

导读:经过数十年的繁育努力,大熊猫的数量有了明显上升,目前大熊猫已经被移出了濒危物种名单。



The official status of the much-loved animal has been changed from "endangered" to "vulnerable" because of a population rebound in China.

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The change was announced as part of an update to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.

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But the update also brought bad news. The eastern gorilla, the world's largest primate, is now endangered.

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Efforts by China, which claims the giant panda as its national animal, have brought its numbers back from the brink. The latest estimates show a population of 1,864 adults.

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There are no exact figures for the numbers of cubs, but estimates bring the total number of giant pandas to 2,060.

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"Evidence from a series of range-wide national surveys indicate that the previous population decline has been arrested, and the population has started to increase," said the IUCN's updated report.

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"The improved status confirms that the Chinese government's efforts to conserve this species are effective," it added.

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But the rebound could be short-lived, the IUCN warned. Climate change is predicted to wipe out more than one-third of the panda's bamboo habitat in the next 80 years.

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"And thus panda population is projected to decline, reversing the gains made during the last two decades," the report said.

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It added: "To protect this iconic species, it is critical that the effective forest protection measures are continued and that emerging threats are addressed."

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John Robinson, a primatologist and chief conservation officer at the Wildlife Conservation Society, told the AFP news agency: "When push comes to shove, the Chinese have done a really good job with pandas.

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"So few species are actually downlisted, it really is a reflection of the success of conservation," he told the AFP news agency.

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