



Mining Threatens African Great Apes

Source: DTE

A recent study published in the journal Science Advances has highlighted the grave threat posed by **mining** to the **great ape population in Africa**.

- The study indicates that more than a **third of the entire great ape population in Africa, nearly 180,000 individuals**, faces direct or indirect threats from mining activities.
- Approximately **20% of critical habitats intersect with mining areas**. Countries such as Liberia, Sierra Leone, Mali, and Guinea show significant overlaps between great ape habitats and mining sites.
- **Bonobo (*Pan paniscus*); Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*); Eastern Gorilla (*Gorilla beringei*); Western Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*), and orangutans (*Pongo*)** are referred to as great apes due to their large size and humanlike features. Great apes are a **taxonomic family of primates classified as Hominidae**.
- According to the **IUCN Red List**, all great ape species are listed as **Endangered or Critically Endangered**.



Read more: [India's Only Ape Species: The Hoolock Gibbon](#)

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