

2013 Rare Species Trading Card Series



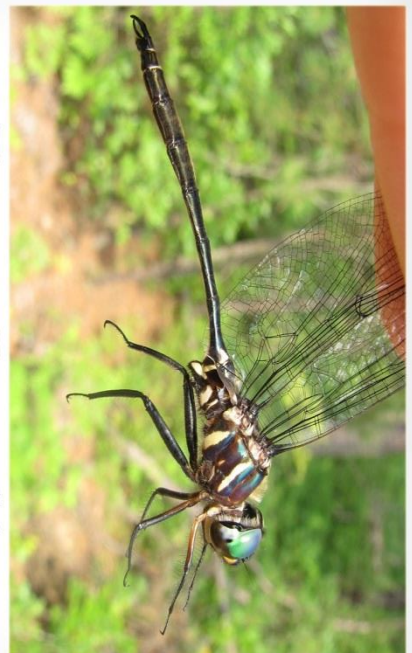
Acuminate Crayfish
Cambarus acuminatus



Barn Owl
Tyto alba



Bald Cypress Swamp



Tree-top Emerald
Somatochlora provocans

Treetop Emerald

2013 Series

MD Status: Endangered

Global Status: Apparently Secure

Habitat: Forests and boggy seepages with sandy soil

True to their name, treetop emeralds are high flying dragonflies often seen above the trees. It requires forested seepage wetlands and sandy, spring-fed trickles which the females lay their eggs in and males patrol and defend. Like all dragonflies, they use their legs as a basket to catch their prey. These dragonflies are endangered due to habitat loss.



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Photo Credits: Ben Coulter, Flickr

Barn Owl

2013 Series

MD Status: Watchlist

Global Status: Secure

Habitat: Grasslands, marshes, hayfields or abandoned fields

This prolific hunter prefers to feast on meadow voles and other small mammals. Barn owls occur in areas where there is sufficient food and nest sites. In Maryland, nest sites typically include cavities & abandoned buildings. In the 1860s, barn owls even nested in the Smithsonian castle tower in DC! This bird is threatened by the loss of grassland & saltmarsh habitat.



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Photo Credits: Thomas G. Barnes, USFWS

Bald Cypress Swamp

2013 Series

Global Status: Globally Rare/Vulnerable

Usually a southeastern community, this Bald Cypress community reaches its northern limit in Maryland and Delaware. This community is found along slow moving blackwater streams, so-called because of the acidic tannins leached into the water from the surrounding vegetation. Bald cypress trees have evolved to living in this environment by growing flared trunks for stability in saturated soils and modified roots, called "knees".



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Photo Credits: Jason Harrison

Acuminate Crayfish

2013 Series

MD Status: In Need of Conservation

Global Status: Apparently Secure

Habitat: Under flat rocks in slow water riffles and pools in small streams

This brown and green crustacean is the Hoover™ of the deep, devouring everything from stream insects, worms, and snails to dead or decomposing plants and animals in pools and slow-water habitats. The largest threats to this species are the spread of invasive crayfishes and habitat loss caused by urbanization.



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Photo Credits: Matt Sell



Eastern Spiny Softshell
Apalone spinifer spinifer



American Brook Lamprey
Lampetra appendix



Round-leaved Sundew
Drosera rotundifolia



Green Salamander
Aneides aeneus

Round-leaved Sundew

2013 Series

MD Status: Rare to Uncommon

Global Status: Secure

Habitat: Bogs

Round-leaved sundew is a tiny, carnivorous plant that attracts and traps insects with its colorful and sticky glands on its rounded leaves. Once caught, the insects are "externally digested" by the plant using enzymes. The resulting ammonia is absorbed the plant for food. This plant is restricted by habitat.



Photo Credits: David Kazyak

Eastern Spiny Softshell

2013 Series

MD Status: In Need of Conservation

Global Status: Secure

Habitat: Rivers & tributaries with sandy substrates

Unlike our other native freshwater turtles, the eastern spiny softshell turtle has a leathery shell. To make up for its lack of protective covering, this turtle can swim really fast and can sometimes be aggressive. The upper shell (carapace) contains a row of small, conical spines that account for the name "spiny." This turtle is threatened by habitat loss.



Photo Credits: Linh Phu

Green Salamander

2013 Series

MD Status: Endangered

Global Status: Apparently Secure/Vulnerable

Habitat: Rock crevices & trees adjacent to rock outcrops

The green salamander is the only salamander in Maryland with conspicuous lichen green colored blotches on the back. Its toes are square-tipped and spaced apart for climbing in rock crevices and trees. This salamander is threatened by habitat loss.



Photo Credits: David Kazyak

American Brook Lamprey

2013 Series

MD Status: Threatened

Global Status: Apparently Secure

Habitat: Clear, fast flowing brooks w/ sandy, gravel bottoms; Juveniles- slow moving water w/ soft bottoms

This freshwater lamprey is not parasitic, like its marine cousin. In fact, adults do not even feed and live short lives. They use their strong teeth to move rocks to make nests. The juveniles, called ammocoetes, live on organic material and microscopic organisms. This species is threatened by degraded habitat and dam placement.



Photo Credits: John G. Cramer, Flickr



Least Tern

Sterna antillarum



Atlantic White Cedar Swamp

Atlantic White Cedar Swamp

2013 Series

Global Status: Rare

These dense stands occupy nontidal areas of rivers and basins over acid, peat soils. Because they don't tolerate shade, the Atlantic White Cedars require an occasional fire to keep the canopy open. The community also supports a lush array of wildflowers, mosses, ferns and rare, red bay trees (on the eastern shore).

Botanically speaking, the Atlantic White Cedar is actually a cypress, not a cedar.



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Photo Credits: Kerry Wixted

Least Tern

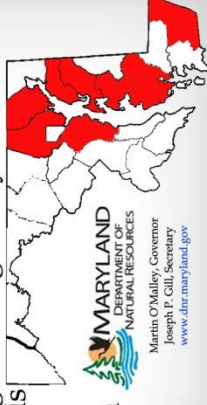
2013 Series

MD Status: Threatened

Global Status: Apparently Secure

Habitat: Sandy coastal beaches, flat pea-gravel roofs

This bird, and the Little Tern, are two of the smallest terns in the world. The loss of the Least Tern's preferred beach habitat has spurred this tenacious fish-eater to adapt to nesting on flat, gravelly roofs near tidal water. This bird is threatened by the loss of beach habitat due to sea-level rise, human recreation along beaches, shoreline development & predation.



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