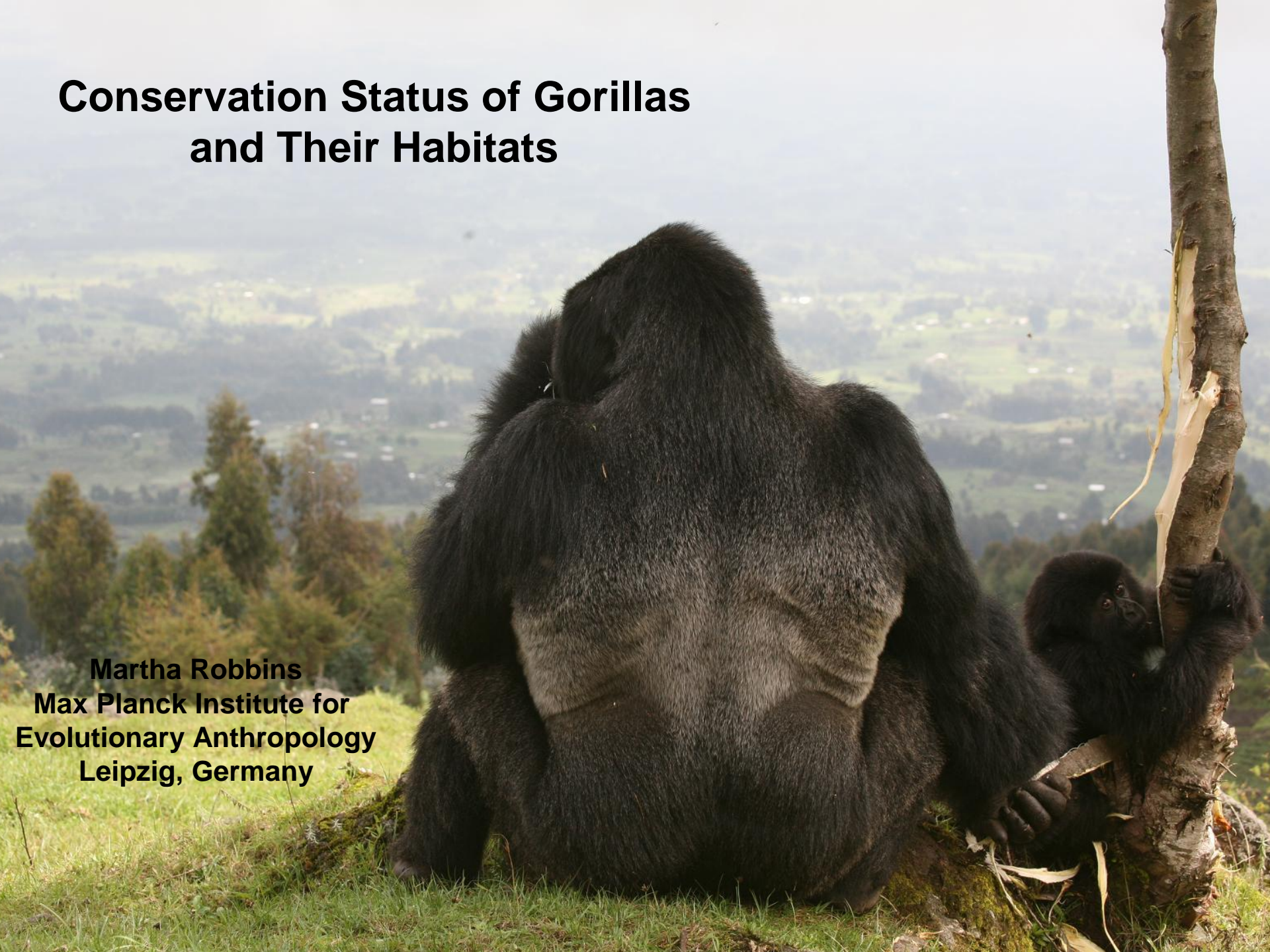


Conservation Status of Gorillas and Their Habitats

**Martha Robbins
Max Planck Institute for
Evolutionary Anthropology
Leipzig, Germany**



Gorillas: 2 species; 4 subspecies

Western Gorillas
Gorilla gorilla

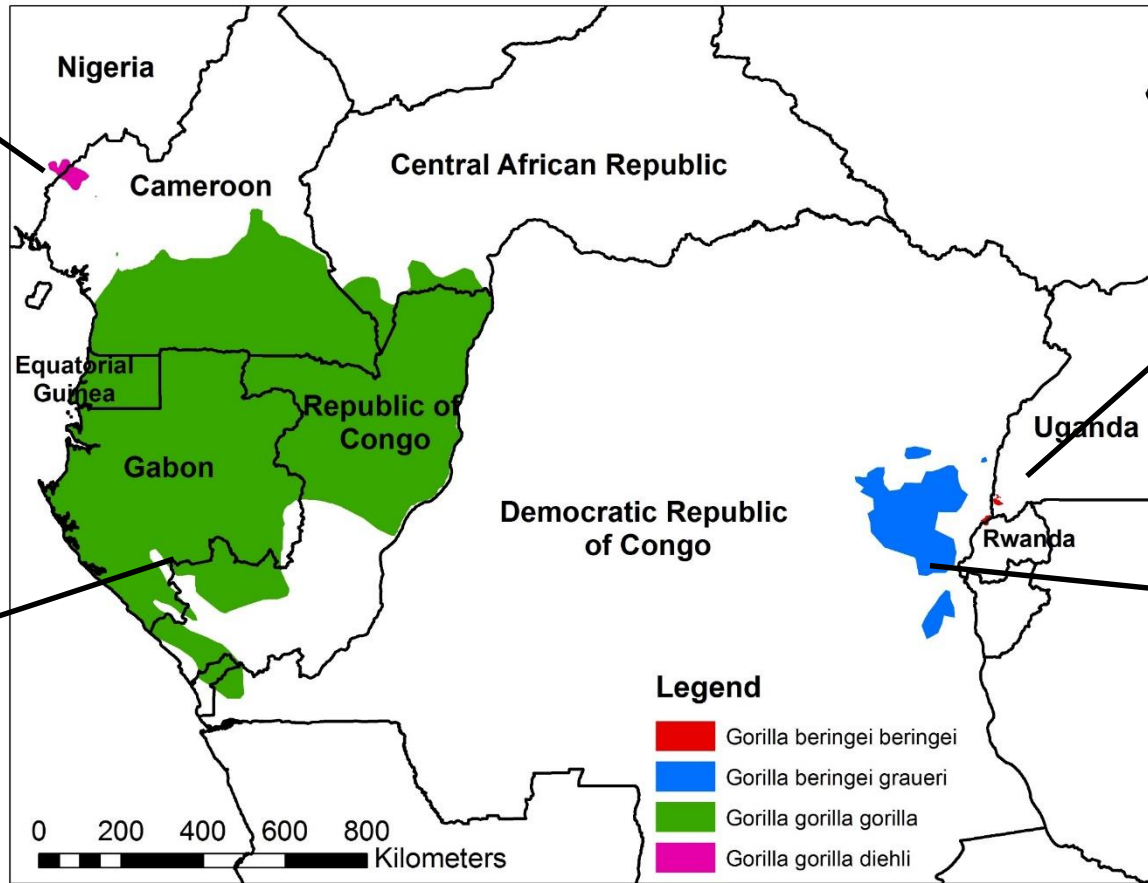
Eastern Gorillas
Gorilla beringei

Cross River Gorillas
~300

Mountain Gorillas
