

Horned Guan

Oreophasis derbianus

Family: *Cracidae*, Genus: *Oreophasis*
Recognized Subspecies: 0, Monotypic
Conservation status: Endangered
Wild Pop. Trend: Decreasing
CITES Appendix I
USFWS: Listed



Range: Mexico and Guatemala

Conservation Concern: The Horned Guan is listed as Endangered by the IUCN. The current wild population is estimated to be between 1,000 and 2,500 individuals. Habitat destruction and fragmentation as well as habitat modification due to global warming are the greatest threats to its survival.

Photo credit: Shutterstock

Species Account: The Horned Guan is the only species in the genus *Oreophasis*. Once extremely rare in captivity and historically only held and propagated in the collection of Dr. Jesus Estudillo-Lopez in his famous collection in Mexico City. The dedication of Africam Safari has increased the knowledge of the husbandry of this species, increased reproduction, and established an international population of this challenging species.

The Horned Guan, compared to the other Cracid programs, is a relatively new program. This species was only imported into AZA collections in the U.S. within the 2000s. Currently two U.S. institutions house and have bred the Horned Guan (Dallas World Aquarium and the St. Louis Zoo). The majority of the captive population is housed at Africam Safari (>50%) and they occasionally have birds that are available for export. This is an Endangered species that ranges into Mexico and the TAG fully supports the amazing work that Africam Safari is doing and the acquisition of this species by AZA institutions in the U.S.

AZA Role: This cloud forest dependent endangered species in the future will have increasing conservation pressure due to climate change. Although a sensitive subject in some portions of the U.S., those interested in housing this species could use it as an interpretative to illustrate that climate change is not just an issue for arctic animals. Please contact Mike and Anne for further information on how to acquire this species and other husbandry related information.

TAG Monitored Goals: Formerly recommended as SSP in the 2012 RCP, this species was never able to acquire a program manager. As this species is managed by an International Studbook, it was decided that AZA management was not warranted or required at this time.

Education Emphasis

- Seed dispersal
- Cloud forest biome

AZA Connections: The following table is not a guide of what the Horned Guan can be housed with (although many of these are a possibility) but instead to show the range connections between other AZA recommended program species.

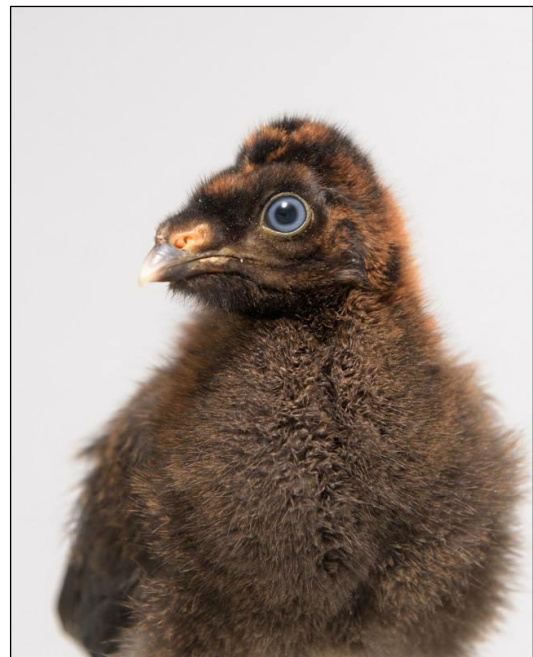
Horned Guan <i>Oreophasis derbianus</i> recommended species by other TAGs within species range				
Common name	Scientific name	TAG	Program	Conservation status
Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	PACCT TAG	TAG Monitored	Least Concern
Blue-Grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	PACCT TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Keel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i>	Piciformes TAG	Red SSP	Least Concern
Military Macaw	<i>Ara militaris</i>	Parrot TAG	TAG Monitored	Vulnerable
Yellow-naped Amazon	<i>Amazona auropalliata</i>	Parrot TAG	TAG Monitored	Vulnerable
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Charadriiformes TAG	Yellow SSP	Least Concern
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Anseriformes TAG	Raft	Least Concern

**Disclaimer: this information was collected in 2017. If you have interest in any of these species, contact the perspective TAGs. All range overlap information was determined using the IUCN Red List range maps.

Conservation priority species that share the same range.

- Mexican Red Brocket Deer *Mazama temama*
- Geoffroy's Spider Monkey *Ateles geoffroyi*
- Baird's Tapir *Tapirus bairdii*

If your institution is supporting a field project in Mexico or Guatemala, see if your conservation partner is observing the Horned Guan in their study/field site. If your Zoo displays one of the following species, the addition of an aviary for Horned Guans further illustrates the diversity of the Cloud Forest biome at your institution and highlights an endangered bird.



Horned Guan chick
Photo credit St. Louis Zoo