

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species of Santa Cruz Island

California's Channel Islands have been called "the Galapagos Islands of North America" due to their unique and diverse assemblage of plants and animals, many found nowhere else on earth. In all, 70 species that live on Santa Cruz Island that are either indigenous to this island or to the Channel Islands chain. It is highly unusual to have such an array of "one of a kind" species located in such a small land area, a product of island-bound evolution.

The following ten plants and animals are so rare and imperiled that either the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service or California Department of Fish & Game has officially listed them as "Threatened" or "Endangered":



Santa Cruz Island Lacepod
Photo by Steve Junak

Species

*Santa Cruz Island Fox:
*Santa Cruz Island Live-forever:
*Santa Cruz Island Bush Mallow:
*Santa Cruz Island Lacepod:
*Santa Cruz Island Malacothrix:
Hoffman's Rockcress:
Island Barberry:
Island Bedstraw:
Island Rush Rose:
Island Malacothrix:

Listing


Threatened (State), Candidate for Federal Listing
Threatened (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)
Endangered (Federal)

*These species are indigenous to Santa Cruz Island only.

In addition, the following seven animals and plants are found only on Santa Cruz Island, but are not in danger of extinction at this time:

* Santa Cruz Scrub Jay
* Santa Cruz Island Harvest Mouse
* McMinn's Manzanita
* Santa Cruz Island Silver Lotus
* Santa Cruz Island Deer Mouse
* Santa Cruz Island Manzanita
* Santa Cruz Island Gooseberry

continued on back

 The Nature Conservancy is working with partners to ensure that these unique species not only survive, but ultimately thrive on Santa Cruz Island. In cooperation with the National Park Service, the UC Natural Reserve System, other federal and state agencies and experts, the Conservancy is actively monitoring these populations and taking the necessary measures to protect them and the habitat essential for their survival.

TNC 4/00 Printed on Recycled Paper