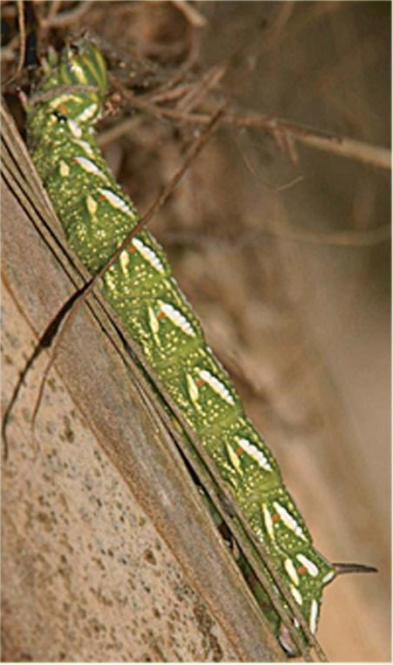


2012 Rare Species Trading Card Series



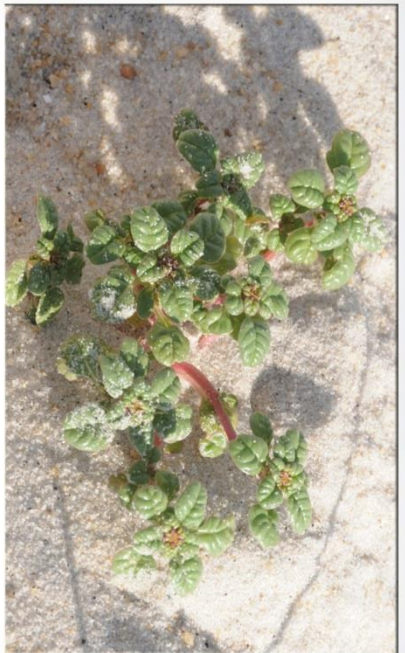
Cypress Sphinx Moth
Isoparce cypressi



Swollen Bladderwort
Utricularia inflata



Least Bittern
Ixobrychus exilis



Seabeach Amaranth
Amaranthus pumilus

Seabeach Amaranth

2012 Series

MD Status: Endangered
Global Status: Globally Rare
Habitat: Barrier Island Beaches

Seabeach Amaranth only grows in the open sand of wind and wave swept beaches of barrier islands. Seeds of this little annual can live buried in the sand for decades; they germinate when uncovered by severe storms. Its low spreading shape helps it bind to sand and remain stable. This plant is threatened by habitat loss and grazing.



Photo Credits: Paula Becker

Swollen Bladderwort

2012 Series

MD Status: Endangered
Global Status: Secure
Habitat: Wetlands

Swollen Bladderwort is one of 17 native species of carnivorous plants found in Maryland. This deceptive plant uses a vacuum-like motion to suck up prey as they drift past sensitive trigger hairs. In the summer, yellow Swollen Bladderwort flowers poke above the water surface from inflated, wheel-shaped leaves. This species is threatened by habitat loss.



Photo Credits: Kerry Wixted

Least Bittern

2012 Series

MD Status: In Need of Conservation
Global Status: Secure
Habitat: Wetlands

Least Bitterns are small members of the heron family (Ardeidae). Least Bitterns live in marshes and eat fish and aquatic insects. When alarmed, the Least Bittern freezes in place with its bill pointing up and sways to mimic wind-blown marsh plants. This species is threatened by loss of breeding grounds.



Photo Credits: Richard Orr

Cypress Sphinx Moth

2012 Series

MD Status: Highly Rare/Rare
Global Status: Apparently Secure
Habitat: Cypress Swamps

Cypress Sphinx Moths are a secretive and rarely seen species. The caterpillars feed exclusively on bald cypress needles at night and pupate underground in shallow burrows. Adult moths have gray to dark-gray coloring on their wings. Like many moth species, Cypress Sphinx Moth adults probably do not eat.

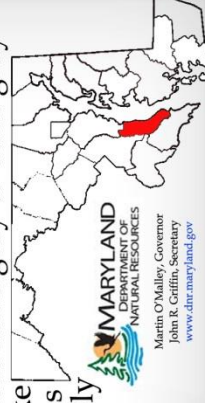
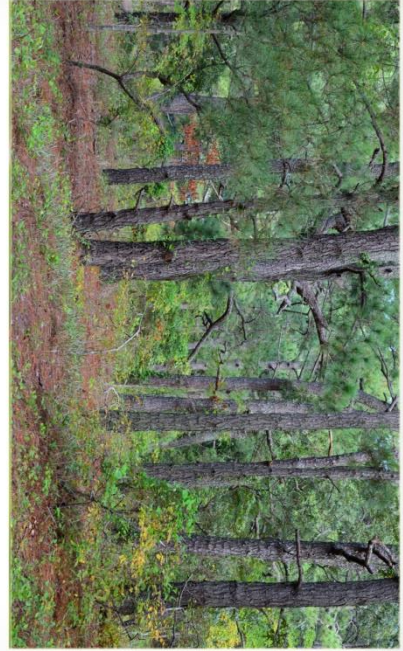


