



Black-and-White Ruffed Lemur

(*Varecia variegata*)

Size: Head and body length, 43 - 57 cm; tail, 60 - 65 cm **Weight:** 3.1 - 3.6 kg

Habitat: Remnant tracts of tropical moist lowland and montane forests

Surviving number: Unknown; populations declining

Photographed by Nick Garbutt

WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

Unmistakable. With its long face, lavishly tufted ears and raucous calls, the black-and-white ruffed lemur is easy to pick out of a crowd. Ruffed lemurs are the largest and most frugivorous members of the lemur family, the latter trait making them especially effective pollinators and seed dispersers. They also distinguish themselves by being the only primates to build nests exclusively for birth and the first few days of rearing their

young. Females carry their infants in their mouths and “park” them while they forage. But there’s no mistaking the deadly dangers they encounter, from the wholesale destruction of the forest to hunting.

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