



Spectacled Bear

tremarctos ornatus

Geographical Range: The spectacled bear is found on higher elevations of western Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, and western Bolivia.

Habitat: Mainly forested mountains up to 3,000 meters in elevation but often ranges into higher clearings or into the lower savannahs and scrubland.

Exhibit Location: The spectacled bear can be found in the bear exhibit near the main entrance.

Physical Characteristics: Adults reach lengths of five to six feet and weights of 130-200 lbs. Pelage is uniformly dark brown or black with a long semi-circle of tan or white on the lower side of the neck. Lines of white or tan extend down the chest from this semi-circle. There are large circles or semi-circles of white or tan around the eyes. The

common name “Spectacled bear” is derived from these circles which resemble a pair of spectacles.

Diet: In the wild, the spectacles bear eats leaves, fruits, roots, and invertebrates. While in captivity the bear is fed mackerel, bear biscuits, mixed fruits, and vegetables.

Did you know?

- They are the most herbivorous of the bears, preferring fruits and leaves to meat. They are also expert climbers and are able to scale trees 100 feet tall in search of food.
- Endangered due to hunting, trapping and loss of habitat

Status: Endangered or Threatened Internationally – CITES, SSP