~1000

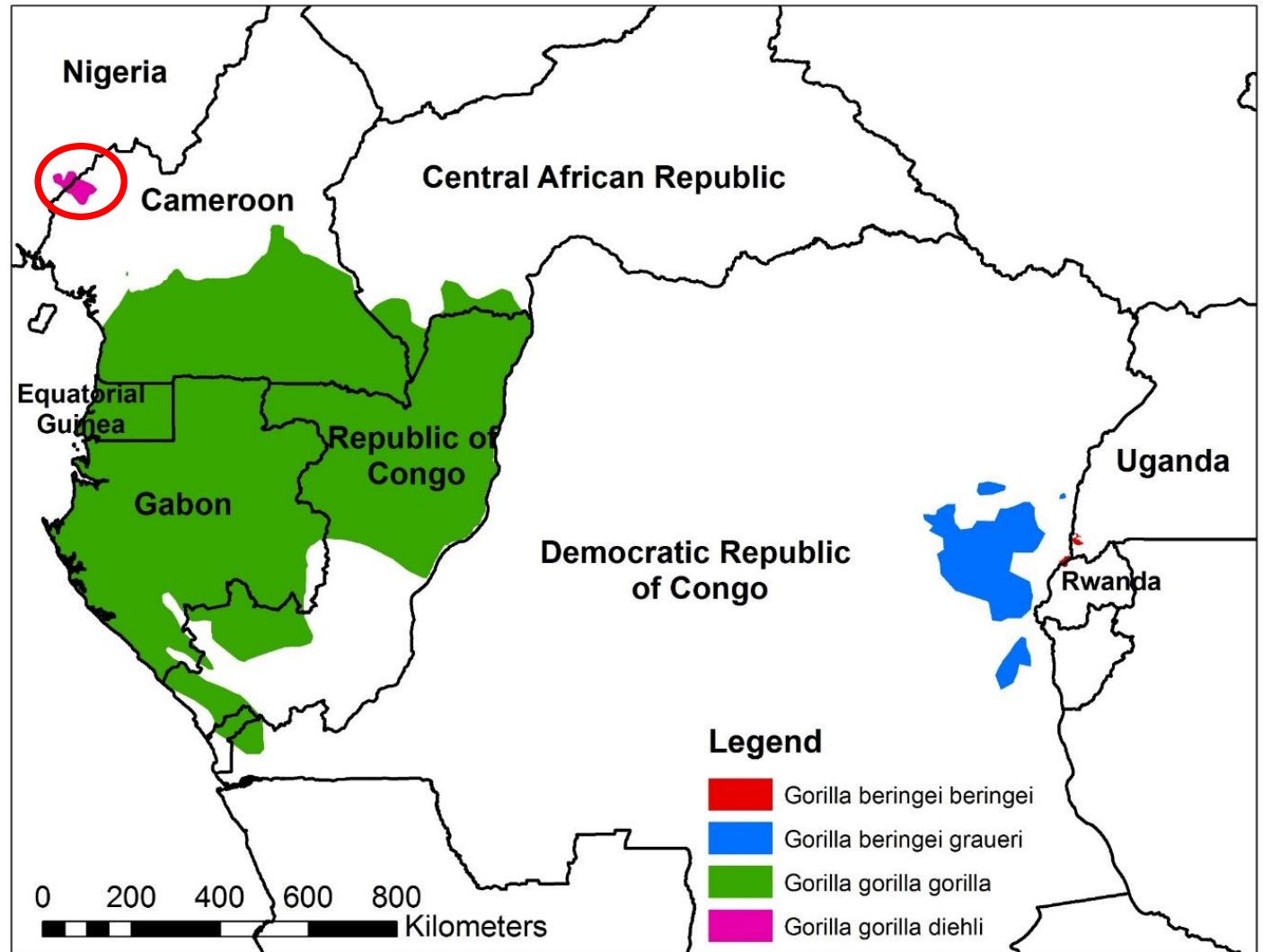
Western Lowland Gorillas
~360,000

Grauer's Gorillas
~4,000



Cross River Gorillas

*Gorilla
gorilla
diehli*

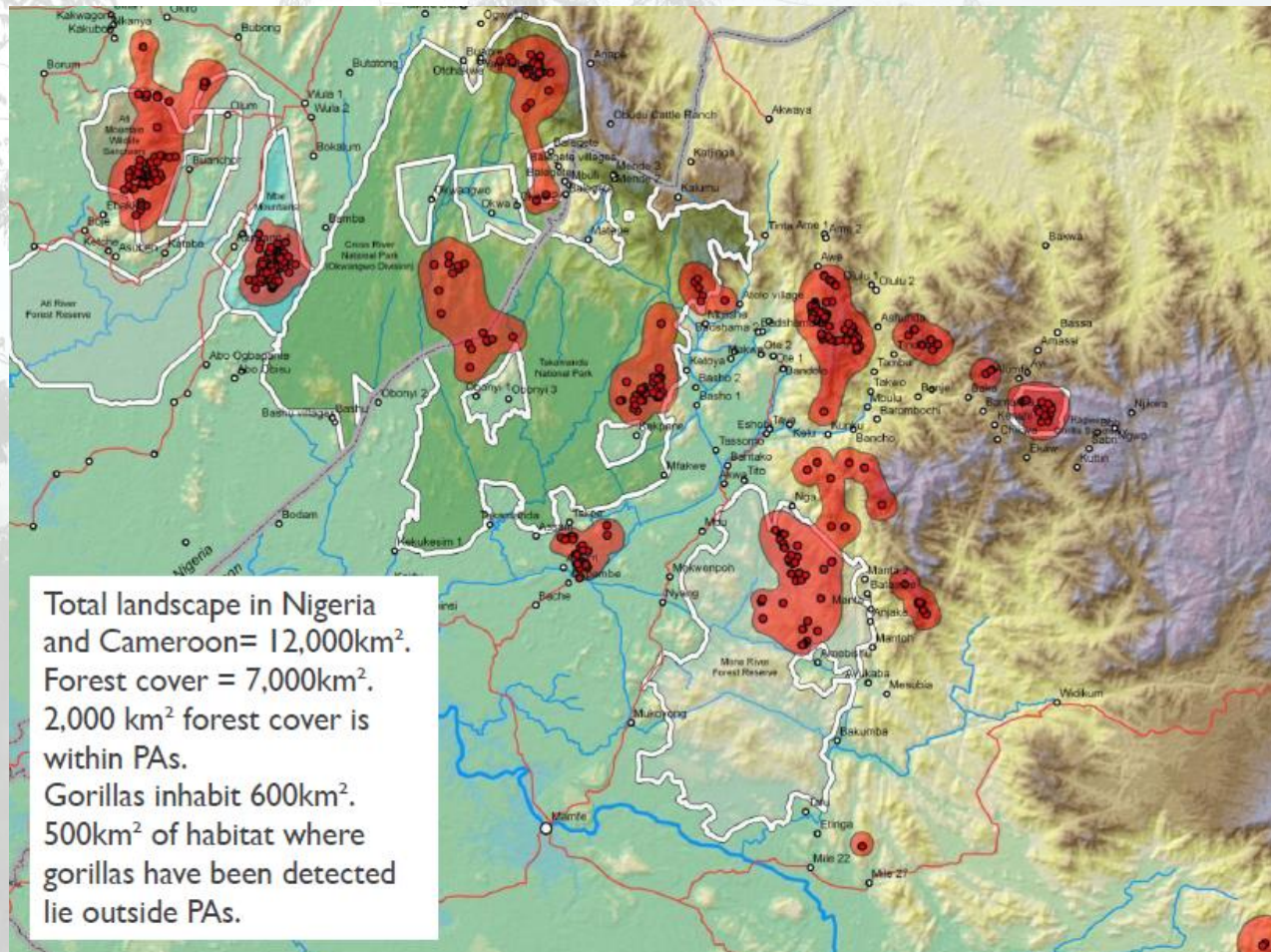


Cross River Gorillas

Estimated 300 gorillas in 14 subpopulations

12,000 km² landscape

Critically Endangered



Cross River Gorillas: Threats



3% Annual rate of forest loss

Hunting

Habitat Disturbance

Distribution driven by human activities, not habitat requirements

Cross River Gorillas: Conservation Actions

Transboundary Collaboration

Enhanced Law Enforcement and Monitoring

Community Involvement



Fewer than
Today, the total population of Cross River gorillas may number fewer than 300 individuals
300 left

