

KEEP THE WILD ALIVE (KWA) *Species Cards*

GRIZZLY BEAR (*Ursus arctos*)

Range: The awe-inspiring grizzly bear once roamed the entire Western half of North America. Today, in the lower 48 states, it has been driven into only the most remote wilderness areas in Idaho, Washington, Montana, and Wyoming. Grizzlies, a subspecies of brown bears, still range throughout much of Alaska, Canada, and the rest of the Northern Hemisphere.

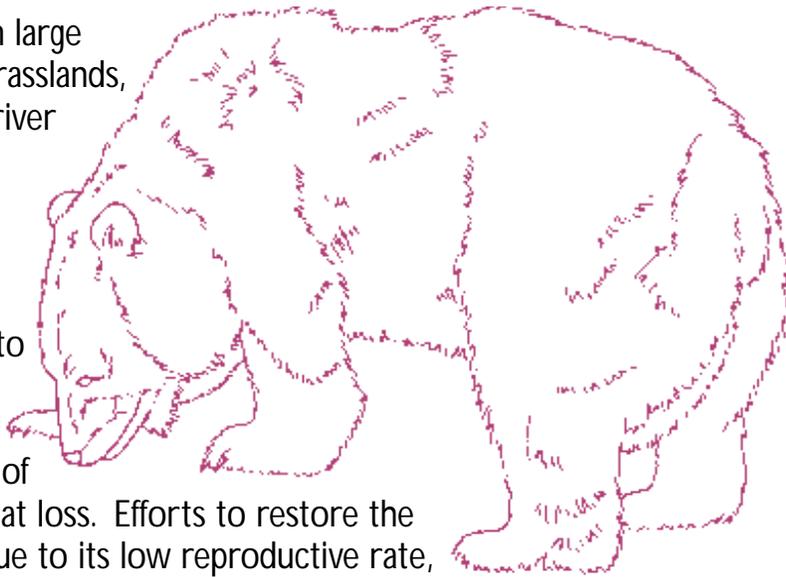
What They Eat: Plants, roots, berries, carrion, insects, other animals, and salmon.

What Eats Them: Grizzlies are at the top of the food chain and therefore have no natural predators. Wolves, cougars, and other bears have been reported to prey on grizzly cubs, but this is rare. The grizzly's only known predators are humans.

Habitat: Grizzlies live in large forests near meadows, grasslands, a lot of cover and large river valleys.

Threats: Like many other top predators, the grizzly has been pushed to near extinction by historical overhunting (primarily driven by fear of the species) and by habitat loss. Efforts to restore the grizzly have been slow due to its low reproductive rate, recent resistance from communities that oppose reintroduction, and direct conflicts with humans that sometimes result in bears being killed.

Reproductive Rate: Grizzly bears reach breeding age between four-and-a-half and five-and-a-half years, but some do not breed until they are eight-and-a-half years old. Once they begin breeding, females carry cubs every three or more years, and males mate every year.



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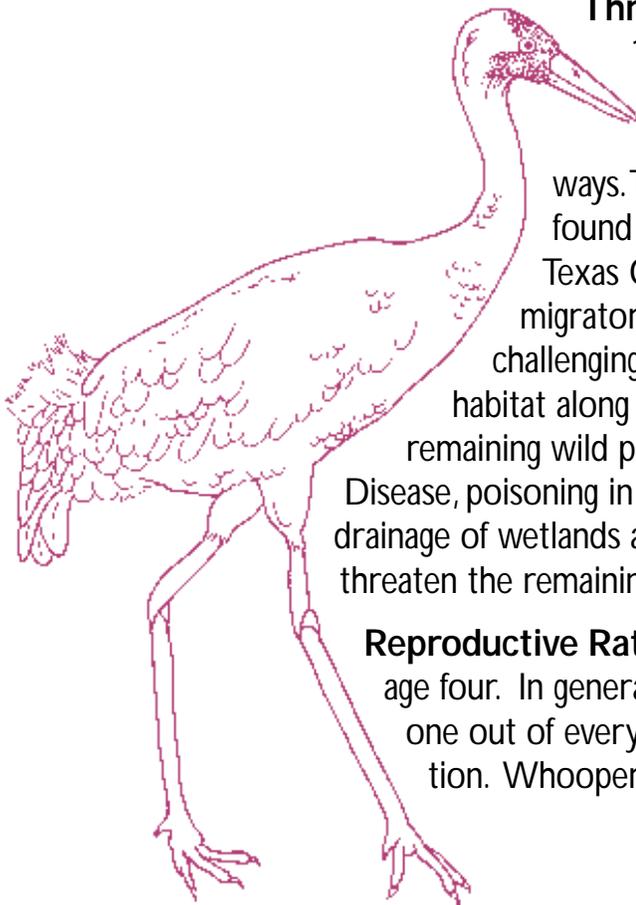
WHOOPING CRANE (*Grus Americana*)

Range: The graceful whooping crane, the tallest of American birds, was once found among wetlands and waterways stretching from the Rockies to the Carolinas.

What They Eat: In the summer, whooping cranes eat insects, frogs, rodents, small birds, minnows, and berries. In the winter, they eat mostly animal foods, especially blue crabs and clams but also forage for acorns, snails, crayfish and insects in upland areas.

What Eats Them: Wolves and bobcats both prey on whooping cranes, and ravens may eat whooping crane eggs or young chicks. Whooping cranes can protect themselves from these predators by standing out in deep marshes or by fighting back with their beaks.

Habitat: Whoopers nest in wetlands, winter in marshes with oaks and grasses nearby.



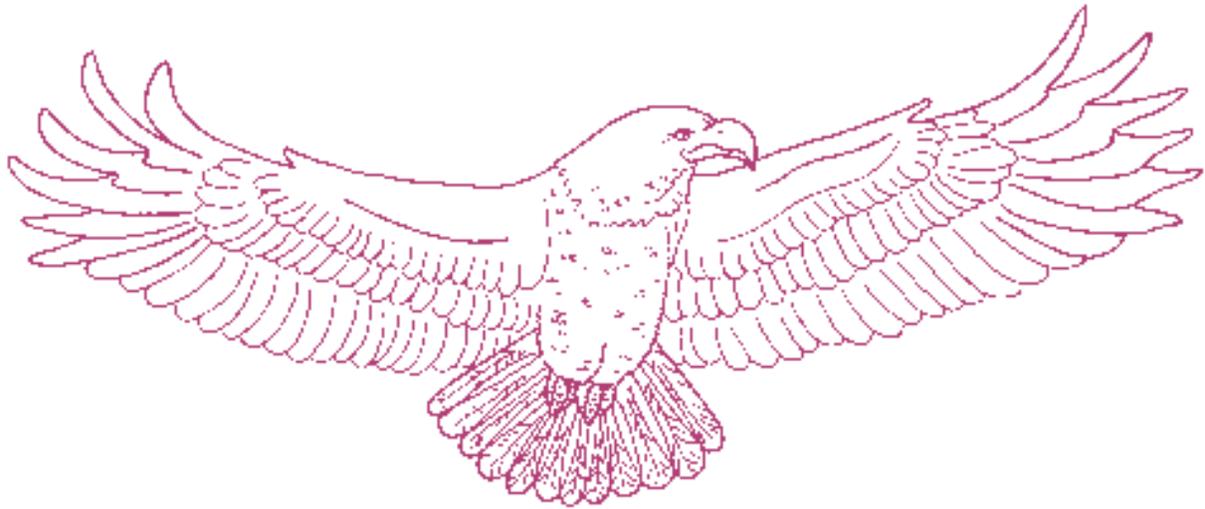
Threats: Poached until there were only about 15 birds left in the wild, “whoopers” have benefited from captive breeding, reintroduction, and restoration of wetlands and waterways. Today there are close to 200 wild whoopers found primarily in the middle of the United States, Texas Gulf coast, and parts of Canada. Like many migratory species, protection of whooping cranes is challenging because it requires maintenance of quality habitat along their entire migration route. The route of the remaining wild population stretches from Texas to Canada.

Disease, poisoning in waterways, collisions with power lines, and drainage of wetlands and prairie potholes for farmland continue to threaten the remaining birds.

Reproductive Rate: Whoopers begin laying fertile eggs around age four. In general, they lay two eggs, and one survives. Only one out of every four chicks makes it through the first migration. Whoopers live about 25 years in the wild.

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BALD EAGLE (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)



Range: Occurs throughout the United States, Canada, and northern Mexico.

What They Eat: Carrion, waterfowl, and fish.

What Eats Them: Adults have no natural predators. Eggs are often pecked at by other birds and racoons, leaving them susceptible to bacteria.

Habitat: They live in conifer forests near sea coasts, river banks, and lake shores.

Threats: The bald eagle, our national symbol, once faced near extinction because of habitat loss, historically unregulated hunting, and the effects of eating pesticide-contaminated fish. As the result of increased habitat protection, hunting restrictions, and bans on DDT and other pesticides, the bald eagle is making a spectacular comeback. The eagle still faces threats from illegal shooting, habitat destruction, nest disturbance, ingestion of lead shot, and contamination of their food supply with toxic chemicals. Nonetheless, its populations have rebounded enough that it is likely the bald eagle will be removed from the list of threatened species sometime in the near future.

Reproductive Rate: Eagles reach sexual maturity around age four or five. They lay between one and three eggs (usually two) every few years. Only a few of all of the chicks produced by a pair reach maturity.

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CANADA LYNX (Lynx canadensis)

Range: The lynx, a secretive and solitary cat species, once prowled the snowy evergreen forests of North America, but now has disappeared almost entirely from the United States.

