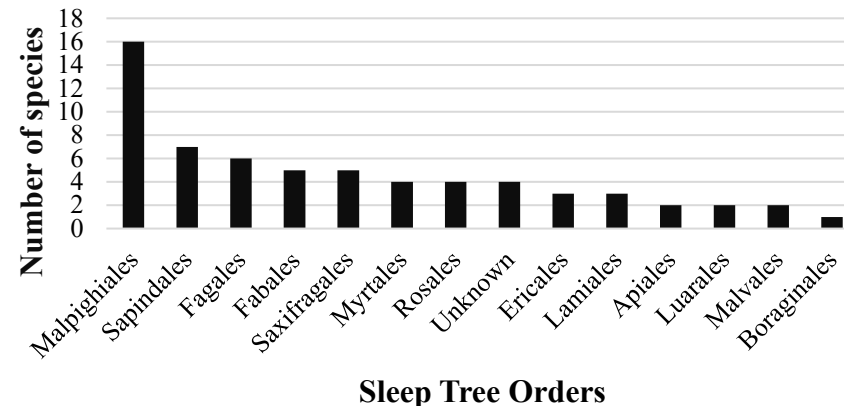
## Introduction

Golden langurs are among the world's top 25 most endangered primates and are distributed in Bhutan and India. Most data come from India, but they are more abundant in Bhutan. We describe features of golden langur sleep sites in central Bhutan to aid in protection of this habitat feature vital to langurs' survival.



## Results and Discussion

Langurs used 76 trees (28 species) at 29 sleep sites. Sleep trees had a mean girth of 53 cm (range 12-160 cm) and mean height of 19 m (range 8-36 m). Sleep trees were usually emergent (50%) and at mid-level of the canopy (62%). Sleep trees had low connectivity to the surrounding canopy (44%), a spreading, open shape (64.47%), and were rooted on steep inclines (48%). Trees used by the langurs were rarely used by local people for timber or fuel wood (69% of sleep sites). Domestic dogs, leopards, and raptors were all present in the study area. Anthropogenic activity included grazing (86% of sleep sites), landslides caused by recent road widening (59%), were situated at the periphery of farms (38%), and/or showed signs of timber extraction (38%). Golden langurs were at risk of being hit by traffic when crossing roads and of electrocution at the juncture of some power lines. Our results contribute to our golden langur conservation plan.



## Methods

KD collected all field data from 11 November 2019-30 April 2020. He followed 14 different golden langur groups from 05:30 until they settled at night. He marked GPS location, and documented tree species and tree attributes (girth, branching pattern, height, and canopy connectivity). He used direct observation and indirect methods to document predators and anthropic activity occurring near sleep sites.



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