



**Ili Pika**  
(*Ochotona iliensis*)  
**Size:** Body length, up to 20.5 cm  
**Weight:** 217 - 250 g  
**Habitat:** Sloping, high rock walls and cliff faces of the Borohoro mountain range  
**Surviving number:** Unknown; populations declining

Photographed by Weidong Li

# WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

Pile high. The ili pika spends the summer constructing a huge pile of hay, which it will use as a food source to make it through the lean months of winter in its mountain home. This elusive loner's life centers on its den, from which it warily ventures to forage for nearby plants. Rarely seen by humans, its most recent confirmed sightings came after a disappearance

of 20 years. Now, faced with climate change, overgrazing by livestock and deadly encounters with dogs, the ili pika may be on the verge of disappearing altogether.

As Canon sees it, images have the power to raise awareness of the threats facing endangered species and the natural environment, helping us make the world a better place.

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