

New lemur species discovered by Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium scientists



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OMAHA, Neb. (WOWT) -- A team of scientists at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, in collaboration with scientists at Suny Polytechnic Institute and Global Wildlife Conservation, have discovered a new species of lemur.

The Groves' Dwarf lemur was discovered in southeast Madagascar. Known to scientists as *Cheirogaleus grovesi*, the reddish brown nocturnal primate is smaller than a typical Nebraskan squirrel.

The lemur species can be found in the forests of southeast Madagascar between Ranomafana World Heritage Site and National Park and Andringitra National Park.

It's the 24th lemur to be discovered since 2006 by the Zoo's Conservation Genetics Department led by Dr. Edward Louis Jr., in collaboration with its Malagasy partner, the Madagascar Biodiversity Partnership.

The Groves' Dwarf lemur was named to honor one of the most highly regarded primate taxonomists and a friend of the Zoo's team of scientists, Dr. Colin Groves, a British-Australian biological Anthropologist. A taxonomist is a scientist who describes organisms and determines how they are related to other species.