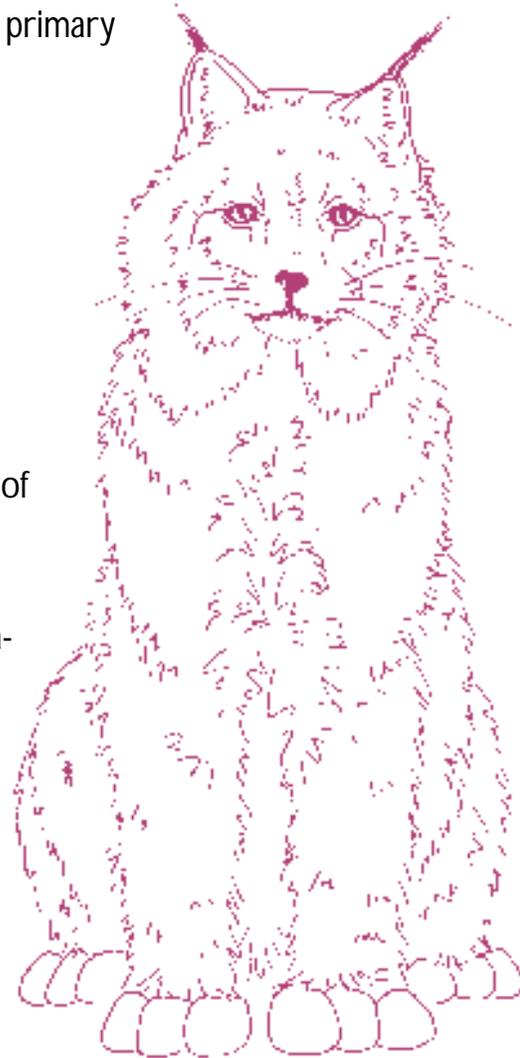
What They Eat: Snowshoe hares are the lynx's primary prey. Lynx also eat red squirrels, other small mammals, and birds.

What Eats Them: In areas where their ranges overlap, there are records of cougars preying on lynx. This is not, however, a regular occurrence.

Habitat: They live in largely forested areas.

Threats: In March 2000, the Canada lynx was listed as threatened under the ESA. Restoration of the lynx will require limitations on hunting and trapping, protection of dense, mature forest habitat, and restoration of snowshoe hare populations.

Reproductive Rate: The lynx's reproductive rate is closely linked to the availability of snowshoe hares. Hare populations naturally cycle. In times of hare abundance, lynx enjoy extremely high rates of reproductive success. When hares are scarce, lynx reproductive rates drastically decline - often to almost zero. They generally have four kittens. Lynx reach sexual maturity in less than two years.



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DWARF WEDGEMUSSEL (Alasmidonta heterodon)

Range: The dwarf wedgemussel is a small, one-and-a-half-inch shellfish that lives in river bottoms in the mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States and is now believed to exist in only approximately 20 locations.

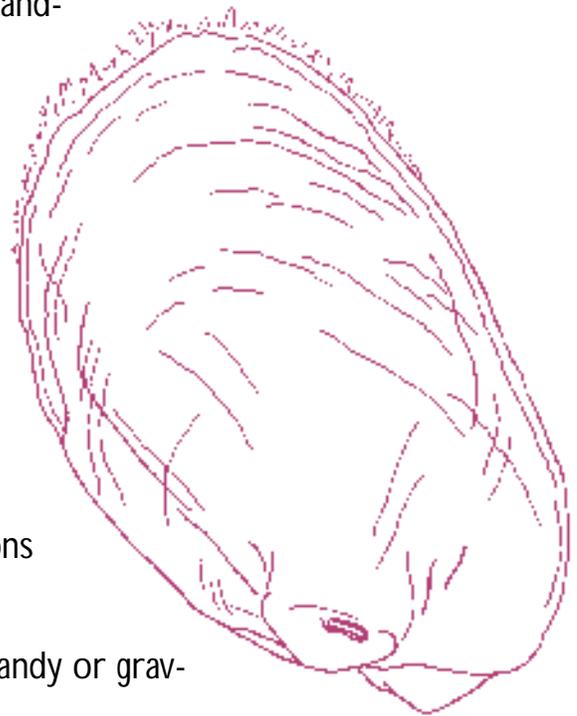
What They Eat: Like many freshwater shellfish, this species feeds by filtering phytoplankton from the water; in the process it may also filter out poisons that have entered the waters.

What Eats Them: Muskrat, otters, and raccoons will all eat dwarf wedgemussels.

Habitat: They live in clean rivers with muddy, sandy or gravelly bottoms.

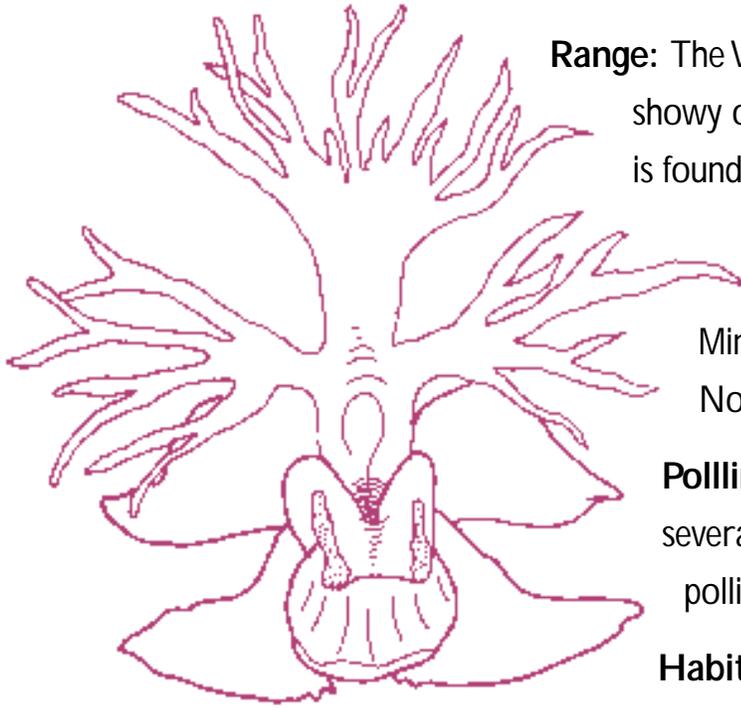
Threats: The decline of the dwarf wedgemussel and many other freshwater species is an indication of degraded water quality. Pollution from agricultural runoff and industrial effluents, dredging and siltation from stream-side grazing and development, and habitat loss due to construction of dams and bridges have all contributed to greatly lower water quality. The same problems of water quality can affect the health of many other species, including humans.

Reproductive Rate: Very little is known about the reproductive rate of the dwarf wedgemussel. The average life span of a dwarf wedge is ten to eleven years.



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WESTERN PRAIRIE FRINGED ORCHID (*Platanthera praeclara*)



Range: The Western prairie fringed orchid, a showy one- to three-foot flowering plant, is found in the scattered remnants of tall-grass prairies that once covered 18 million acres in Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Canada.

Pollinators: Evidence suggests that several different species of hawkmoth pollinate the orchid.

Habitat: It grows in tallgrass prairies with a lot of sunlight.

Threats: With only one percent of its original habitat intact, the orchid is one of many endangered tallgrass prairie species that continue to be threatened by additional habitat destruction from overgrazing, water-extraction, and conversion to cropland. Approximately one-fourth of the species' remaining habitat is now protected on federal grasslands and there are promising opportunities for partnerships with private landowners to conserve and restore the species.

Reproductive Rate: Established populations of orchids multiply through their root system. The root sends up one shoot and bud per growing season. The bud produces a new stem the following season.

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FLORIDA PANTHER (Felis concolor coryi)

Range: The Florida panther is a genetically distinct subspecies of the mountain lion, or cougar, that once lived throughout the Southeastern U.S., from eastern Texas to the Atlantic Ocean. Today, these panthers occur only in very isolated and remote portions of south Florida in pine flatwoods and wetlands ecosystems.

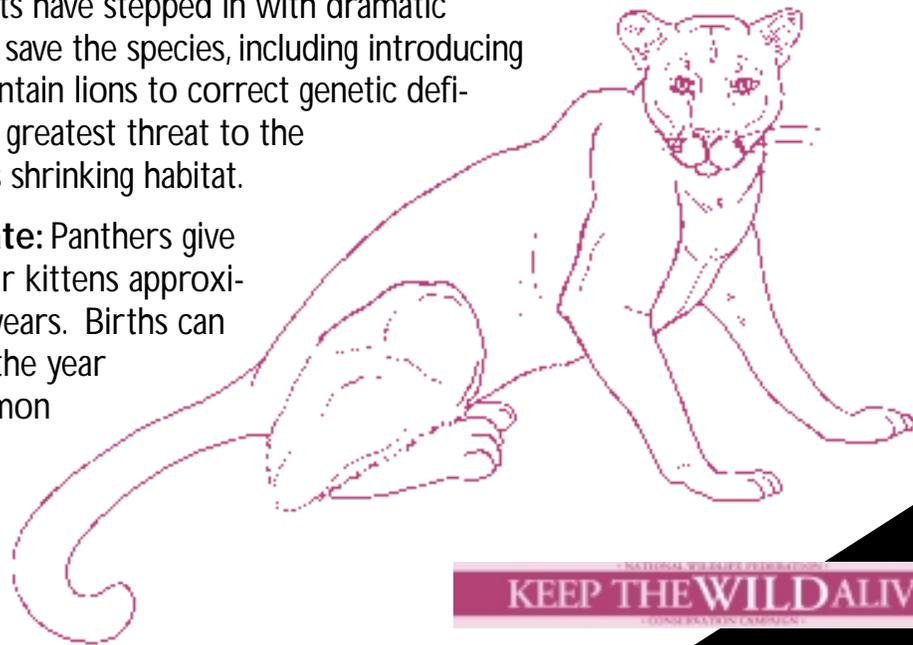
What They Eat: Florida panthers eat primarily deer and wild hogs, but they will also eat smaller animals like raccoons and wild turkeys.

