2012 Rare Species Trading Card Series

Cypress Sphinx Moth
Isoparce cupressi

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 Moths adults probably do not eat.

Photo Credits: Charlene Nutter
Goldthread
*Coptis trifolia*

Longnose Gar
*Lepisosteus osseus*

Maritime Forest

Sharp-shinned Hawk
*Accipiter striatus*
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.

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.
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. Wiegard

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.

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