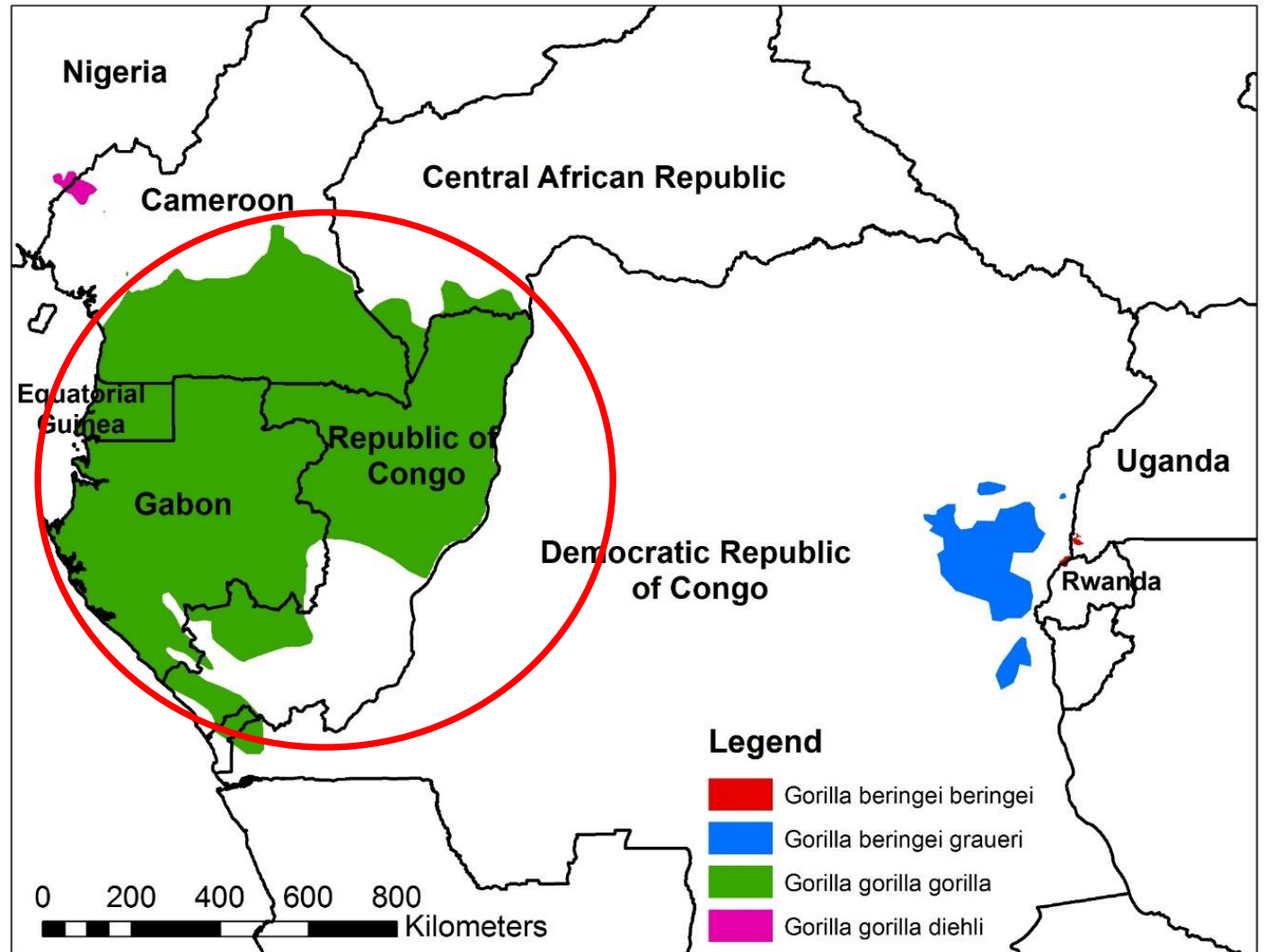
**Revised Regional Action Plan
for the Conservation of the
Cross River Gorilla (*Gorilla
gorilla diehli*) 2014–2019**

Hope
Understanding the status of the changing threats across the Cross River gorilla landscape will provide key information for guiding our collective conservation activities
Survival