What Eats Them: Because panthers are top predators, they exist at the top of the food chain. The greatest threats to panthers are disease and pressures from human activities.

Habitat: The panther can live in many kinds of habitat, as long as its prey live there too. They are usually found in dense forests with swampy areas.

Threats: With only roughly 60 adults believed to remain in the wild, the highly endangered panther continues to suffer from habitat loss to urban, industrial, and agricultural development and automobile accidents on Florida's many highways. With such a small population, panthers also face threats of inbreeding. Biologists have stepped in with dramatic measures to try to save the species, including introducing western-born mountain lions to correct genetic deficiencies. Today, the greatest threat to the panther remains its shrinking habitat.

Reproductive Rate: Panthers give birth to one to four kittens approximately every two years. Births can occur any time of the year but are most common in late spring. Gestation is about 95 days.



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UTAH PRAIRIE DOG (*Cynomys parvidens*)

Range: The squirrel-sized Utah prairie dog is actually a rodent that lives in high country, in the open mountain valley grasslands of eastern Utah; it is one of several species of prairie dogs found in the Western United States.

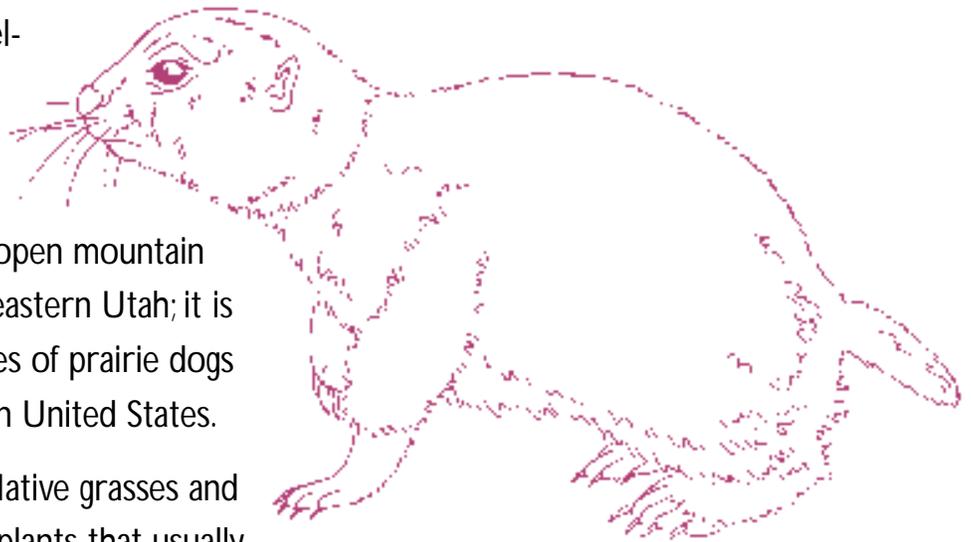
What They Eat: Native grasses and forbs (broad-leaved plants that usually have colorful flowers).

What Eats Them: Hawks, owls, eagles, ravens, coyotes, badgers, ferrets, and snakes.

Habitat: They live in grassland prairies.

Threats: Prairie dogs, which live in vast social communities and dig extensive networks of burrows, are of vital importance to the ecosystem because their digging rejuvenates the soils, and their burrows provide the only available shelter to many other species such as rabbits, owls, snakes, mice, and salamanders. The biggest threats to prairie dogs are the dramatic loss of prairie grasslands and efforts to exterminate them by poison, gas, shooting, and drowning.

Reproductive Rate: Female prairie dogs have one litter of, on average, three to five pups every year.



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CHINOOK SALMON (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)

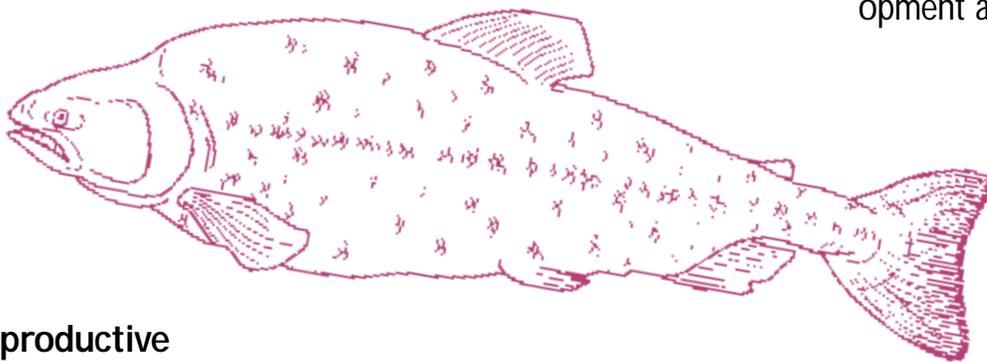
Range: The Chinook, or king salmon, is one of several salmon species found in the Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies that faces precipitous declines in its population.

What They Eat: At different times in their lifecycle, salmon eat insects, plankton, krill, shrimp, squid and small fish.

What Eats Them: Birds, other fish, bears, whales, seals, mink.

Habitat: They live in freshwater streams, rivers, and open ocean.

Threats: Chinook salmon, which can grow as large as 100 pounds and five feet long, journey hundreds of miles from the freshwater streams where they hatch to mature in the ocean, only to return to their freshwater streams to spawn. The species has declined drastically because of the extensive network of dams that block its **migration** to and from its spawning grounds, and because the streams it inhabits are being destroyed by silt from nearby logging, mining, ranching, agriculture, and development activities.



Reproductive

Rate: Most salmon spawn once, producing a number of smolts, and then die. Depending on the species, they live from one to seven years.

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MAUNA KEA SILVERSWORD

(*Argyroxiphium sandwicense* ssp. *sandwicense*)

Range: One area on the Island of Hawaii's Mauna Kea volcano.

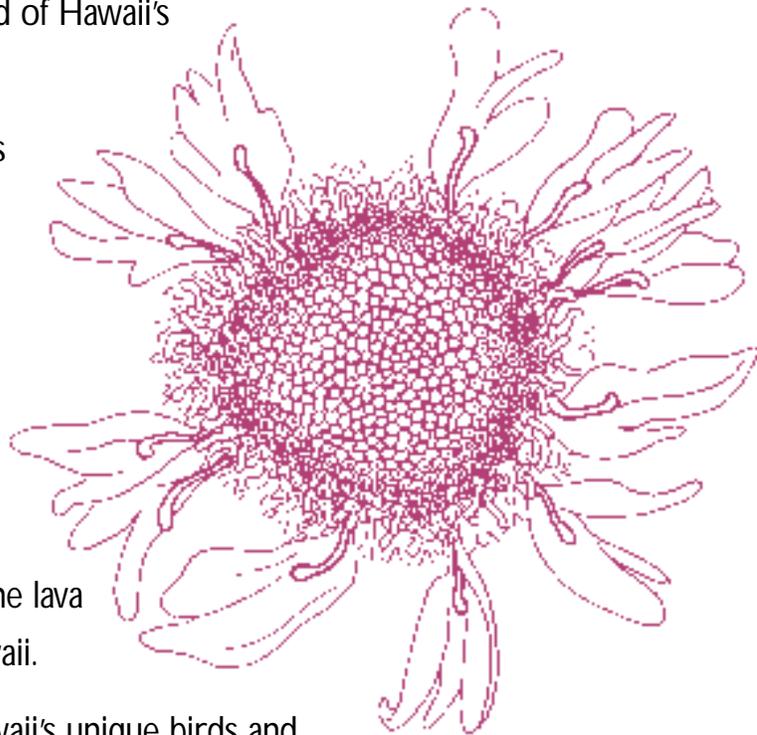
Pollinators: The silversword is pollinated by Hawaiian moths and bees, including the yellow-faced bee.

What Eats Them: Introduced **feral** sheep and goats and mouflon sheep.

Habitat: They grow only on the lava slopes of one mountain in Hawaii.

Threats: Like so many of Hawaii's unique birds and plants, the spectacular two-foot, flowering Mauna Kea silversword is critically threatened by exotic plant and animal species, which have been introduced since humans arrived on the island. These introduced species frequently have no predators on the islands and are able to outcompete and displace the native species. Found only on the lava slopes of one volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii, the plants have increased in number thanks to propagation and transplanting efforts, as well as the removal of non-native species that jeopardize the silversword.

Reproductive Rate: Silverswords grow for between 15 and 50 years, at which point they sprout a large stalk, flower, and then die.



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KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLE (Lepidochelys kempii)

Range: Kemp's Ridley sea turtles range the Atlantic Basin and Gulf of Mexico, from the open ocean to rocky feeding areas along the Gulf and East Coasts.

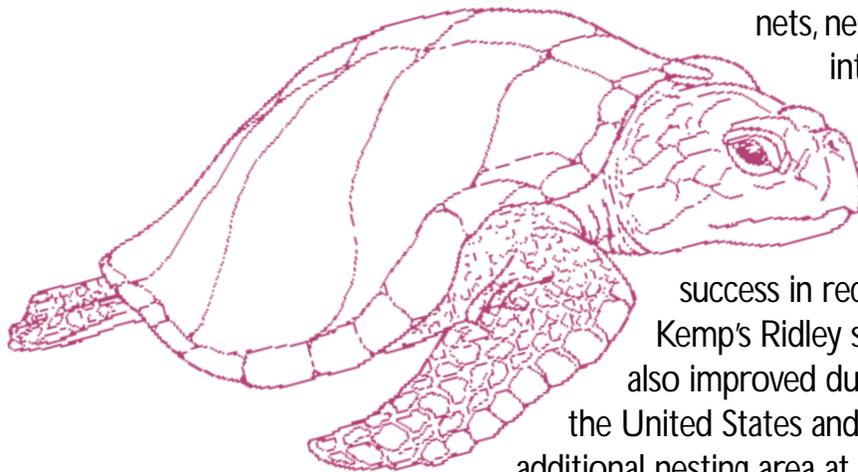
What They Eat: Crabs are the most common food for turtles. They also feed on shrimp, snails, sea urchins, bivalves, sea stars, jellyfish, fish, and sometimes seagrasses.

