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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	<b>NEAR THREATENED</b>	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Geographical range

## Amazing Species: Short-eared Dog

The **Short-eared Dog**, *Atelocynus microtis*, is listed as 'Near Threatened' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Although originally described in 1883, the rarity of this notoriously elusive wild dog means that it remains poorly understood. It is a dark-brown, medium-sized canid which is endemic to the Amazon basin of Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Brazil and Colombia.

The Short-eared Dog, which is generally associated with undisturbed habitat, appears to occur in low densities across its distribution. The long-term survival of this species is threatened by its reliance on an ecosystem that is under constant threat of deforestation. In addition, human presence in the Amazon results in inevitable encounters with domestic dogs, a major vector of disease that can threaten Short-eared Dogs.

A better understanding of the ecological requirements of the Short-eared Dog is essential for developing appropriate local and regional conservation plans. Ongoing field research in Peru is a critical first step in this effort, but must be combined with public educational campaigns to raise awareness for the species.

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