

ADVERTISEMENT



[Site Index](#)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS

REPORTING YOUR WORLD DAILY

TODAY'S BEST NEWS PHOTO



[Photo in the News: Troubled Hawaiian "Treasure" to Welcome Visitors](#)

- [News Front Page](#)
- [15 Most Popular News Stories](#)
- [Photos in the News](#)
- [Videos in the News](#)
- [Animals & Nature News](#)
- [Archaeology & Paleontology News](#)
- [Environment News](#)
- [Health News](#)
- [History & Culture News](#)
- [Weird News](#)
- [Science & Space News](#)
- [Travel & Adventure News](#)

[News Front Page](#) > [Environment](#)

Ecotourism Driving Tibetan Monkeys to Infanticide

Brian Handwerk
for [National Geographic News](#)
July 20, 2007

Visitors are loving Tibetan monkeys to death in one of [China's](#) most popular tourism centers, according to a new long-term study.

Researchers found that the start of tourism in the Mount Huangshan Scenic Area in Anhui Province coincided with skyrocketing infant mortality in the reserve's Tibetan macaques.



[Enlarge Photo](#)

- [Printer Friendly](#)
- [Email to a Friend](#)

RELATED

["Hot Tub Monkeys" Offer Eye on Nonhuman "Culture" \(February 6, 2004\)](#)

[Photo: Japanese Macaques Hot Tubbing](#)

[Research Vacations No Walk in the Park, Experts Say \(May 29\)](#)

The park's monkeys are confined to a restricted range and regularly compete for corn in a small open area within view of spectators.

The combination of these factors likely triggered adult aggression toward each other and toward their young, the study found.

As a result, less than half of the infants survive into adulthood.

The results suggest that ecotourism can be deadly when not managed properly, said study co-author Carol Berman.

"I think a lot more work needs to be done on how ecotourism impacts the animals," said Berman, an anthropologist at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

TODAY'S



ADVERTI

LATEST



[More Ph](#)

NATION



Podca



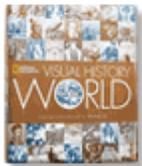
FREE NEWSLETTER

Sign up for our free [Inside National Geographic newsletter](#). Every two weeks we'll send you our top stories and photos ([see sample](#)).

CONTACT US

[Email the News Staff](#)

[Contact Other Staff](#)

SHOP

[Visual History of the World Book](#)

[2007](#)

Results of the 19-year study will be published in the October edition of the *International Journal of Primatology*.

Increased Aggression

Berman's team studied the Tibetan macaques for six years before ecotourism began in 1991.

They also collected data while tourists visited the animals between 1992 and 2004, including a span in 2003 when tourism was suspended.

Infant mortality had been low prior to ecotourism and was primarily caused by disease, the team found.

Continued on [Next Page >>](#)

LATEST VIDEOS IN THE NEWS

[Video: Hawaii Barracks' Newest Recruit: the Sun](#)



[Video: Beached Baby Whale's Race Against the Clock](#)



[Video: Humpback Whales' Feeding Frenzy](#)

[More Videos in the News](#)

SOURCES AND RELATED WEB SITES

[The Nature Conservancy](#)

[International Journal of Primatology](#)

[Frans de Waal](#)

[Carol M. Berman](#)



Spons

[Online](#)
10 Que
you.

[API's](#)
Provid
tools re
interac

[Envirc](#)
Asbest
IAQ, m

[Super](#)
Search
flights.

[Hawai](#)
Go. Air
Kona, :

NATIONALGEOGRAPHIC.COM

© 1996-2007 National Geographic Society.
All rights reserved.

[Home](#) | [Site Index](#) | [Search](#) | [Free Newsletters](#) | [Subscriptions](#)
[Shopping](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Advertise With Us](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)
[Press Room](#)