

FUN FACTS

- Dholes successfully compete with tigers and leopards
- > The Dhole is also known as the mountain wolf
- > Dholes communicate with other members of their pack through high pitched whistles
- > The dhole has 16 teats, compared to the 10 of the rest of the Canidae family

Dhole: Cuon alpinus

By: Katja Bastiaens Order: Carnivora Family: Canidae Genus: Cuon

FORM and FUNCTION

- Long Limbs
- Muscle Mass on proximal ends Cursorial Locomotion These make the Dhole a better

runner by elongating stride length and increasing energy and force with each stride.

CONSERVATION

Dholes are endangered. Conservation is focused on tigers, but dhole habitat overlaps. Habitat loss and fragmentation is the greatest threat to the dhole. There are 358 captive dholes in efforts to conserve

them.

Vocal repertoire of Dhole (Ka Ka Ka Repeated by the arrival of van yack cackle Communal activity, group Were not heard uniting or territorial

*Single sounds may be mixed in successive combinations, e.g. growl-scream, yak-yak scream or in simultaneous combinations (superimposition), e.g. growl and scream combined.

ohnsingh, A. "Reproductive and social behaviour of the Dhole, Cuon

EVOLUTION

- Found in forests and jungles of South and Southeast
- > Only living member of the Cuon genus
- > Cuon split from Canis between 5.2-7.6 Mya
- > Likely most other members of the Cuon genus died off with the end of the Pleistocene epoch
- > Dhole's dentition is missing a bottom fourth molar when compared to its canine family members.
- > This loss in dentition is thought to allow a shorter rostrum for a larger point of attachment for a stronger jaw muscle.
- only one cusp.
- create a better suited shearing edge to then eat more efficiently.

- Asia

- > The dhole's first molars or MI is reduced to have
- > This specialization is though to have occurred to

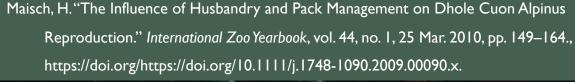






BEHAVIOR

- Male and female dholes participate in pack reproductive suppression
- > Top females will prevent subordinate females by either not letting them near the males or killing or adopting the cubs
- > The male will prevent the top female from being bread by other males either by fighting males or keeping the female separated
- > Subordinate females may get pregnant and let their cubs die to aid in feeding the top females cubs
- Other Dholes aid in raising cubs making them monogamous and eusocial with alloparental and paternal care
- > Dholes communicate with one another through physical behavioral signs, interdigital glands, scats and vocalizations





PHYSIOLOGY

As seen in the image on the right, the dhole has a thicker winter coat, smaller rounded ears and a thicker tail to stay warmer in the winter.

