



The Barbary Serval

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Abiotic & Biotic Factors

Abiotic Factors	Biotic Factors
Water	Carnivores
Sunlight	Herbivores
Climate	Bacteria
Soil	Viruses
Natural Disturbances	Fungai
Landscape	Bushes
Wind	Trees

Geography

- Barbary Servals are found South of the Sahara.
- The servals were also found in Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria but the Serval's are native to Africa, where they are mostly found in South, East and West Africa.
- The Habitats which the serval lives are close to a watercourse.
- They can also be found throughout savannahs, mountains, reed patches and sometimes in thick forests.



Risks

- One reason why the Barbary serval is on the endangered list is a biotic factor. The Habitat loss is one of the treats the serval is facing. The Barbary serval can not live without a home for hiding, shelter, keeping there young servals safe.
- Another reason is that humans are hunting the servals because their coats can be marketed as young leopards or cheetahs which can be a lot of money.

Diet

- The serval is nocturnal, so it hunts mostly at night. Although it is specialized for hunting rodents, it is an opportunistic predator whose diet also includes birds, hares, hyraxes, reptiles, insects, fish, and frogs etc.
- The barbary serval predators are hyenas, leopards, and hunting dogs etc.



Hares



Hyenas



Hyraxes



Leopard



Quelea

Symbiotic Relationships

- Servals are solitary animals, and social interactions are limited to periods of mating.
- Each serval maintains its own territory. They make sounds like chirping, purrs, hisses, snarls, calls, and growl sounds.

Anatomy of the threatened or endangered species

- Common name- Barbary Serval
- Genus species- *Leptailurus Serval*
- Color- tan with black spots
- Weight- Males weigh 9-18 kg while females weigh 9-13 kg
- Lifespan- the average lifespan for servals in the wild is 10 years
- Special Adaptations- uses its long ears and height to find prey in the vegetation, it pounces three meters into the air and lands on its prey with its forepaws

Reproduction

- Special mating rituals- they are polygynous which means the males have more than one female mate at one time
- Reproduction season and how often it occurs- Spring and normal amount is 2-3
- Gestation period- 10-11 weeks
- Offspring- average amount of offspring is 2.5
- Qualities of the offspring- share qualities with their parents
- Parental care- the time of independence for the child is 1 to 1.5 years of age

Behavior

- Does it live in a group- occasionally a female and male will travel and hunt together
- Interaction with humans- Humans have a tendency to hunt servals
- Helpful or harmful- servals do not affect human activity negatively or positively, e are more of a daner to them then they are to us



When was the Barbary Serval put on the IUCN list?

- The barbary serval was put on the IUCN list in 2008 and there have been conservation efforts to stop the decline of the barbary serval. The trade of the barbary serval is now regulated by international law and people are trying to ban hunting the animal for its fur. We need to decrease the use of poison used to kill rats because the barbary servals eat rodents and the poison from the rodents transfers over into the barbary serval. Conservationist have been protecting the wetlands because they are unique to the barbary servals.



Why is it endangered?

- The barbary serval is being hunted for its fur and it is most commonly mistaken for a young cheetah or leopard. They are currently being hunted in Algeria which is currently the only native place for the barbary serval. They are also being persecuted by farmers because the farmers are protecting their live stock.



Why is the Barbary Serval important?

- The barbary serval is important because they hunt rodents and insects which is important in containing diseases and viruses because insects and rodents are carriers for diseases and viruses. The barbary servals are helping us humans stay healthy and in return we are killing them for our own luxuries.



How are the Barbary Servals doing Today?

- There are below 250 barbary servals in the world today.



What are people/organizations doing to protect the Barbary Servals?

- Organizations have been protecting barbary servals by watching them in the wild and making sure hunters are not hunting them. They use vehicles to follow them around and live around the barbary servals shelter to make sure they are okay at all times. Some organization even supply the barbary servals with shelter and food.



Why it's important for the Barbary Serval to survive

- We must preserve their land and protect them from poachers
- If we protect this species we can protect other endangered species as well and can make the statement on how important protecting this species is
- It also helps control the amount of insects and pest in Africa.

The Plan

- We can save the serval by stop letting humans kill the animal for its skin.
- Protect the habitat that the serval is living.