What Eats Them: Coyotes, raccoons, foxes, sand crabs, red drum, jackfish, sharks, ghost crabs, black vultures, and humans eat their eggs. Sharks attack and eat adults.

Habitat: They live in open ocean and nest on sandy, undisturbed beaches.

Threats: Most of the population nests on a single sandy beach in Mexico, where eggs and young are highly vulnerable to predators that include coyotes and people.

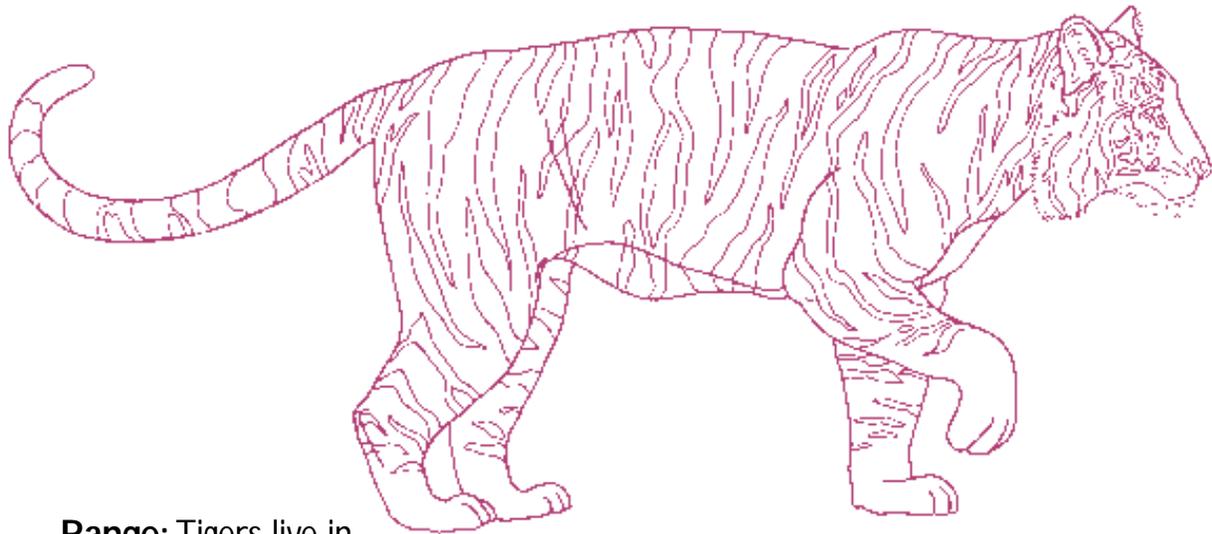
Current conservation measures include the use of effective and inexpensive devices that keep turtles from drowning in shrimp nets, nesting beach patrols, an international ban on trade in sea turtles and their eggs, and captive hatching of eggs. Together, these seem to be having some success in recovering this species. The Kemp's Ridley sea turtle's recovery has also improved due to joint efforts between the United States and Mexico to establish an additional nesting area at Padre Island, Texas.



Reproductive Rate: These sea turtles typically nest every year, producing an average of three broods, each with approximately 100 eggs. It takes approximately 10-20 years, sometimes more, for them to reach sexual maturity.

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TIGER (*Panthera tigris*)



Range: Tigers live in a surprising variety of habitats. The estimated 5,000 wild tigers that still survive are found in a variety of habitats including rain forests, evergreen forests, mangrove swamps, grasslands, and savannas. Their only requirements are that their habitats have sufficient water, prey and cover.

What They Eat: Primary prey include wild pig and several species of deer.

What Eats Them: People (primarily use their parts for medicine).

Habitat: Tigers live in many areas, including rain forests, swamps, and grasslands. They can live almost anywhere there is enough water, prey and cover.

Threats: Of eight original tiger subspecies, only five remain; the other three went extinct in the last half century due to over-hunting and habitat loss. Remaining tigers face threats from poaching, which supplies an illegal trade in tiger body parts for traditional Asian medicines, and human encroachment on their habitat.

Reproduction Rate: Female tigers reach sexual maturity at age three. They have, on average, two or three cubs, one of which usually dies at birth. Females produce a litter every one to three years.

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INDIANA BAT (Myotis sodalis)

Range: The Indiana bat ranges across the Eastern and Midwestern United States.

What They Eat: Indiana bats play an important role in their ecosystems by consuming vast quantities of insects, including gypsy moths, which are an introduced forest pest.

What Eats Them: Bats have a variety of natural predators, including hawks and snakes.

Habitat: They hibernate in winter in cool caves and spend the rest of their time in forests near rivers.

Threats: This flying mammal spends winters hibernating in a few large colonies in cool caves and mine shafts, and summers under the loose bark of dead and dying trees along forested, slow-moving streams. It is believed that the bat's population is declining because of human disturbances to its caves and removal of the bats' roosting trees; however, scientists remain uncertain about the exact measures necessary to save this little-known species.

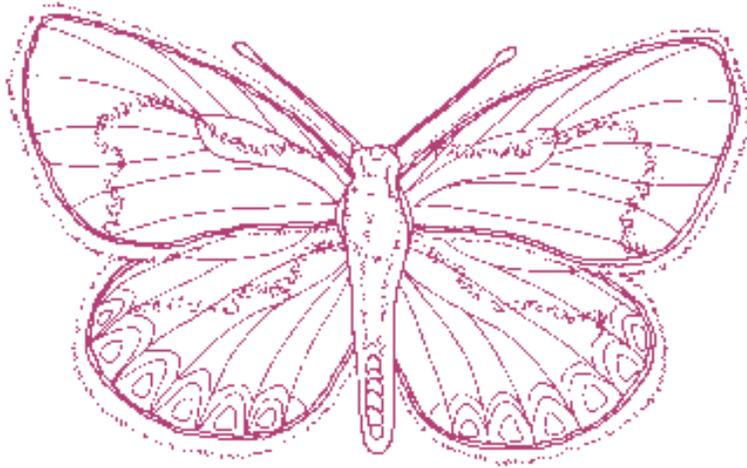
Reproductive Rate: Female bats have one offspring per year.



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KARNER BLUE BUTTERFLY (Lycaeides melissa samuelis)

Range: The Karner blue butterfly, a beautiful one-inch endangered insect, survives in scattered areas of grassy sandplain, oak savanna, and pine barrens from the upper Midwest to the East Coast and Canada.



What They Eat: The butterfly's caterpillar depends entirely on the wild lupine plant for food, and the adult is a flower pollinator.

What Eats Them: Spiders, insects, and birds.

Habitat: It lives in scattered areas of grasslands, oak savannahs, and pine forests.

Threats: As with many other imperiled butterfly species, the exact cause of its decline is not entirely understood, but experts believe it is due largely to habitat destruction and suppression of once-frequent wildfires that are necessary for lupine growth.

Reproductive Rate: Two generations of Karner blues are born each year — both in the summer. More information about their life cycle is at:

www.nwf.org/wildalive/lifecycles.

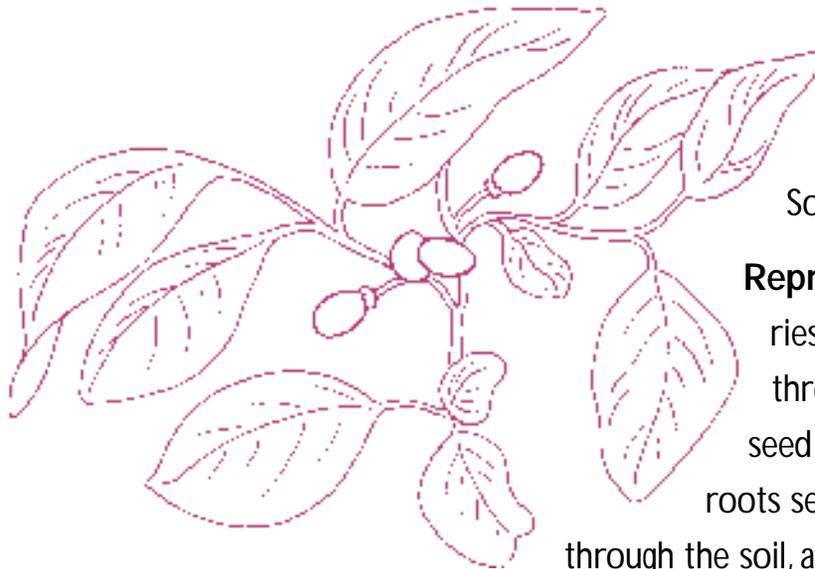
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PONDBERRY (*Lindera melissifolia*)

Range: The pondberry is a six-foot shrub with fragrant deciduous leaves, pale yellow flowers, and reddish fruit; it lives in moist bottomlands and floodplain forests of mature hardwoods in the Southeast.

Threats: Like many wetland species, this flowering plant is endangered because of the loss of wetlands to logging, cattle grazing, domestic hog operations, and agriculture. The pondberry's current status is assumed to be stable because a number of sites on public lands are being managed to ensure the species' survival; however, like other plants, the pondberry does not receive strong protection on private lands. About half of known pondberry populations are found on private land. Hence, full recovery of this species will depend upon the voluntary cooperation of conservation-minded landowners.



Habitat: It grows in moist, swampy areas and hardwood forests in the Southeastern U.S.

Reproductive Rate: Pondberries reproduce primarily through cloning; there is little seed production. Old pondberry roots send out horizontal branches through the soil, and these branches then bud and send up new pondberry stems.