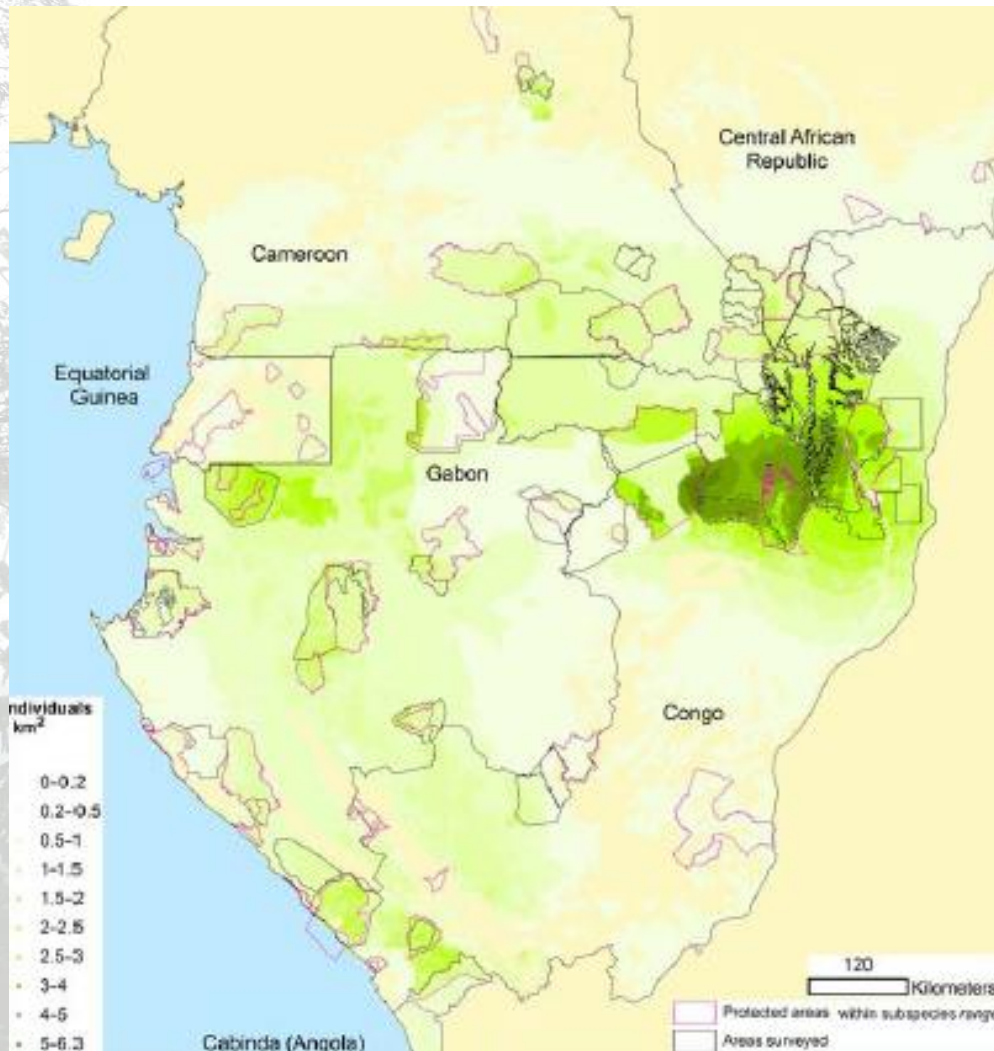


**Western
Lowland
Gorillas**

*Gorilla
gorilla
gorilla*



Western Lowland Gorillas



Estimated 361,000 gorillas

656,000 km² landscape

80% occur outside protected areas

Critically Endangered

Higher densities where:

- forest is intact**
- wildlife laws are enforced**
- human influence is low**
- disease impacts have been low**

Western Lowland Gorillas: Threats



Illegal killings for bushmeat

Habitat destruction:

logging

mining

industrial agriculture

Disease

2.7% annual rate of decline

Western Lowland Gorillas: Conservation Actions



Regional Action Plan for the
Conservation of Western
Lowland Gorillas and Central
Chimpanzees 2015–2025

