



Biodiversity Card Examples

Plants

Alpine Rose  **Flowering Plants**
Rhododendron ferrugineum




Food Web Role: **AUTO** | Alpine:  | IUCN Status: **LC**


Height 50 - 130 cm
Growth Form Shrub
Leaf Duration Evergreen
Flower Color Deep pink
Sunlight/Soil Full sun; moist


Threats + Adaptability
 Major threats: Grazing, climate change
 Adaptability: Tolerant to low winter temperatures
 Population trend: Globally stable

Image: H. Krisp CC-BY

Birds

Coal Tit  **Birds**
Parus ater




Food Web Role: **OMNI** | Alpine:  | IUCN Status: **LC**


Wingspan 17 - 21 cm
Adult Weight 6 - 10 g
Lifespan 2 yrs (avg)
Clutch/Broods 7 - 12; 1 - 2/yr
Nest Type Cup in tree hollow


Threats & Adaptability
 Major threats: Large-scale reductions in food sources
 Adaptability: Extremely large range
 Population trend: Globally decreasing

Image: Biopix CC-BY-NC

Reptiles

Slow Worm  **Reptiles**
Anguis fragilis



Food Web Role: **CARN** | Alpine:  | IUCN Status: **LC**

Total Length 20 - 50 cm
Adult Weight 20 - 100 g
Adult Habitat Terrestrial
Clutch/Broods 8 (avg); 1/ 1-2 yr
Activity Crepuscular

Threats + Adaptability
 Major threats: Agriculture, urbanization, fires
 Adaptability: Thrive in large range of habitats
 Population trend: Globally stable

Image: Jakob Fahr CC-BY-NC

Amphibians

Eastern Newt  **Amphibians**
Notophthalmus viridescens




Food Web Role: **CARN** | Vernal Pool:  | IUCN Status: **LC**


Snout-vent Length 7.0 - 12.4 cm
Adult Habitat Semi-aquatic
Development Indirect
Number of Eggs 200 - 300; 1/yr
Activity Nocturnal


Adaptations & Energy Sources
 Physical: Born with feathery gills, later develop lungs
 Behavioral: Adult newts return permanently to water
 Energy: Insects, mollusks, crustaceans, zooplankton

Image: 2010 Todd Pierson CC-BY-NC-SA

Mammals

Beaver  **Mammals**
Castor canadensis




Food Web Role: **HERB** | Estuary:  | IUCN Status: **LC**


Adult Body Length 60 - 100 cm
Adult Weight 16 - 30 kg
Lifespan 10 - 20 yrs (avg)
Offspring/litters 1 - 4; 1/yr
Age of Female Maturity 3 yrs (avg)


Adaptations + Energy Sources
 Physical: Sharp teeth cut down trees for food + dam
 Behavioral: Build dams and lodges for shelter
 Energy: Aquatic plants and soft tissues of trees

Image: Emily Marie Ahtúnan CC-BY-NC

Fishes

Winter Flounder  **Fishes**
Pseudopleuronectes americanus



Food Web Role: **CARN** | Marine:  | IUCN Status: **NE**

Body Length 64 cm (max)
Adult Weight 3.6 kg (max)
Lifespan 14 yrs (max)
Number of Eggs 500,000 annually
Nest Type Clusters in sediment


Geographic Range
 Along Atlantic coast from Labrador to Georgia.

Image: Clayton D'Orsay CC-BY-NC

Cnidarians

Whip Coral
Leptogorgia virgulata

eOL
Cnidarians



Food Web Role: OMNI
Marine
IUCN Status: NE

Body Length: 15 - 20 cm
Form: Branching
Lifespan: Undefined
Reproduction: Sexual
Depth Zone: Intertidal - subtidal


Adaptations + Energy Sources
Physical: Calcite skeleton to support tentacles
Behavioral: Release chemicals to deter predators
Energy: Plankton, small aquatic animals

Image: Mary Spilman CC-BY-NC

Echinoderms

Northern Sea Star
Asterias rubens

eOL
Echinoderms



Food Web Role: CARN
Marine
IUCN Status: NE

Size: 20 cm (max)
Color: Red, orange, purple
Lifespan: Not available
Reproduction: Broadcast spawner
Zonation: Low intertidal, subtidal

Geographic Range
Labrador to Cape Hatteras.

Image: foto fitis, sytske dijksen CC-BY-NC

Arthropods

Black Carpenter Ant
Camponotus pennsylvanicus

eOL
Insects



Food Web Role: OMNI
Urban
IUCN Status: NE

Adult Body Length: 0.5-1.6 cm, workers
Development: Complete
Adult Lifespan: 0.5-7 yrs, queen
Number of Eggs: 5-15+; twice/yr
Wings: Males/sexual females

Adaptations & Energy Sources
Physical: Antennae are used for communication
Behavioral: share regurgitated food; higher immunity
Energy: Insects, larvae, nectar, fruit, fungi

Image: Patrick Coin CC-BY-NC-SA

Annelids

Common Earthworm
Lumbricus terrestris

eOL
Annelids



Food Web Role: DETR
Multi
IUCN Status: NE

Body Length: 35 cm (max)
Development: 4 stages; no molt
Lifespan: 6 yrs (avg)
Number of Eggs: 1 - 20 / cocoon
Activity: Nocturnal


Adaptations + Energy Sources
Physical: Bristles on each body segment grip soil
Behavioral: Move to surface when vibrations in soil
Energy: Decaying vegetation, feces, carrion

Image: Malcolm Storey CC-BY-NC-SA

Mollusks

Rapa Whelk
Rapana venosa

eOL
Mollusks



Food Web Role: CARN
Marine
IUCN Status: NE

Body Length: 15 - 18 cm
Shell/mantle: Spire shell
Lifespan: 10 yrs (high)
Number of Eggs: 50-500 egg cases/mat
Activity: Nocturnal

Adaptations + Energy Sources
Physical: Thick shell deters all predators
Behavioral: Use smothering and mucus for hunting
Energy: Bivalves and other mollusks

Image: George Chernilevsky

Fungi

Field Mushroom
Agaricus campestris

eOL
Fungi



Food Web Role: DECO
Urban
IUCN Status: NE

Cap Size: 3-11 cm
Growth Habit: Central stem
Spore Surface: Gills
Cap Color: White
Spore Print: Dark brown

Adaptations + Energy Sources
Growth: Hyphae threads absorb nutrients from food
Reproduction: Gill surface increase spore production
Energy: Absorb nutrients from dead organic matter

Image: Drew Henderson CC-BY-NC-SA