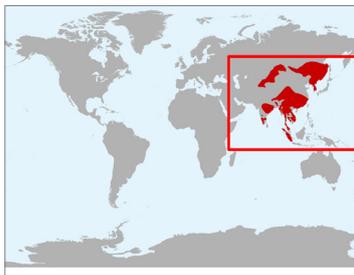




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Geographical range

Species of the Day: Dhole

The **Dhole**, *Cuon alpinus*, is listed as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This large, social canid, also called the Asiatic Wild Dog, once ranged throughout the Indian subcontinent, north into Korea, China and eastern Russia, and south through Malaysia and Indonesia, reaching as far as Java. However, its current range is greatly reduced and highly fragmented.

There are estimated to be fewer than 2,500 Dholes left in the wild. While hunting the species is legally prohibited, Dholes are viewed as a menace to humans and their livestock, so are persecuted by trapping, shooting, and poisoning. The most prominent threats facing the species are the widespread loss of habitat and the depletion of its main prey base (deer) due to excessive hunting.

Dholes have been reported to occur in a number of protected areas throughout their disjunct distribution. The Dhole Conservation Project is working to gather more data on the species' distribution and population status. Additional work is needed to understand the potential threat posed by domestic or feral dogs as vectors of pathogens and disease.

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