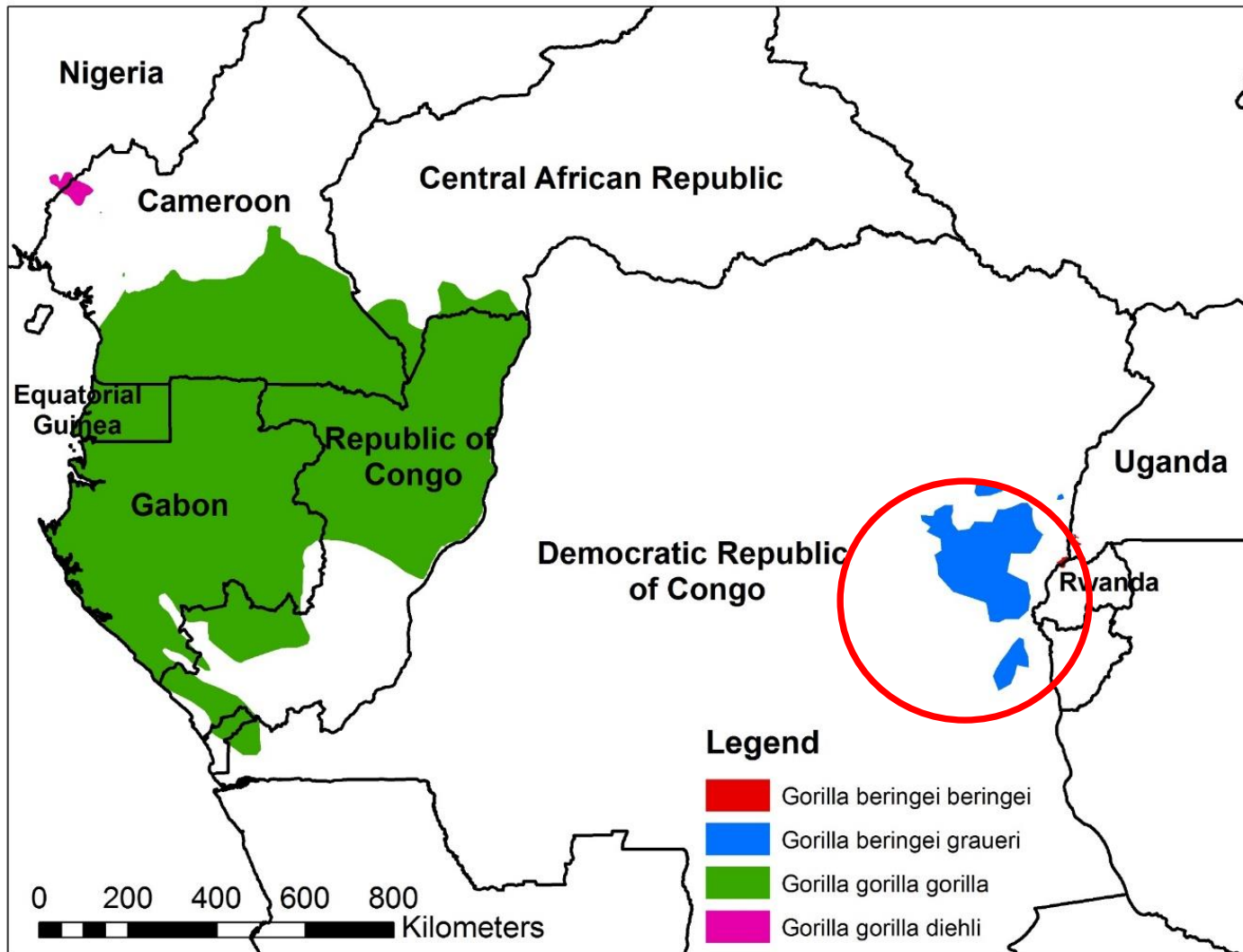


18 priority conservation landscapes that encompass approximately half of their range

Enhanced Law Enforcement

Monitoring

Integrated Land Use Planning



**Grauer's
Gorillas**

*Gorilla
beringei
graueri*

Grauer's Gorillas

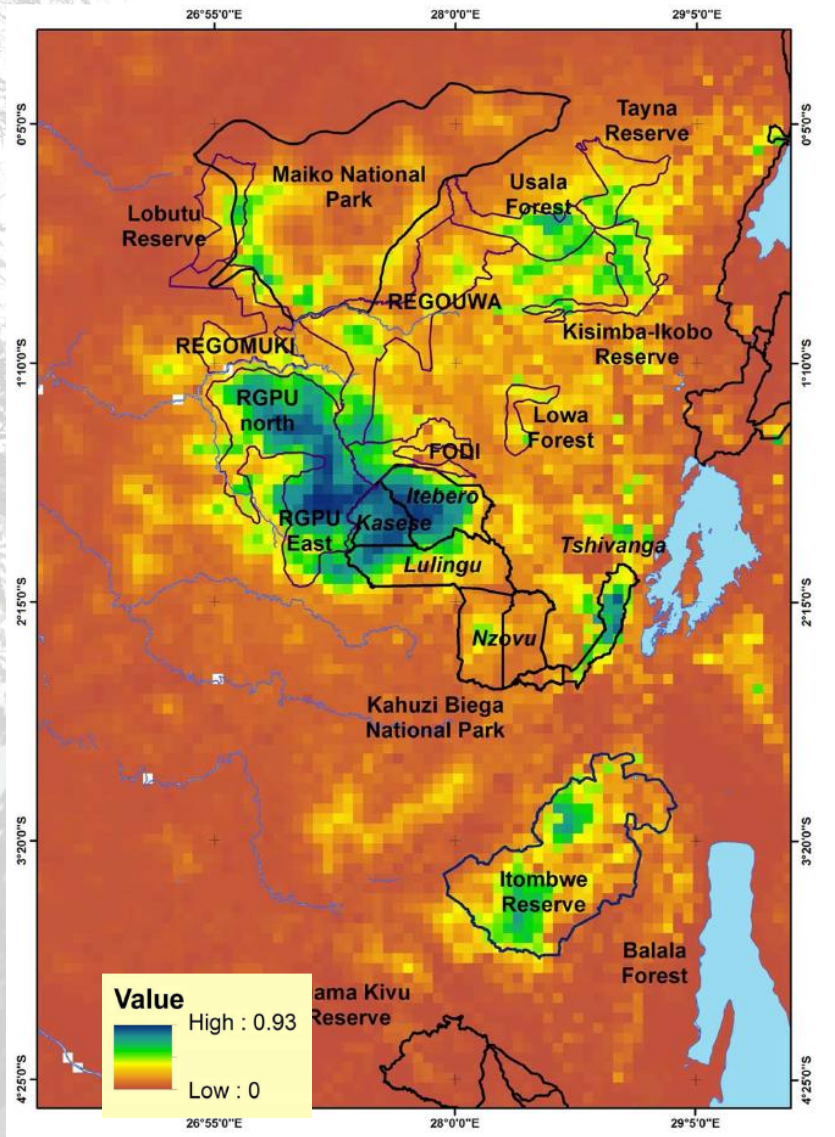
Estimated 3,800 gorillas (1,280-9,050)

Dramatic decline from 18,000 in 1994 (77%)

19,700 km² landscape

Critically Endangered

Higher densities where:
-less habitat destruction
-higher altitude
-forest is intact



Grauer's Gorillas: Threats



Political instability due to rebel groups and armed militia

Hunting for bushmeat

Artisanal mining

Habitat Destruction

Grauer's Gorillas: Conservation Actions



Grauer's Gorillas and
Chimpanzees in Eastern
Democratic Republic of Congo

(Kahuzi-Biega, Maiko, Tayna and Itombwe Landscape)
Conservation Action Plan 2012-2022



