

Sonoran Desert Endangered Species Card Game



Lesser Long Nosed Bat *Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuena*

Description:

The lesser long-nosed bat is a medium sized bat. Adults have yellow-brown or gray fur above, and rusty brown fur below. It has a small tail, small ears, and a triangular noseleaf jutting from the end of its nose.

Habitat:

In the US, lesser long-nose bats are typically found in the desert scrub habitat. Roosting occurs in caves, abandoned buildings and mines, usually at the base of mountains where food sources are present.

Range:

Much of *Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuena* range occurs in Pima County including several major maternity roosts. It is a migratory species that spends summers in Arizona and New Mexico.

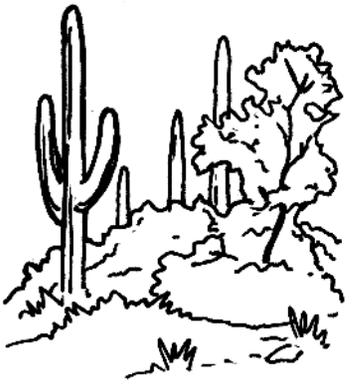
Diet:

The lesser long-nosed bat is one of the three North American bats that feeds almost exclusively on fruit and nectar from night-blooming columnar cacti such as saguaro and organ pipe. Agave flowers also play a principal role in the bat's diet. By eating the nectar, pollen, and fruit of these species of plants, the bat is an important pollinator.

The bat is a "keystone mutualist" because of its role as a pollinator. Without the bats to pollinate numerous species of cacti and agave, many fear the desert ecosystem would begin to decline. Protection of the lesser long-nosed bat would contribute to preserving the dominant plant forms of the Sonoran Desert.

Status:

On August 30, 1988, the lesser long-nosed bat was listed as endangered throughout Mexico and Arizona.

<p style="text-align: center;">Species</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Lesser Long-nosed Bat</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Food</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">fruit & nectar from saguaro & agave</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Water</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">dew, puddles, food</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Shelter</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">caves, mines, abandoned buildings</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Habitat</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">sonoran desert scrub</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Range</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">desert foothills and valleys</p>