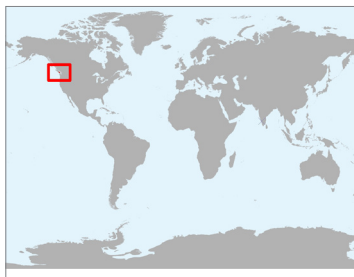




© Fletcher & Baylis

NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	< CRITICALLY ENDANGERED >	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

Species of the Day: Vancouver Island Marmot

The **Vancouver Island Marmot**, *Marmota vancouverensis*, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. One of the rarest mammals in North America, this species is only found on Vancouver Island, Canada. Its total population was estimated at fewer than 130 individuals in 2004, most of which were in captivity.

Natural successional processes, such as the advancement of tree growth in alpine meadows, may be responsible for this marmot's original scarcity. However, the main causes of its recent decline may be habitat disruption through logging, and high predation rates associated with forestry practices and changes in the numbers of predators. With such a small population, any predation on the Vancouver Island Marmot may represent a significant threat.

The Vancouver Island Marmot is legally protected, and a recovery plan is in place for the species. A captive breeding programme is underway, and reintroductions have been planned. Detailed research is also needed to better understand aspects of the marmot's dispersal, survivorship, requirements for hibernation sites, and its reproduction in natural and logged habitats.

www.iucnredlist.org
www.arkive.org
 Help Save Species



Species of the Day is sponsored by



The production of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is made possible through the IUCN Red List Partnership: IUCN (including the Species Survival Commission), BirdLife International, Conservation International, NatureServe and Zoological Society of London.