**IUCN Red List uplisting from
Endangered to Critically Endangered**

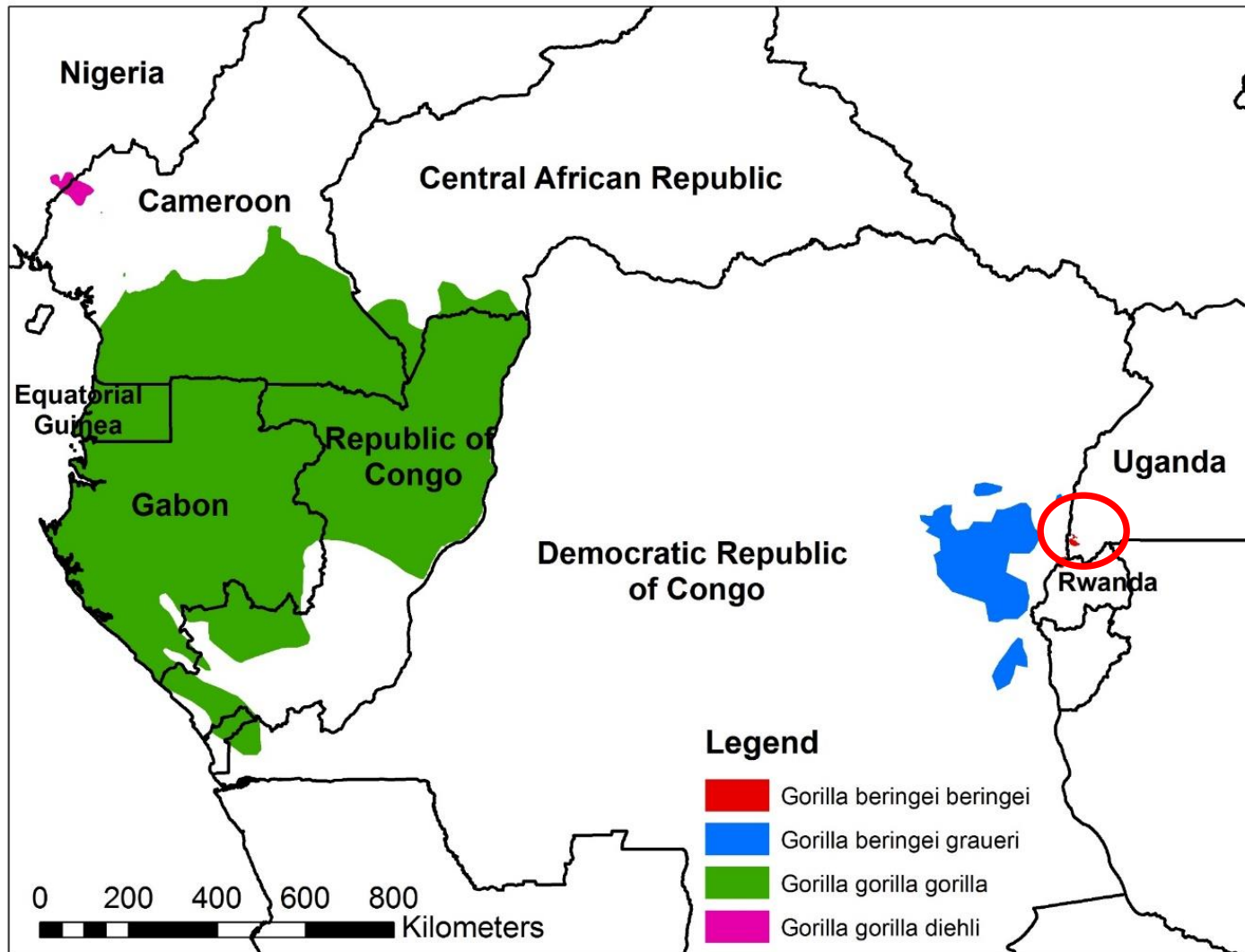
Increased Public Awareness

**Improved Capacity Building &
Law Enforcement**

Promote Alternative Livelihoods

Mountain Gorillas

Gorilla beringei beringei



Mountain Gorillas



Estimated 1,000 gorillas

Only 2 populations

Only great ape subspecies that is increasing

800 km² landscape

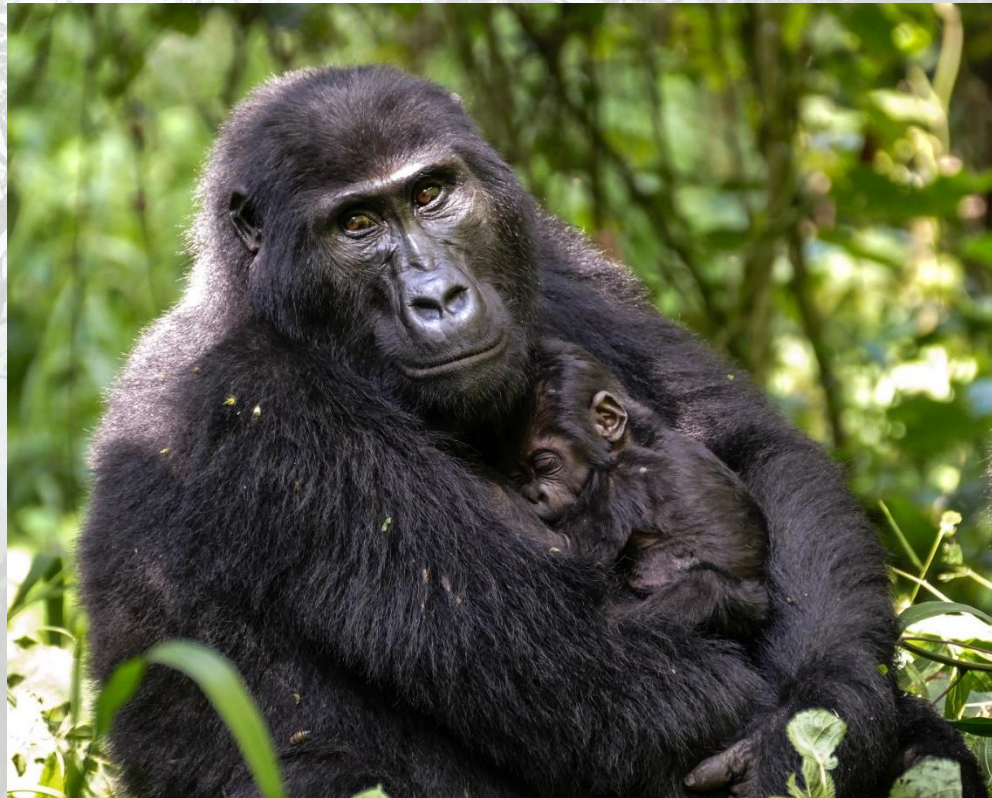
Downlisted to Endangered in 2018

Mountain Gorillas: Threats

Disease, particularly from humans

Small habitat surrounded by high human population density

Illegal killings, but primates not eaten in region



Mountain Gorillas: Conservation Actions



Tourism

Law Enforcement

Monitoring & Research

Community Engagement

Subspecies	Countries Found	Area of Habitat	Estimated Population Size
Mountain Gorilla (<i>G. b. beringei</i>)	Rwanda, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo	800 km ²	~1000
Grauer's Gorilla (<i>G. b. graueri</i>)	Democratic Republic of Congo	19,700 km ²	3,800
