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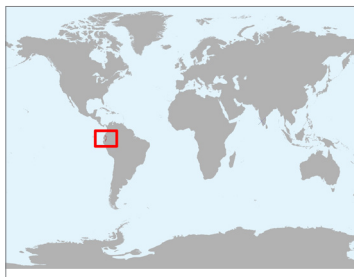
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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Tube-lipped Nectar Bat

The **Tube-lipped Nectar Bat**, *Anoura fistulata*, is listed as “Data Deficient” on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This species was described as recently as 2005 and appears to be endemic to both sides of the Ecuadoran Andes, in mature cloud forests found on the mid-elevation slopes.

The Tube-lipped Nectar Bat is identifiable by its elongated, tube-shaped lower lip and its extremely long tongue – the longest of any bat or mammal, recorded at one and a half times its body length. One Campanulaceae plant species, from the bat’s distribution range, relies on the Tube-lipped Nectar Bat alone for its pollination; given its extremely deep tube-shaped flowers, only this bat species is able to pollinate it. However, the Tube-lipped Nectar Bat includes many other food items in its diet including insects.

The ecosystem upon which this bat relies is extremely fragile and the rate of destruction is high. However, although it is considered uncommon and restricted in its range, much more information is needed before the Tube-lipped Nectar Bat may be properly assigned to a Red List category.

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