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ARROYO SOUTHWESTERN TOAD

(*Bufo microscaphus californicus*)

Range: The arroyo Southwestern toad is an amphibian subspecies found exclusively along the banks of streams in southern California and northwestern Baja California, Mexico.

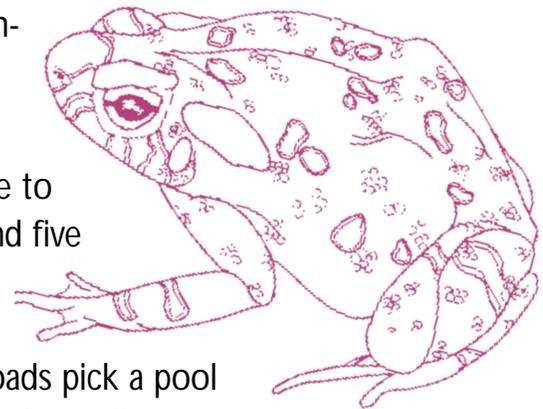
What They Eat: Arroyo toads eat primarily ants, although they will occasionally eat small beetles and other insects.

What Eats Them: Introduced bullfrogs and exotic fish, such as bullhead catfish and largemouth bass, often prey on arroyo toads or on their larvae.

Habitat: It breeds in slow-flowing rivers with shallow, gravelly pools. Adults live in sandy areas and woods.

Threats: Eliminated from much of its range because of habitat destruction, predation by exotic fish, off-road vehicles, impacts of mining, and trampling by cattle and pigs, the species is found only in some 22 drainages and watersheds. Most populations occur on public lands, including Los Padres, San Bernardino, Angeles, and Cleveland National Forests. Efforts are being made to help arroyo toads recover, including ongoing surveys of the species' status, removal of exotic frogs and fish in its habitat, and raising awareness among planners and managers of the presence of this inconspicuous desert resident.

Reproductive Rate: Arroyo toads live about five to seven years, so at best, toads have between two and five reproductive seasons. Breeding begins with second-year females and third-year males and occurs mostly between February and June. Male toads pick a pool — a slow-flowing, sand- or gravel-based area - and they call to attract females with their musical trill. This call ranges from five to ten seconds in length. Females select their mates based on the quality of the breeding site and the size of the male. (Bigger is better, in both cases.)



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SONORAN PRONGHORN (Antilocapra americana sonoriensis)

Range: The Sonoran pronghorn, found in southern Arizona and northern Mexico, is one of several subspecies that once constituted a population of approximately 40 million pronghorn across the American West.

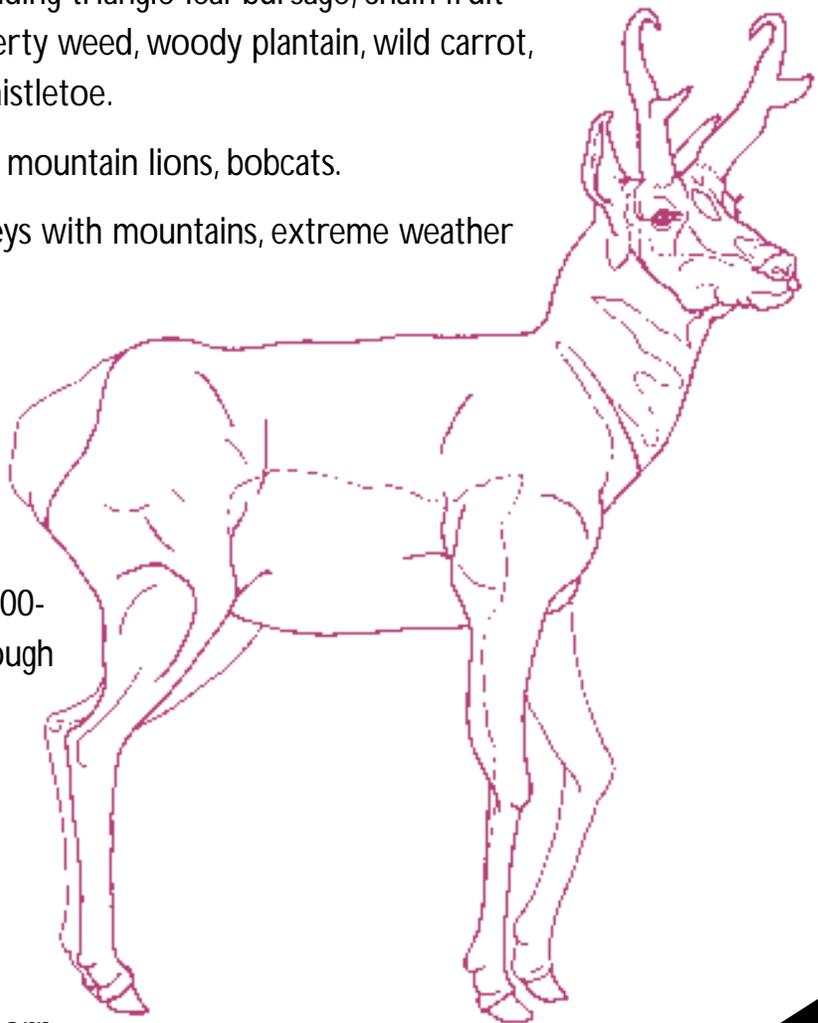
What They Eat: Plants including triangle-leaf bursage, chain fruit cholla, mesquite, ocotillo, poverty weed, woody plantain, wild carrot, Arizona blanket flower, and mistletoe.

What Eats Them: Coyotes, mountain lions, bobcats.

Habitat: It lives in river valleys with mountains, extreme weather and desert plants.

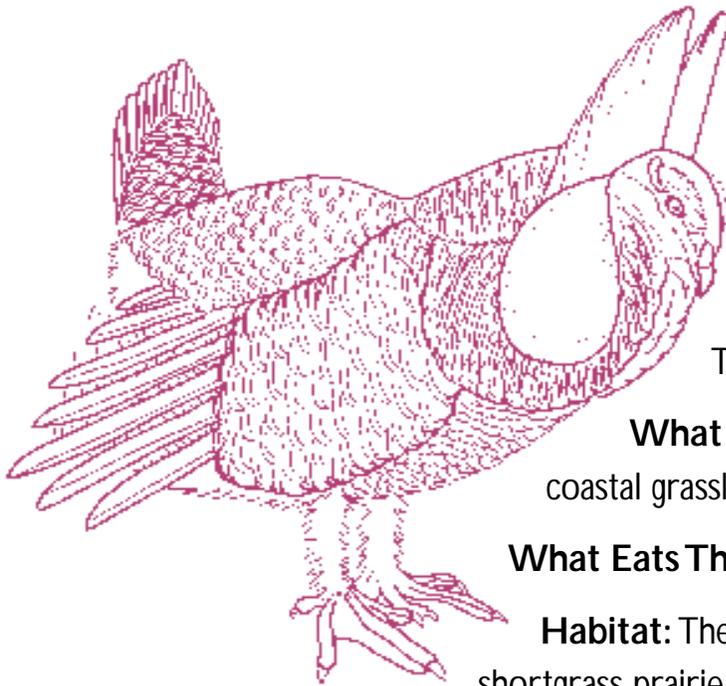
Threats: Previously-unregulated hunting, habitat destruction for croplands, and barbed-wire fences, which fragment the pronghorn's habitat, have left only 500-600 animals in the wild. Although the Sonoran pronghorn now receives complete protection on most of its range in the United States, its population has yet to show signs of rebounding.

Reproductive Rate: Pronghorn usually give birth to twin fawns every year.



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ATTWATER'S PRAIRIE CHICKEN (Scientific Name)



Range: From a population that was once nearly a million birds, the Attwater's greater prairie chicken now has fewer than 50 individuals found only along a narrow stretch of Texas coastal plain.

What They Eat: Plants and insects of the coastal grasslands.

What Eats Them: Coyotes and hawks.

Habitat: They use tallgrass prairie for nesting and shortgrass prairie for mating. They use both for feeding.

Threats: This grouse-sized bird is one of three original subspecies of the greater prairie chicken; a second which is also in decline, and a third, the heath hen, which was driven to extinction by 1932. Over the years, the conversion of grasslands to vast areas of agricultural development and urban sprawl, led to a drop in Attwater's greater prairie chicken populations. Conservation of this splendid bird is now focused on the preservation and restoration of open prairie and captive breeding for reintroduction efforts.

Reproductive Rate: Attwater's lay one clutch per year with 4-15 eggs per clutch. In the wild, these birds generally live from two to eight years.

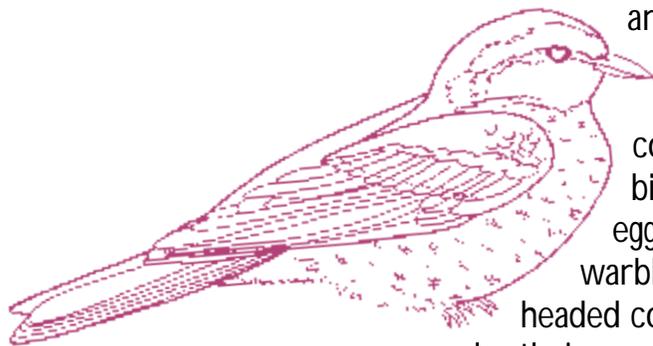
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GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER (*Dendroica chrysoparia*)

Range: The golden-cheeked warbler, a small neotropical migrant songbird, illustrates the plight of many migrant songbirds that face diminishing habitat in both their summer and winter areas. Golden-cheeked warblers nest exclusively in central Texas, in areas that support Ashe juniper trees (often identified locally as “red cedar”). The warblers migrate to Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Mexico for the winter, but many of the forests in these countries are being burned or cut down, and the insect food supply reduced by pesticides and habitat destruction.

