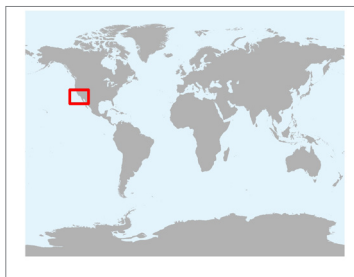




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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Island Fox

The **Island Fox**, *Urocyon littoralis*, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This small fox is restricted to six of the eight Channel Islands off the coast of southern California, USA. Island Foxes feed on insects, vertebrates, fruits, terrestrial molluscs, and near-shore invertebrates.

In recent years, the Island Fox population has suffered severe declines. Extreme levels of predation by non-native Golden Eagles is the primary cause of these declines in the northern Channel Islands, and canine disease, especially canine distemper virus, is a constant threat to these isolated populations. While Island Foxes are not hunted, trapped, or persecuted by humans, road kill is a significant source of mortality on some islands.

A number of actions have been implemented to ensure the recovery of Island Fox populations: the removal of both exotic feral pigs and non-native golden eagles (while reintroducing native bald eagles); decreasing the risk of infectious disease by vaccinating wild foxes, monitoring disease risk in individuals, enforcing the no-dog policy on islands, and educating the public about potential disease transmission from domestic dogs; and annual population monitoring to inform suitable management programs.

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