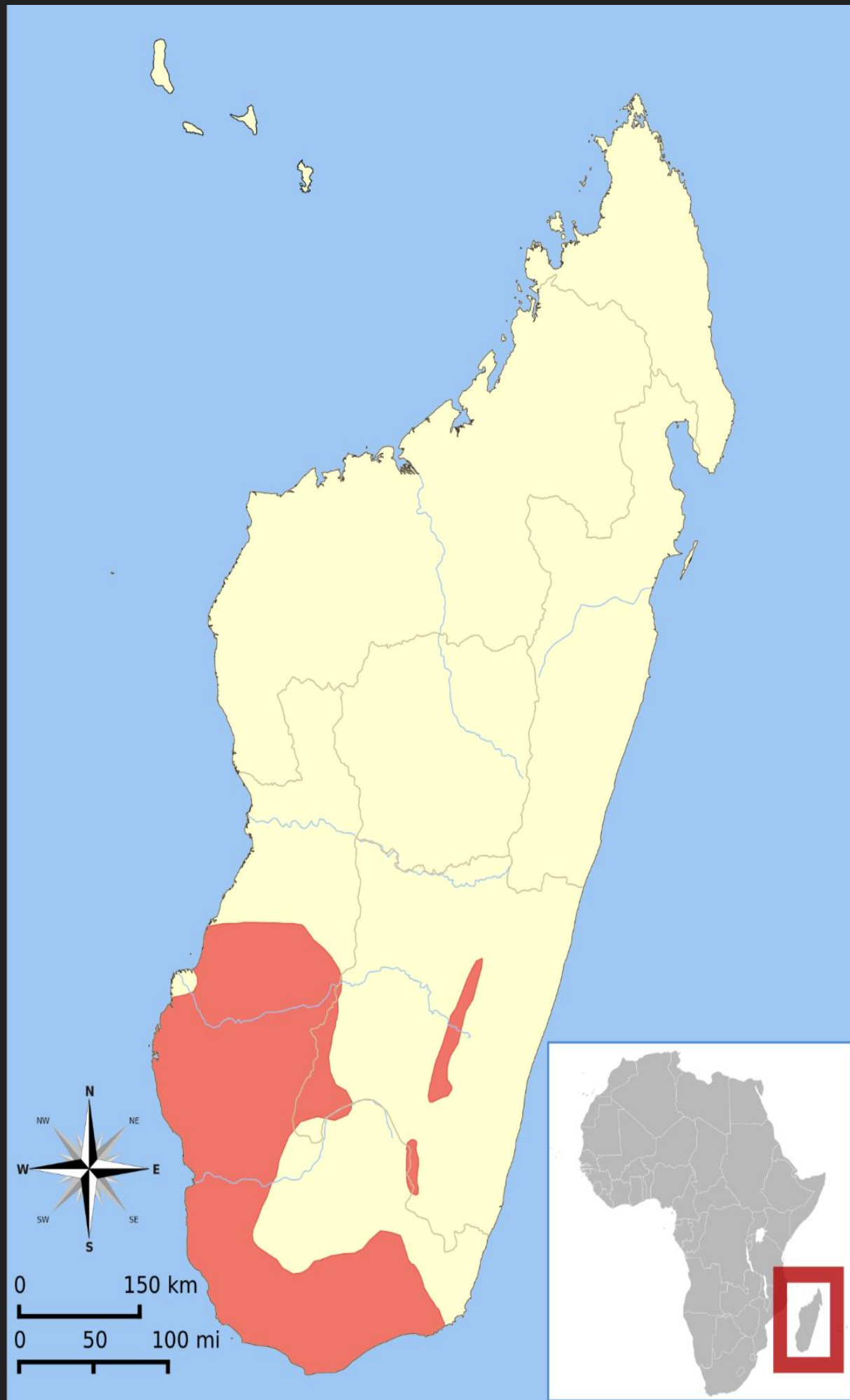


## Distribution

Range: Southwestern Madagascar

Habitat: gallery forests to spiny scrub



# The Ring-tailed Lemur (*Lemur catta*)

## Classification

Order: Primates      Family: Lemuridae

Genus: Lemur      Species: Lemur catta

## Behaviors

Diet: leaves, fruit, insects

Habits: diurnal year round, travel in troops, sun bathing

Communication: scent glands giving off different odors, urine, range of complex clicking/yaps

## Sociality

- Live in troops of 6-30
  - Average of 17
- Need to socialize
- Alpha female leads troop
- Protect each other from predators and other troops
- Social network changes for males by the season as well if it is mating season or not



## Reproduction

Gestation: 130-144 days

Breeding Season: April-June

Number per litter: 1-2

Child care: mainly parental as the young come in precocious



## Management & Conservation

- Currently they are an endangered species
  - Anywhere from 2,000-2,400 Ring-tailed Lemurs
- Banned international trade of the Ring-tailed Lemur to help their numbers
- Geologically isolated to a single area
- The wildlife conservation society that studies troop behavior and establishes a free-ranging breeding population that could potentially be reintroduced to the island of Madagascar

## Size

Tail length: 21 inches

Body length: 15-18 inches

Hind foot length: 102-113 mm

Head Length: 78-88 mm

Body weight: 3.0-3.5 kg

Foot pressure: They use plantigrade foot pressure and some digitigrade foot pressure which is called semidigitigrade

Bone adaptations: The central tarsal bone is elongated to proximodistal as an adaptation for jumping