What They Eat: Golden-cheeked warblers eat predominantly spiders and insects, especially soft-bodied caterpillars, beetles, and other small insects found in the foliage of the tree canopy.



What Eats Them: Golden-cheeked warblers are prey to a number of species, including opossum, fox squirrels, grackles, and possibly ring-tailed cats, Rat snakes and coach whip snakes prey on eggs or young birds. Scrub jays and blue jays also prey on eggs and nestlings. Golden-cheeked warblers are also threatened by brown-headed cowbirds, which remove warbler eggs and lay their own eggs in warbler nests, leaving them for

golden-cheeked females to incubate. In addition to wild predators, domestic cats sometimes prey on golden-cheeked warblers, particularly in urban areas.

Habitat: They live in forests of ashe juniper and oak trees.

Threats: The species is dependent upon virgin juniper and oak woodlands that are being fragmented by grazing, urban encroachment, dams, and oak wilt disease. Additionally, these warblers are jeopardized by growing populations of cowbirds, which invade warbler nests and replace warbler young with their own.

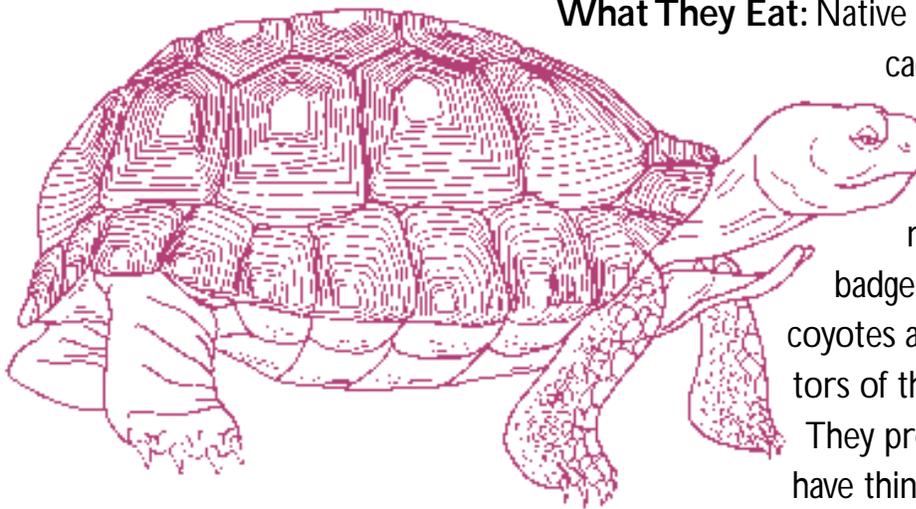
Reproductive Rate: They lay three or four eggs every year.

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DESERT TORTOISE (Gopherus agassizii)

Range: The desert tortoise is a remarkable and relatively ancient reptile species that has adapted to inhabit the most scorching deserts in America, including the Mojave, in Nevada, Arizona, and California. It also lives in the southwest corner of Utah.



What They Eat: Native plants such as herbs, cacti, and shrubs.

What Eats Them: Ravens, gila monsters, kit foxes, badgers, roadrunners, and coyotes are all natural predators of the desert tortoise. They prey on juveniles, which have thin, delicate shells.

Habitat: They live in grasslands, deserts, canyon bottoms, and rocky hillsides.

Threats: These tortoises, which can live up to 100 years despite the harsh conditions of their habitat, have not adapted to the many modern threats coming from development, mining, livestock grazing, off-road vehicle recreation, illegal collection, vandalism, isolation of populations, and disease. Extensive efforts are underway to protect remaining desert habitat for this species, as well as the many other endangered species that occupy the same ecosystems, and to ensure that the impact of development is minimized.

Reproductive Rate: Tortoises reach maturity at seven to eight years and then lay clutches of four to eight eggs every two to three years.



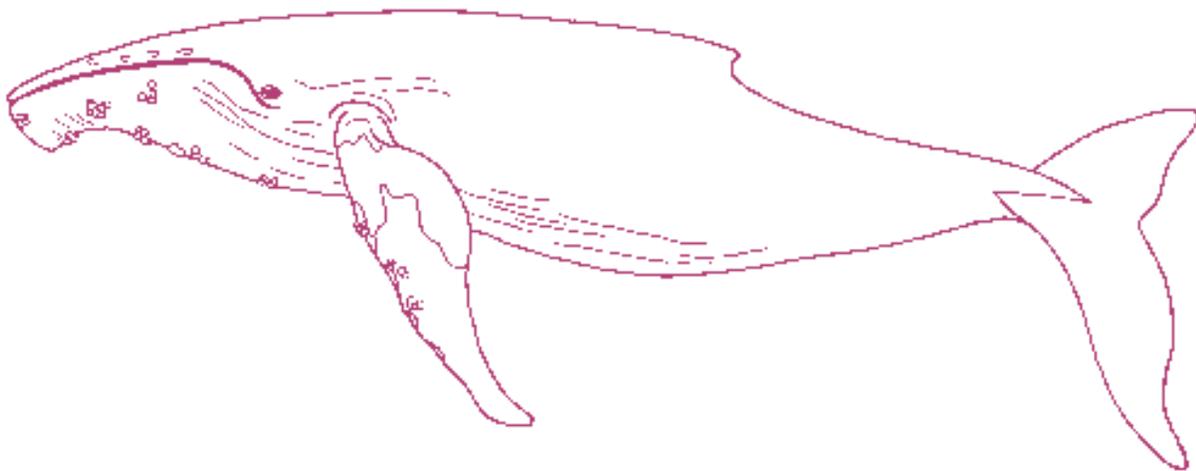


HUMPBACK WHALE (Megaptera novaeangliae)

Range: The endangered humpback whale, famous for its haunting songs and photogenic breaching displays, migrates through all the world's oceans — summering in Arctic waters and wintering in the tropics.

What They Eat: Krill, plankton, and small fish

What Eats Them: Killer whales and humans are its primary predators. Sharks may kill humpbacks as well.



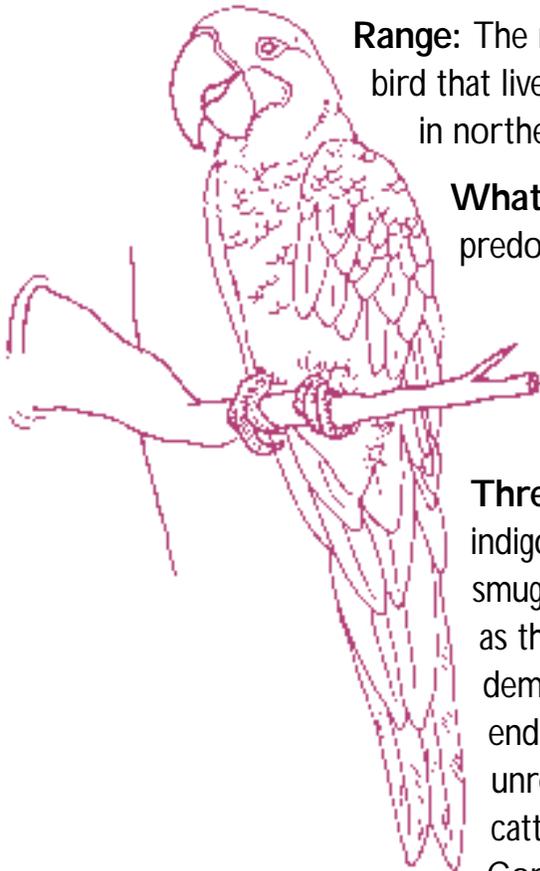
Habitat: They winter in warm tropical seas and summer in cool polar waters.

Threats: Hunted almost to extinction, limitations on whaling have allowed the humpback to make a dramatic comeback. Due to their slow reproductive cycles, however, continued recovery of these whales will be slow and ongoing threats from ocean pollution, boat impacts, and entanglement in fishing gear will need to be monitored.

Reproductive Rate: Humpbacks give birth to one calf every two to three years. Maturity is reached at four to six years, and whales live for approximately 45-50 years.

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INDIGO MACAW *(Anodorhynchus leari)*



Range: The resplendent indigo, or Lear's, macaw is a large bird that lives in deep, remote canyons and desert plateaus in northeastern Brazil.

What They Eat: Indigo, or Lear's, macaws feed predominantly on the nut of the licuri palm tree.

What Eats Them: Hawks

Habitat: They live in deep canyons and dry desert-like areas, and nest in sandstone cliffs.

Threats: One of the most serious threats to the indigo macaw comes from illegal collectors who smuggle birds and reptiles to other countries, such as the United States, to supply the lucrative demand for exotic pets. Indigo macaws are also endangered because of destruction of palm trees, unregulated hunting by local people for food, and cattle grazing that reduces their food supply. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species (CITES) is an international agreement that protects species such as the indigo macaw by prohibiting their trade.

Reproductive Rate: Lear's macaws breed between December and April, laying eggs in the walls of cliffs. Each pair may produce approximately two young each year. Scientists believe that a successful breeding season is closely linked to the rainy season and to how much food is available.

KEEP THE WILD ALIVE



GRAY WOLF (Canis lupus)

Range: Gray wolves, or timber wolves, were once widespread across most of North America, Europe, and Asia.

What They Eat: The gray wolf preys primarily on large **ungulates** (hoofed animals) such as deer, elk, and moose. But they will also eat smaller mammals, as well as some nuts, insects, and berries. They tend to target weaker animals — the sick, injured, very old or young — thus playing an important role in strengthening ungulate populations.

