



Study: Mountain gorilla population growing

By the CNN Wire Staff

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A new World Wildlife Fund survey reported a 26% increase in the population of endangered mountain gorillas in east Africa.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Group says population of mountain gorillas has grown by 100 since 2003
- The gorillas were counted in regions in eastern Africa

(CNN) -- The number of mountain gorillas, which are a critically endangered species, has increased by more than 26% in regions in eastern Africa, according to a new survey released Friday.

The World Wildlife Fund says it counted 480 mountain gorillas in the Virunga Massif region that spans the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Uganda. That is an increase of 100 gorillas since 2003, the organization said.

This increase brings the world population to 786 mountain gorillas, the organization said.

"The mountain gorilla population has made an absolutely remarkable recovery. We are very pleased to see yet another increase in the numbers of this critically endangered species," said Allard Blom, a director with the World Wildlife Fund.