



WEAR IT WILD

SNOW LEOPARD

Hi, I am the snow leopard, one of the world's most mysterious cats.
Read on to discover more interesting facts about me.



Where
I live

Snow leopards like me can be found in twelve countries across central Asia, usually in the mountainous areas of the Himalayas.

wwf.org.uk/wildlife/snow_leopard/



Snow leopard territory

CHARACTERISTICS

- My thick tail is used for balance and can be wrapped around my body for warmth.
- My coat is a white to smokey-grey colour, with patterned dark-grey to black rosettes and spots.
- I weigh between 22-52kg.
- My short forelimbs and long hind limbs enable me to move quickly in my steep and rocky habitat
- I am extremely agile and a superb jumper. I can spring and pounce on prey up to 15m away!

DID YOU KNOW

My beautiful spotted coats change with the seasons - from a background of thick, white fur to keep me warm and camouflaged in winter, to a fine yellow-grey coat in the summer.

MY FAMILY

Female snow leopards give birth to a litter size of two to three cubs, which are born with black spots. I become independent from my mother at over two years old. As an adult I tend to live and hunt alone.



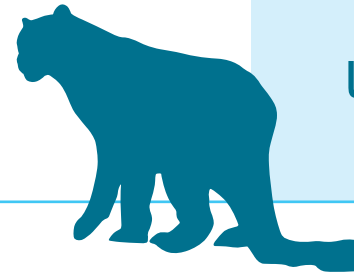
VIDEO

Watch footage of me:

- arkive.org/snow-leopard/panthera-uncia/video-01.html
- arkive.org/snow-leopard/panthera-uncia/video-00a.html
- arkive.org/snow-leopard/panthera-uncia/video-15.html

FEEDING

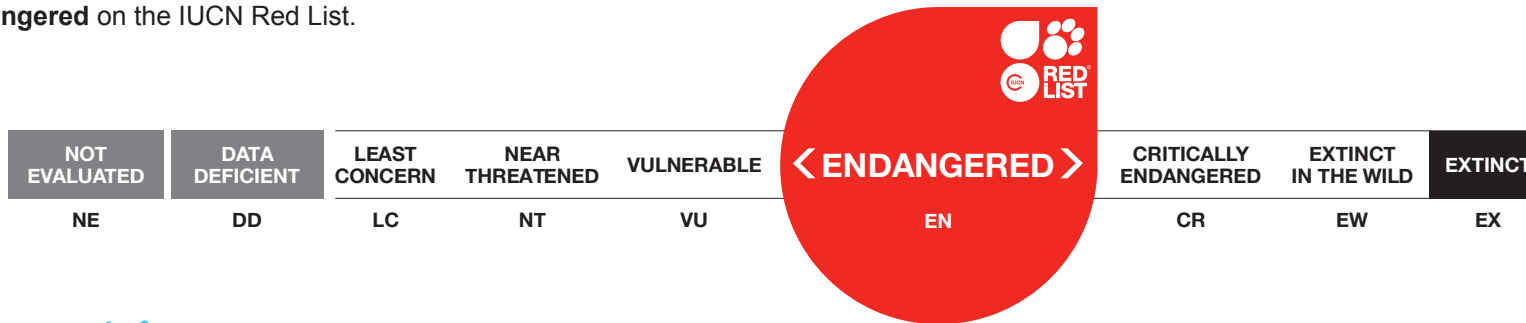
- My prey include mountain sheep and goats that share my habitat.
- I usually hunt at dawn and dusk.
- I'm a strong predator, able to kill prey up to three times my own weight.



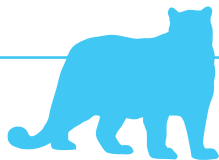
DID YOU KNOW
Unlike other big cats - like lions
and tigers - I can't roar.

CLASSIFICATION

I am classified as **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List.



STATUS



My natural prey has been hunted and pushed out of my habitat, as a result I have less prey to feed on and my population has suffered and declined. I will turn to farmers' animals for food but this angers them and results in them hunting us.

My fur is highly prized and there is an increasing demand for my bones in traditional Asian medicine.

Over the past 20 years, my species have declined by at least 20%. It is estimated there are around approximately 4,000 to 6,500 individuals remaining.