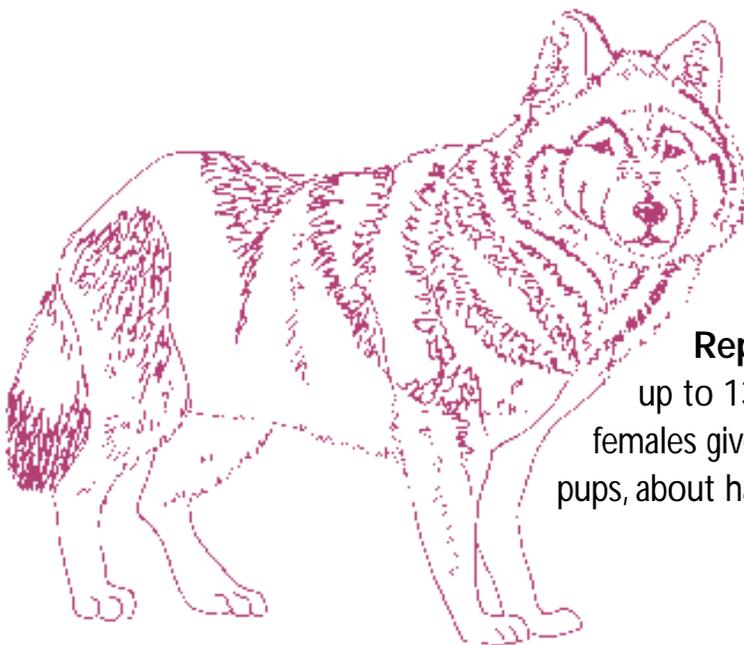
What Eats Them: Wolves are at the top of the food chain, with no natural predators.

Habitat: They can live almost anywhere there is enough prey and cover.

Threats: The widespread growth of ranches and farms led to extensive habitat destruction and effective extermination programs that eliminated wolves from all but a few remote regions in the upper Great Lakes region, and parts of the northern

Rockies. With protection under the Endangered Species Act, hunting of wolves has been halted and experimental reintroductions of wolves into portions of their former range have been biological successes.

Reproductive Rate: Wolves can live up to 13 years in the wild. Every year, females give birth to one litter of four to six pups, about half of which survive.



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RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER (*Picoides borealis*)

Range: The red-cockaded woodpecker depends on old-growth pine forests of the South-eastern United States to survive.

What They Eat: These woodpeckers feed primarily on ants, beetles, and other insects.

What Eats Them: They are prey to a variety of species, including snakes and hawks.

Habitat: They live in old-growth forests of many southern pine species.

Threats: Unfortunately, the same century-old pine trees the woodpeckers need as part of their nesting habitat are also in demand by powerful timber and paper-pulp industries, which clearcut the forests. Recovery of this species will require encouraging growth of larger pines, protecting corridors linking forested tracts, and restoring fire to its natural frequency and intensity, which can help longleaf and other pines and plants to regenerate.

Reproductive Rate: Red-cockaded woodpeckers lay, on average, three to five eggs each year.



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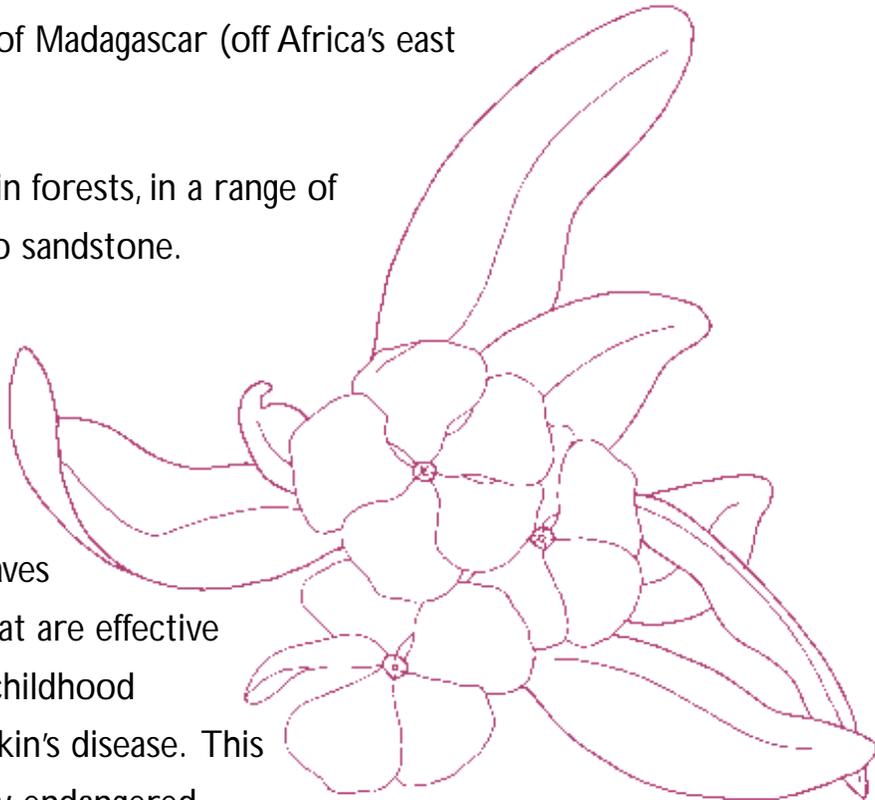


ROSY PERIWINKLE (Catharanthus roseus)

Range: The island of Madagascar (off Africa's east coast).

Habitat: It grows in forests, in a range of soils, from quartz to sandstone.

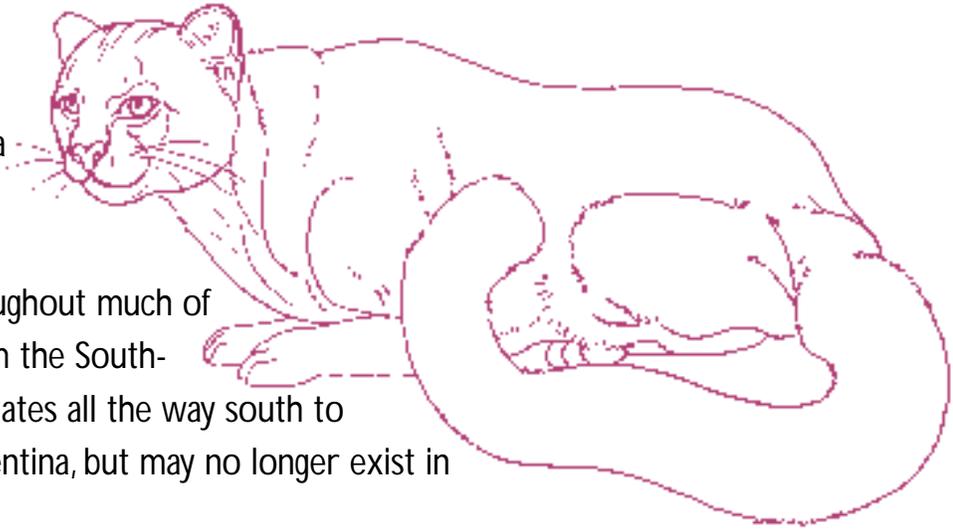
Threats: The rosy periwinkle is a foot-high plant with deep green, shiny leaves. The leaves contain alkaloids that are effective agents for fighting childhood leukemia and Hodgkin's disease. This plant is one of many endangered species that have made important contributions to the pharmaceutical industry. Despite this, the rosy periwinkle's habitat continues to be destroyed at a ferocious pace by an impoverished population that uses slash and burn techniques to clear native forest land for agriculture.



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FOR THE PLANET AND PEOPLE

JAGUARUNDI (*Herpailurus yagouaroundi*)

Range: This cat looks almost like a large weasel or otter. Jaguarundi once ranged throughout much of the Americas, from the Southwestern United States all the way south to Paraguay and Argentina, but may no longer exist in the United States.



What They Eat: Ground-dwelling birds, rodents, rabbits, reptiles, and arthropods are all part of the jaguarundi's diet.

What Eats Them: Bobcats.

Habitat: They live in many kinds of places, including forests, scrublands, swamps.

Threats: Habitat loss and fragmentation from agricultural and urban development.

Reproductive Rate: Jaguarundi reach maturity at two to three years of age, have a 70-75 day gestation period, and give birth to litters of one to four individuals.

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FOR THE WILDLIFE



BOBCAT (Lynx rufus)

Range: Named for their short tail, bobcats live in a variety of habitats (deserts, prairies, forests, and coastal swamps) in central and northern Mexico, southern Canada, and the lower 48 United States.

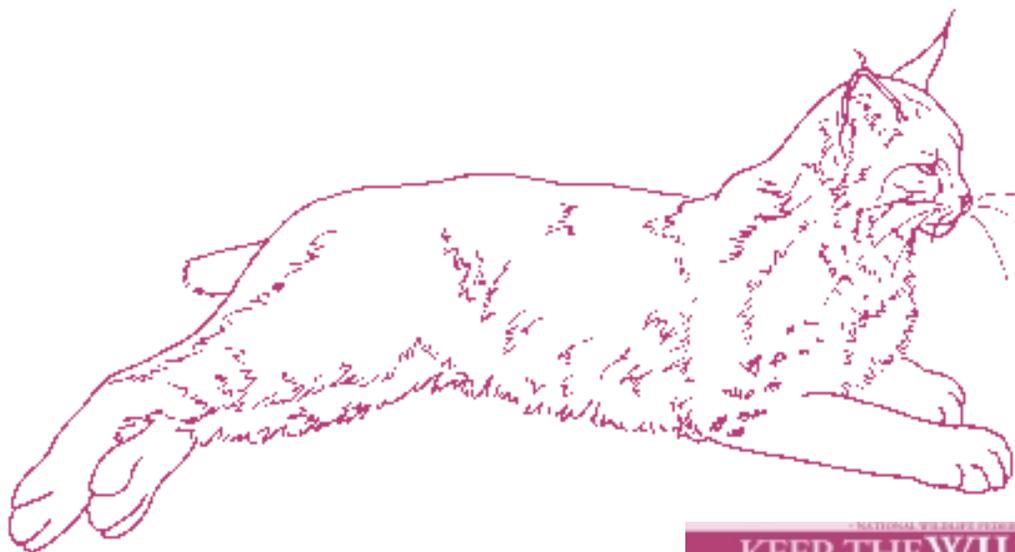
What They Eat: Prey of bobcat range from their favorite rabbits (cottontails in southern areas and snowshoe hares in the north) to rodents, birds, bats, and ungulates (hooved animals, like deer or pigs).

