All Life On Earth Deserves To Be Saved

Everyday on Earth humans are using up Earth’s precious natural resources. However, most do not understand the consequences that the environment has to endure in order for humans to have these resources. There are many species around the world that are close to becoming extinct due to the fact that humans are destroying their habitats. Very few people have knowledge that this is happening, but those who do are making an effort to try and save these habitats and the species that have become endangered due to their habitats being destroyed. In one particular case, conservationists did a study on a species known as Nectar-Feeding Bats. The study was done in an effort to try and save this group of bats from becoming extinct. The researchers’ main goals were to try and find out if the characteristics of Glossophagine make them more vulnerable to extinction than other Neotropical Bats, and they also wanted to discover which particular areas of Mexico are most important to try and conserve for the bats (Héctor, Karina 31).

The researchers put together a list of Nectar-Feeding Bats in Mexico using attributes of the bats like their body mass, government conservation status, and feeding and roosting habits (Héctor, Karina 31). They then compared the pool of species, and the species were put into four different categories based on their utilization of caves (Héctor, Karina 31). The four categories were: main roosts, alternate roosts, occasional roosts, and no use of caves (Héctor, Karina 31). They were also put into four different categories and separated by their local abundance and area of distribution. These four categories were: locally rare and restricted, locally rare and widespread, locally abundant and restricted, and locally abundant and widespread (Héctor, Karina 31).

After the researchers had conducted their study they found that Mexican Nectar-Feeding Bats were equally distributed among the four categories of rare species (Héctor, Karina 31). They also found that Neotropical Bats were found in more dry areas and that zones with highest richness are found along the Pacific versant (Héctor, Karina 31). Through a species analyses researchers came to the conclusion that Nectar-Feeding Bats affiliate more with tropical dry areas (Héctor, Karina 31).

The four areas that the researchers concluded were of most importance for conservation in Mexico were: Western Sierra Madre, Southeastern Low-Lands, Balsas Basin, and Southern Sierra Madre (Héctor, Karina 31). In order to preserve the bats, operations must be put in place to increase the number of protected areas in the Balsas Basin because that area of land is where most Nectar-Feeding Bats are inhabited (Héctor, Karina 31). In conclusion, if conservation efforts are made in the Balsas Basin this will help preserve the Nectar-Feeding Bats species in Mexico. Continued conservation research will allow researchers to identify endangered species and habitats and implement ways to save them.

Citations

Arita T. Héctor, Santos-Del-Prado Karina. (1999). Conservation Biology of Nectar-Feeding Bats In Mexico. *Journal of Mammalogy*. Volume 80, 31-41.