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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Roatán Spiny-tailed Iguana

The **Roatán Spiny-tailed Iguana**, *Ctenosaura oedirhina*, is listed as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Only discovered in 1987, and found solely on the small Caribbean island of Roatán, this species is among the least understood of the iguanas, though potentially the most vulnerable.

Recent surveys of Roatán suggest that this iguana is restricted to areas with some level of grassroots protection. Habitat is being rapidly destroyed and modified for development most closely related to the tourist industry. The exploitation of this species for food, both whole animals and eggs, and for the pet trade also continues to threaten this species.

The Roatán Spiny-tailed Iguana has been protected under Honduran Law since 1994. It has recently been added to Appendix II of CITES in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival of the species. However, because of a lack of enforcement, there is little protection of this iguana and it persists mostly due to local grassroots efforts, such as property owners prohibiting hunting. Increased awareness and enforcement is necessary if the Roatán Spiny-tailed Iguana is to persist.

Knowledge^{EN}
Experts^{EN}
Action^{EN}
Get Involved^{EN}



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