What Eats Them: They are top predators.

Habitat: They can live in a variety of ecosystems, including prairies, forests, and swamps.

Threats: Bobcats are the least threatened of the cats of North America, but suffer from habitat loss due to logging of forests and conversion of native grasslands for agriculture or urban sprawl, competition with raccoons, and diseases.

Reproductive Rate: After a 50-70 day gestation, bobcats give birth to a litter of one to eight babies. They reach maturity at one to two years old.



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FOR OUR PLANET'S FUTURE

JAGUAR (Panthera onca)



Range: The largest cats in the Western Hemisphere, jaguars can reach eight feet in length and 200 pounds. They can live in the forests of Mexico, South and Central America, as well as the deserts of the Southwestern United States.

What They Eat: Nocturnal hunters of large and small mammals such as peccaries, tapirs, deer, and capybaras.

What Eats Them: No natural predators except humans.

Habitat: They live in many ecosystems, from wooded areas to rainforests to flooded grasslands.

Threats: Human activities that destroy jaguar habitat or prey species, and public fears of jaguar.

Reproductive Rate: At three years old, jaguars reach sexual maturity. After a three-to-four month gestation, they give birth to a litter of one to four young.

KEEP THE WILD ALIVE



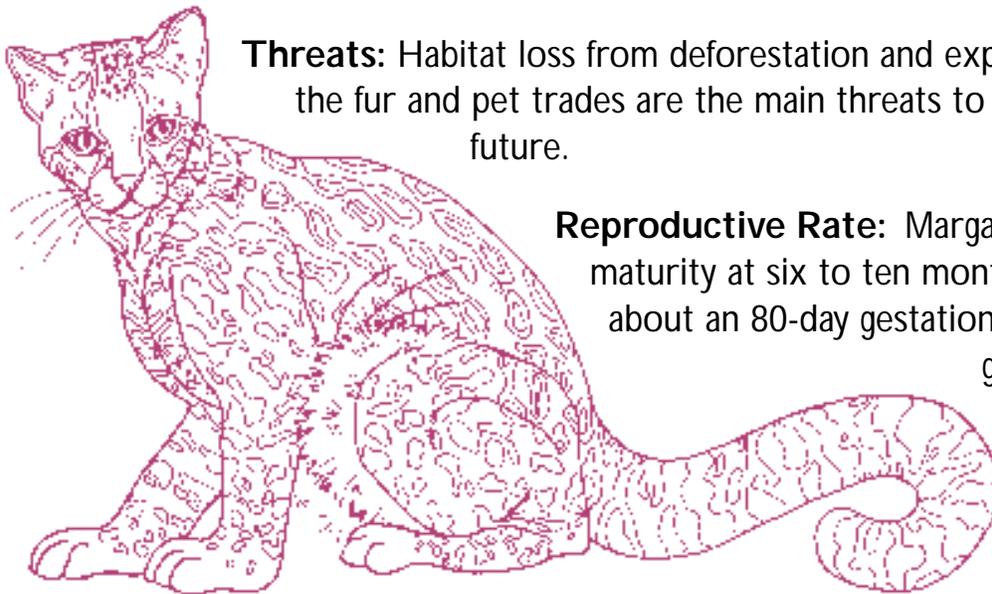
MARGAY (*Leopardus wiedi*)

Range: This small, secretive, nocturnal cat spends most of its time in trees. Once found in southern Texas, margay now are restricted to the tropical and subtropical forests of southern Mexico ranging south to parts of Paraguay, Uruguay, Brazil, and northern Argentina.

What They Eat: In addition to their favorite food, the big-eared climbing rat, margay eat other small mammals such as squirrels and opossums, as well as arthropods, small birds, and fruits.

What Eats Them: They are top predators.

Habitat: They live in remote tropical and subtropical forests.

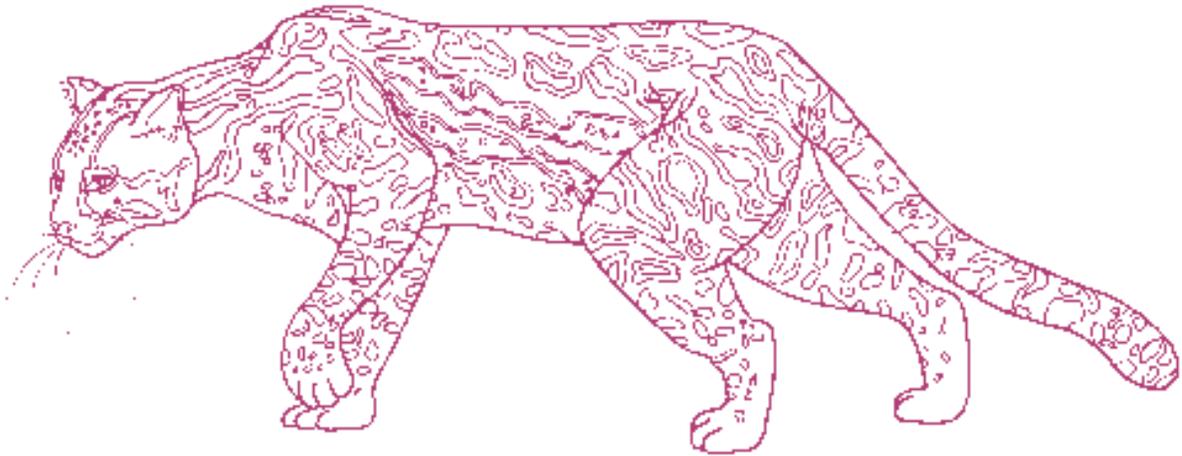


Threats: Habitat loss from deforestation and exploitation for the fur and pet trades are the main threats to the margay's future.

Reproductive Rate: Margay reach maturity at six to ten months old, have about an 80-day gestation period, and give birth to only one to two young.

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FOR THE PLANET AND PEOPLE

OCELOT (*Leopardus pardalis*)



Range: Southwestern United States throughout Central and South America, except Chile.

What They Eat: Rodents such as mice and rats, reptiles (iguanas), opossums, armadillos, and monkeys.

What Eats Them: No natural predators.

Habitat: They can live in a variety of places, from rain forests to dry forests to mountainous areas, as long as there is dense cover near the ground.

Threats: A long history of pressure for the fur trade, as well as habitat loss from agriculture and urban development.

Reproductive Rate: Ocelots have a 79-85 day gestation period after which they give birth to one to three young. These cats reach maturity when 18-22 months old.

KEEP THE WILD ALIVE



COUGAR (Puma concolor)

Range: This cat, which once ranged throughout the Americas, has many names: puma, panther, mountain lion, catamount. Cougars are no longer found in the United States east of the Mississippi with the exception of one subspecies, the endangered Florida panther.

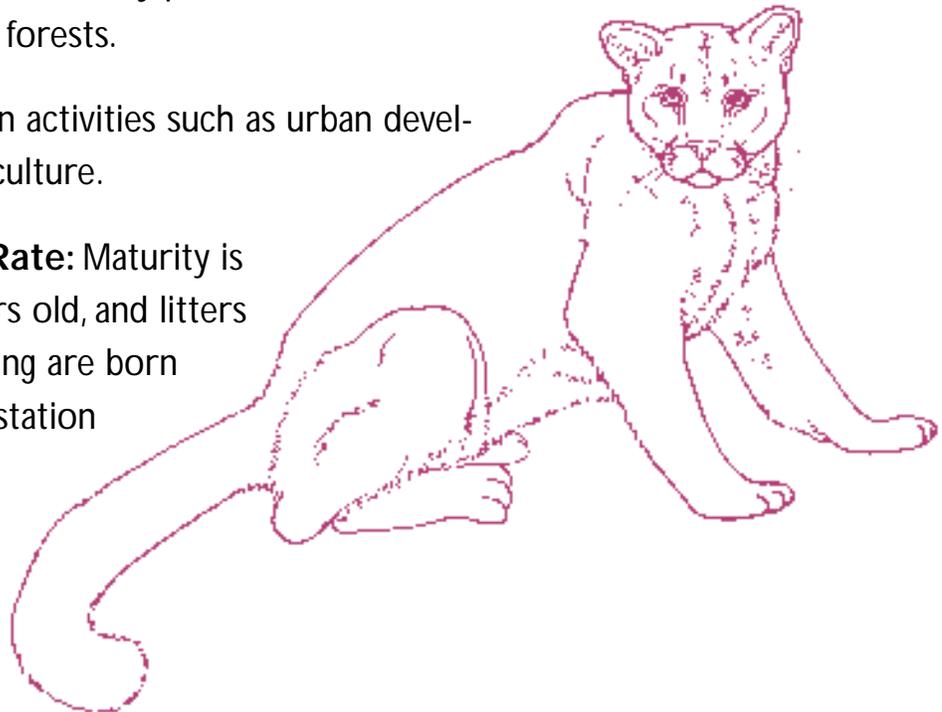
What They Eat: Prey include deer, insects, birds, mice, porcupine, capybara, pronghorn, and moose.

What Eats Them: No natural predators.

Habitat: They live in many places, from deserts to tropical and cold forests.

Threats: Human activities such as urban development and agriculture.

Reproductive Rate: Maturity is reached two years old, and litters of one to six young are born after a 92-day gestation period.



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