Photo Credits: Charlene Nutter



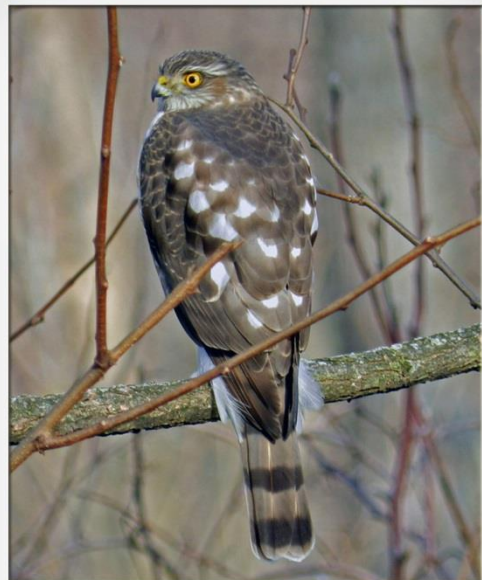
Goldthread
Coptis trifolia



Maritime Forest



Longnose Gar
Lepisosteus osseus



Sharp-shinned Hawk
Accipiter striatus

Longnose Gar

2012 Series

MD Status: Restricted Range

Global Status: Secure

Habitat: Slow-moving Water

Longnose Gars have long, narrow snouts filled with needle-like teeth. Interestingly enough, all species of gar have a specialized air bladder that gives them the ability to breathe air. Longnose Gar are ambush predators that feed primarily on other fishes, but also consume crayfish and frogs. This species is threatened by habitat loss.



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Photo Credits: Matt1583, Wikimedia Commons

Maritime Forest

2012 Series

Global Status: Globally Rare

This community is dominated by loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*). Other species found in these forests include red maple, sassafras, black cherry and bayberry. The forest floor is usually sandy with patches of greenbrier, wild grape and grasses. Maritime forests can be found in areas near the coast that are sheltered from salt spray and flood waters. This community is only found in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Virginia.



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Photo Credits: Gary Fleming

Sharp-shinned Hawk

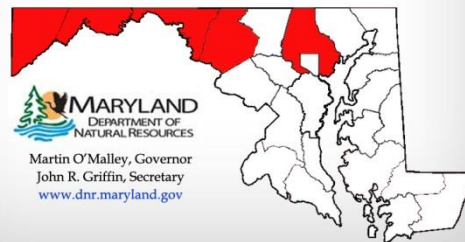
2012 Series

MD Status: Highly Rare/Rare Breeder

Global Status: Secure

Habitat: Forest and Forest Edges

Sharp-shinned Hawks are the smallest Accipiter, or forest dwelling hawk, in North America. These daring, acrobatic fliers are designed to navigate through thick woods in pursuit of songbirds. Songbirds make up close to 90% of their diet. Sharp-shinned Hawk populations are still recovering from past use of the pesticide DDT.



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Photo Credits: Bonnie Ott

Goldthread

2012 Series

MD Status: Endangered

Global Status: Secure

Habitat: Damp Woods and Bogs

This small buttercup relative blooms in the late Spring but keeps its leaves year-round. To lure pollinators, Goldthread has cup-shaped petals that hold nectar. The name Goldthread refers to its network of bright yellow roots. This species is threatened by habitat alteration and habitat loss.



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Photo Credits: R. H. Wiegand



Least Weasel
Mustela nivalis



White Trout Lily
Erythronium albidum



Yellow-sided Skimmer
Libellula flavida

White Trout Lily

2012 Series

MD Status: **Threatened**

Global Status: **Secure**

Habitat: Forests

White-Trout Lily has greenish-mottled leaves that almost resemble the markings of a Brook Trout. This tiny wildflower blooms in the early spring, and its white flowers help distinguish it from the more common Yellow Trout Lily.

Often, these plants grow for 7 to 8 years before they can flower. This species is threatened by habitat loss and invasive species.



Photo Credits: R. H. Wiegand

Yellow-sided Skimmer

2012 Series

MD Status: **Rare/Uncommon**

Global Status: **Secure**

Habitat: Seepage Wetlands/Bog edges

Yellow-sided Skimmers have as many as 30,000 lenses in their eyes, giving them amazing vision. Both genders have a yellow marking on the leading edge of their front wings. In addition, mature males have a powdery blue abdomen while juveniles and females (pictured on front) have a yellow abdomen with a brown stripe. This species is threatened by habitat loss.



Photo Credits: Richard Orr

Least Weasel

2012 Series

MD Status: **In Need of Conservation**

Global Status: **Secure**

Habitat: Woods and Meadows

Least Weasels are the smallest members of the weasel family (Mustelidae). Despite their small stature, Least Weasels are fierce enough to take down rabbits 5-10 times their own weight! Least Weasels eat a variety of rodents as well as occasionally feasting on birds, frogs and other small animals. This secretive species is threatened by habitat loss.



Photo Credits: Keven Law, Wikimedia Commons