

Rare Animals of Louisiana

Southeastern Shrew

Sorex longirostris

Rarity Rank: S2S3/G5

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled	rare		secure	



Photo Credit: Roger W. Barbour
<http://www.mnh.si.edu/mna/main.cfm>

Identification:

- Smallish shrew, with a sharply pointed snout, beady eyes and small ears that are nearly hidden
- Can be distinguished from other similar species by the third unicuspid tooth being smaller than the fourth
- Brown colored above, paler below
- Long tail and feet with weak, slender claws

Habitat:

- Prefers moist or wet areas in damp forests or bordering swamps, marshes and rivers but also can be found in upland shrubby or wooded habitats
- Usually resides underground or beneath heavy ground cover

Food habits:

Some vegetative material and a variety of small invertebrates including spiders, caterpillars, snails, crickets and beetles

Range:

Occurs mostly in southeastern United States, from Maryland, Kentucky, and Illinois south to central Florida and southeastern Louisiana

Reproduction:

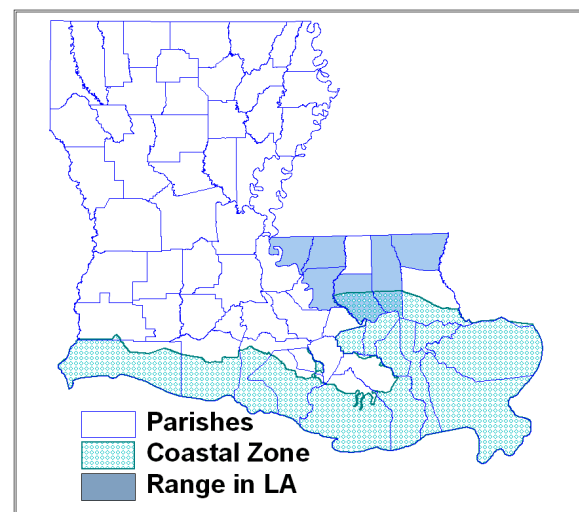
- Young are born in April through October
- Litter size is from one to six, the average is four
- One to three litters per year

Threats:

Habitat loss and changes do to human encroachment

LA River Basins:

Mississippi, Pearl, Pontchartrain



Range based on occurrences in Natural Heritage database

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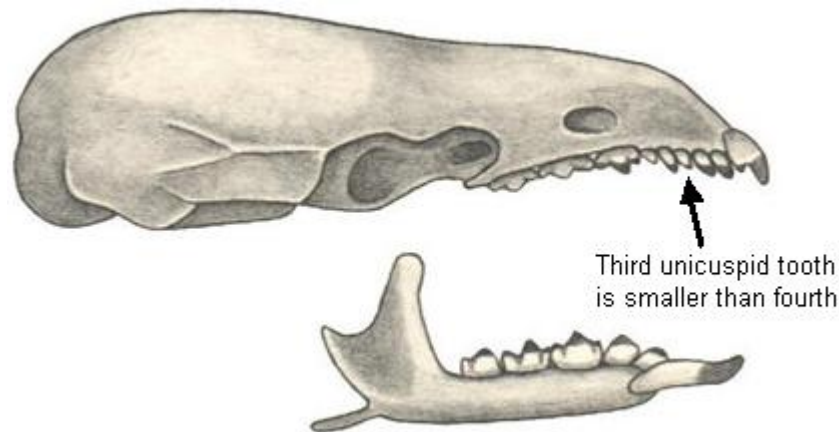


Photo Credit: Alicia V. Linzey
<http://www.mnh.si.edu/mna/main.cfm>

References:

Lowery, Jr., George H. The Mammals of Louisiana and Its Adjacent Waters. Kingsport: Kingsport P, Inc., 1974. 73-74.

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