Cross River Gorilla (<i>G. g. diehli</i>)	Nigeria, Cameroon	600 km ²	~300
Western Lowland Gorilla (<i>G. g. gorilla</i>)	Gabon, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo	445,000 km ²	~361,000

Despite differences in populations, major threats are the same:



Illegal Killings

Habitat Destruction

Disease

Generalities for Conservation Strategies

Law Enforcement

**Engage with private sector to
reduce habitat destruction**

Monitoring & Research

Community Engagement

Tourism





Thank you!



Gorillas: 2 species; 4 subspecies

Western Gorillas
Gorilla gorilla

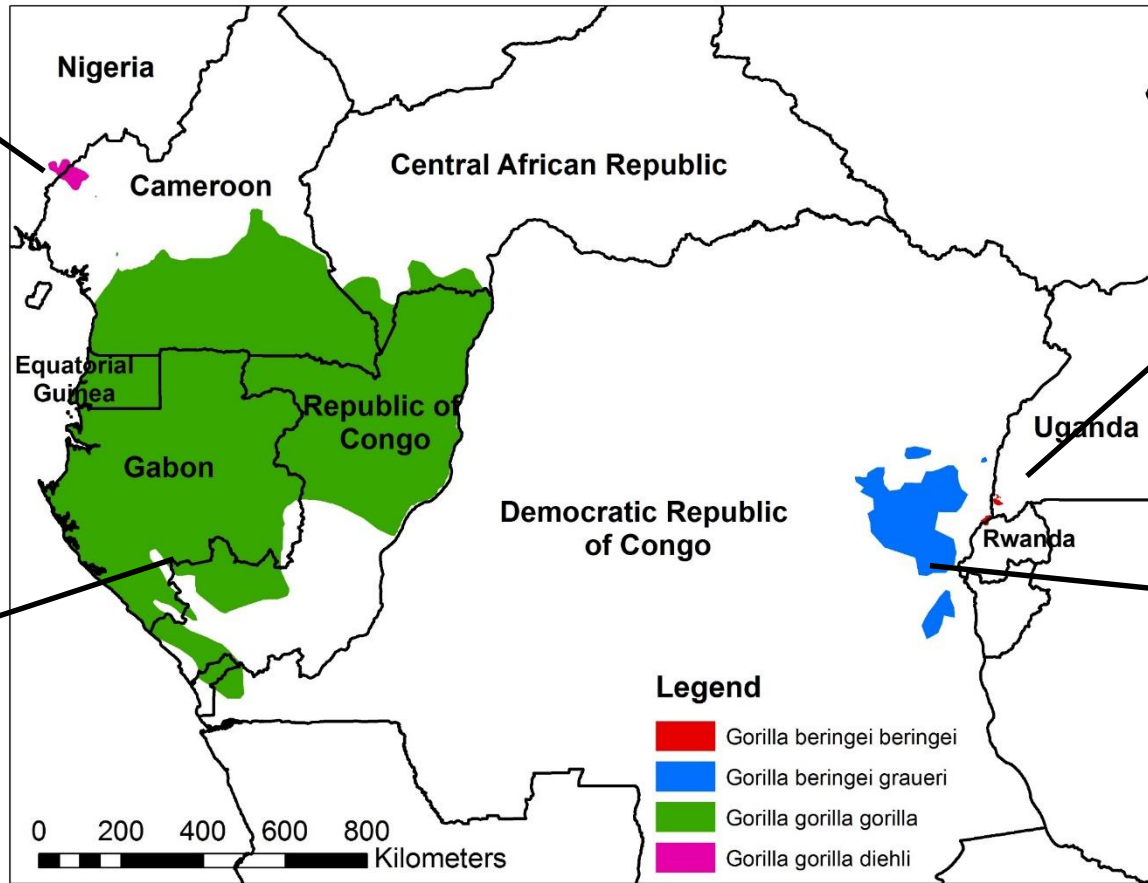
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Acknowledgements

**Institute for Tropical Forest Conservation
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Uganda Wildlife Authority
Rwanda Development Board
Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature
Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Program
Max Planck Society**

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