

# COMMON ZOMBIE

(*Homo sapiens ambulans mortuus*)

Former range: North, Central, and South America, Europe, Africa; endemic to rural farms, suburban malls, ancient burial sites, abandoned military bases, graveyards, and B grade horror movies.

Current range: Isolated pockets of poorly lit bars scattered amid urban centers sufficiently populated to support large humanoid scavengers.

Habitat: Temperate to tropical climates, with preference for damp, shadowy areas.

IUCN Red List Status 2009: Critically endangered

Wild population: Approx. <250

Captive population: Approx. 800

How zombies should be kept:

Zombies should be housed in social groups of one adult male and several females with their offspring. An outdoor enclosure of at least 800 m<sup>2</sup> is required and should be enlarged by 80 m<sup>2</sup> for each additional adult. The enclosure should be well designed using contouring and tombstones, voodoo paraphernalia and unethical research facilities for landscaping. Zombies can be picky, eating brains of low synapse counts and neglecting their fruits and vegetables. Therefore it is important their diet be supplemented with Wall Street brokers, lawyers, dentists, and vitamin C.

The common zombie population in the United States is down to less than 2% of its historic size because of human actions—primarily bludgeoning, shooting, and habitat destruction.

For some, zombies are “just walking corpses.” This reflects a poor understanding of the crucial role zombies play in the natural world. Besides acting as a recycler of cast-aside brain matter, the common zombie is the linchpin of vital ecosystems that sustain a host of wildlife species. These include animals dependent on zombies and the habitat they provide, such as the endangered Worchian flangerstudt, the imperiled paranormal investigator, mad scientist, amateur filmmaker, vampire reject, Communist spy, and necrophilic dominatrix. Indeed, over 147 animal species are thought to benefit from zombies and their colonies. Worchian flangerstudts remain endangered primarily because few large zombie complexes exist to support this carnivore that eats zombies almost exclusively and lives in their barrows.

With strong protection we can recover the common zombie, and safeguard a national treasure: undead drool.



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