

Rare Species

In general, a connotation where rare species are synonymous with legal protections exists in popular culture. However, rarity is the normal conditions under which a vast multitude of species exist. One of the only observations, which warrants consideration as a law of ecology is that few species constitute the majority of biomass in an area, and many species make up the remainder of the biomass. This rule commonly called, , is evident across most kingdoms of life and nearly all environments. Those taxa which make up the ‘remainder’, encompass a plurality of the species in many areas, and globally are enormous in terms of their numbers.

..In many areas there appear to be relatively few uncommon taxa, but the relatively high spatial overturn in them makes them numerous at a global scale..

Rare species tend to make of enormous amounts of diversity (WHY THEY BEST). Rare species may be the first to go. Rare species encode enormous functional diversity and ability to respond to disturbance (Isbell et al. (2011), Leitao et al. (2016), Mouillot et al. (2013), Oliver et al. (2015)). Rare species reduce the possibility and severity of biological invasions (Lyons & Schwartz (2001), Oakley & Knox (2013)).

A conceptual framework to discuss these species may be considered which contains three dimensions, their restriction to particular habitats, their geographic extents, and the number of individuals per population (Rabinowitz (1981)). Collectively the interaction between these traits results in seven forms of rare species (Rabinowitz (1981)). The rare species which receive most of the attention, are those which are restricted to particular habitats across narrow geographical extents, ‘*narrow (local) endemics*’ (Kruckeberg & Rabinowitz (1985)). In general narrow endemics tend to be the species which require special legal protection to ensure their habitats undergo minimal alterations. However, the remaining types of rarity still call for consideration by land management agencies.

		Large
Geographic Range: Habitat Specificity:	Wide	
Population Size		
Large	Locally abundant over large range in several habitats	Locally abundant
Small	Constantly sparse over large range in several habitats	Consistently sparse

Approaches to develop a consensus index of Rabinowitzs sense of rarity exist (Maciel & Arlé (2020), Maciel (2021))...

now go through rare species increasing towards those requiring legal protection

“Many species are abundant in portions of their range, but uncommon in others Brown et al. (1995), Ter Steege et al. (2016)” r tuftes::quote_footer(“— Enquist et al. 2021”)

Locally, different taxa may be considered rare. For example, many species at the leading or trailing edges of ranges... Species which have declined due to our land use plans.. These species have the possibility to be detected using a novel index ((Maciel2021?)).

- DIVERSITY AS IT RELATES TO FINE FUNCTIONS < FUNCTIONAL AND COMMUNITY CONTEXT - MANY SPECIES DO MANY IMPORTANT THINGS >
- RARITY INDEX < LOCALLY RARE, BUT COMMON ELSEWHERE >
- LEGAL PROTECTION < RARE EVERYWHERE >

Rarity is common, most species LOG (whittaker), but most species which exist are also rare (Enquist et al. (2019),).

Brown, J. H., Mehlman, D. W., & Stevens, G. C. (1995). Spatial variation in abundance. *Ecology*, 76(7), 2028–2043.

Enquist, B. J., Feng, X., Boyle, B., Maitner, B., Newman, E. A., Jorgensen, P. M., Roehrdanz, P. R., Thiers, B. M., Burger, J. R., Corlett, R. T., et al. (2019). The commonness of rarity: Global and future distribution of rarity across land plants. *Science Advances*, 5(11), eaaz0414.

Isbell, F., Calcagno, V., Hector, A., Connolly, J., Harpole, W. S., Reich, P. B., Scherer-Lorenzen, M., Schmid, B., Tilman, D., Van Ruijven, J., et al. (2011). High plant diversity is needed to maintain ecosystem services. *Nature*, 477(7363), 199–202.

Kruckeberg, A. R., & Rabinowitz, D. (1985). Biological aspects of endemism in higher plants. *Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics*, 447–479.

Leitao, R. P., Zuanon, J., Villegger, S., Williams, S. E., Baraloto, C., Fortunel, C., Mendonca, F. P., & Mouillot, D. (2016). Rare species contribute disproportionately to the functional structure of species assemblages. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 283(1828), 20160084.

Lyons, K. G., & Schwartz, M. W. (2001). Rare species loss alters ecosystem function–invasion resistance. *Ecology Letters*, 4(4), 358–365.

Maciel, E. A. (2021). An index for assessing the rare species of a community. *Ecological Indicators*, 124, 107424.

Maciel, E. A., & Arlé, E. (2020). Rare7: An r package to assess the forms of rarity in a community. *Ecological Indicators*, 115, 106419.

Mouillot, D., Bellwood, D. R., Baraloto, C., Chave, J., Galzin, R., Harmelin-Vivien, M., Kulbicki, M., Lavergne, S., Lavorel, S., Mouquet, N., et al. (2013). Rare species support vulnerable functions in high-diversity ecosystems. *PLoS Biology*, 11(5), e1001569.

Oakley, C. A., & Knox, J. S. (2013). Plant species richness increases resistance to invasion by non-resident plant species during grassland restoration. *Applied Vegetation Science*, 16(1), 21–28.

Oliver, T. H., Heard, M. S., Isaac, N. J., Roy, D. B., Procter, D., Eigenbrod, F., Freckleton, R., Hector, A., Orme, C. D. L., Petchey, O. L., et al. (2015). Biodiversity and resilience of ecosystem functions. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, 30(11), 673–684.

Rabinowitz, D. (1981). Seven forms of rarity. *Biological Aspects of Rare Plant Conservation*.

Ter Steege, H., Vaessen, R. W., Cardenas-Lopez, D., Sabatier, D., Antonelli, A., Oliveira, S. M. de, Pitman, N. C., Jorgensen, P. M., & Salomao, R. P. (2016). The discovery of the amazonian tree flora with an updated checklist of all known tree taxa. *Scientific Reports*, 6(1), 1–15.