



Maned Wolf

Chrysocyon brachyurus

Geographical Range: The maned wolf is found in the remote savannas and shrubby forests of Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Bolivia, and Peru.

Habitat: This solitary animal prefers shrubby forests, grasslands, and swampy regions that grow high, lush vegetation.

Exhibit Location: The maned wolf is located in the Vanishing Animals Exhibit.

Physical Characteristics: The maned wolf is not a true wolf and looks more like a long-legged fox than a wolf. They are approximately 34 inches high at the shoulder, and weigh about 60 – 70 lbs. It has extremely long legs that enable it to see above tall grass to spot prey. Their long legs also help them move through the tall grass of their habitat. Their fur is reddish-brown, with a prominent crest of hair across its shoulders, which is why the maned wolf is so named. The mane is longer and darker than the rest of the coat, and the wolf will raise its mane to show superiority to rivals. They also have large, long ears like a fox to help them better detect prey.

Diet: Like all dogs, the maned wolf is a flesh eater, but fruits make up about half of its diet. Its favorite food is the wild loberia fruit (looks like an unripe tomato), but it also eats rabbits, rodents, lizards, frogs, birds, fish, and snails. It has sharp canine teeth for tearing meat, and broad, flat molars suitable for crushing fruit.

Did you know?

- This highly distinctive South American canine is often nicknamed the stilt-legged fox.
- The maned wolf is a very shy and sensitive creature,

Status: Endangered or threatened internationally – CITES and U.S., SSP

The population of the maned wolf is very low. Although it has not been persecuted as much as the true wolf, the maned wolf is an endangered species.