Species in the Conservation Eduction Role 34 species

Species that are specifically selected for management – primarily in zoos and aquariums - to inspire and increase knowledge in visitors, in order to promote positive behavioural change. For example, when a species is used to raise financial or other support for field conservation projects (this would include clearly defined 'flagship' or 'ambassador' species).

Species	Phylogenetic significance	Biological Distinctiveness	Cultural/socio-economic importance	Scientific Importance	Education potential	Comments
Eleutherodactylus blairhedgesi	8.24527454	Aspect of biology shared with <6 other species	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Species occurs in an area where oil mining and tourism development is increasing (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). There is a high risk of damage to the coast from oil mining (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). This is the only frog species in Cuba that lives close to the sea, and can tolerate high levels of salt (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Huge potential for conservation education programs, especially about habitat restoration, unique habitat etc.

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Peltophryne longinasus	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	This species occurs in a protected area but the protection is not effective (A. R. Estrada, pers. comm. March 2011). There is already a captive program underway. Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers). The population is assumed to be declining and is being seen less in areas where they were previously abundant (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011).
Eleutherodactylus emiliae	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. During recent surveys (2009) many fewer animals were found than during previous surveys, 18 years ago, This is in a protected area (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Could be used for education purposes as a good example of how species can disappear very quickly (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011).

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Eleutherodactylus iberia	8.24527454	Aspect of biology shared with <6 other species	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Is the smallest frog in the world. There will be increases in habitat degradation from mining activities for nickel and chrome in the future, even though the distribution of the species is within a national park The area is also the watershed for many rivers in Cuba, so there is a high likelihood of widespread pollution (L. Díaz, A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). The species limits are also currently under review and additional studies are required (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Good for conservation education programs due to the clutch size and the size of the frog. Used as a flagship species in tourism, in brochures etc. (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).

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Eleutherodactylus orientalis	8.24527454	Aspect of biology shared with <6 other species	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. The entire distribution of the species is in a protected area. There is occasional logging in the area (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). This is a very small frog that lays a single egg. The species is used for educational purposes by eco-tourism guides to talk about small frog species in Cuba (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).
Eleutherodactylus bresslerae	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	
Peltophryne florentinoi	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. This species was recently described and the immediate threats are not known (A. R. Estrada, A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Useful for conservation education because of the unique breeding biology (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers).

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Eleutherodactylus acmonis	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Occurs in an effectively protected area (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Logging and farming still continue to be a threat to the species (L. Díaz, A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011). Economically significant because the local people take tourists to the area to show them this species (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Is fairly abundant and widespread (A. R. Estrada, pers. comm. March 2011). Distribution is somewhat uncertain. Would be a good analog for E. casparii and other ground-dwelling Eleutherodactylus species. Useful species for conservation education purposes.
Eleutherodactylus cubanus	8.24527454	Aspect of biology shared with <6 other species	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. This one of the smallest frogs in the world and it has a clutch size of 1. Is a good candidate for conservation education programs.
Eleutherodactylus jaumei	8.24527454	Aspect of biology shared with <6 other species	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Is one of the few species that lays only one egg (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011).

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Eleutherodactylus leberi	9.355870895	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during the the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Lives in partly disturbed habitat, but it is unsure if this species is affected by disturbance (L. Díaz, A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). This species is recognised as a frog (rather than an insect) by the local farmers, and they show some empathy towards it, therefore there is a possibility for conservation education programs (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).
Eleutherodactylus melacara	10.55435419	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Is used for education purposes by local eco-tourism guides (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).
Peltophryne cataulaciceps	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	The population on the island of Juventud is relatively unknown compared to the population on the main island. Good educational potential due to very fast development of tadpoles (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers).

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Peltophryne empusa	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	No	Reassessed from Vulnerable during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Although this species occurs in degraded agricultural habitats, the extent of its tolerance to intensive agriculture is not yet known (L. Díaz, A. R. Estrada, A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers).
Peltophryne taladai	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	No	Reassessed from Vulnerable during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers). Used for traditional witchcraft practices.
Eleutherodactylus limbatus	8.24527454	Aspect of biology shared with <6 other species	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Vulnerable during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Occurs in forests and has a wide distribution. Is mentioned in eco-tourism activities as the smallest frog in the world, even though this is not correct (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). This species could be used as a husbandry analog for many other Eleutherodactylus species.

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Eleutherodactylus zeus	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Is the largest Eleutherodactylus species and it sounds like a baby crying. Reassessed from Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Tourist activity is the main threat to this species, but it also occurs in areas that tourists do not visit (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Is important for use by eco-tourism guides to talk about cave-dwelling animals (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). Could be a good husbandry analog for E. symingtoni.
Eleutherodactylus albipes	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Occurs in a very specific habitat at high altitude (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). The species occurs in protected areas and these are effectively managed (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). The mountain tops are used a lot by tourists and this is leading to increasing amounts of rubbish being left behind. There are no resources to remove the rubbish. At this stage, we do not know if this affects the species (A. R. Estrada, pers. comm. March 2011). Is also one of the highest altitude living frogs in Cuba.

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Eleutherodactylus bartonsmithi	9.355870895	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Habitat has probably not changed over the last 50 years. The biggest impact on this species is a highway that was put through the area (A. R. Estrada, pers. comm. March 2011).
Eleutherodactylus etheridgei	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. This is a coastal-dwelling species, and future development may impact this species, even though it can exist with human settlement (L. Díaz, A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011). It occurs in very dry and hot areas and it spends the day in rocks and limestone.
Eleutherodactylus glamyrus	11.38243364	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Educational potential exists due to the use of the area as an eco-tourism area - information could be included in local information available for tourists (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).

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Eleutherodactylus turquinensis	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	The name of this species is likely to change during 2011 (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Reassessed from Critically Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. The main threat to this species is from tourists contaminating the water. There is potential to educate tourists in the area about protecting amphibians and not polluting the streams.
Eleutherodactylus eileenae	9.355870895	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Near Threatened during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. It is one of the few species in Cuba that has a common name, which refers to its call (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Husbandry analog for E. leberi. Populations on Guanahacabibes Peninsular seem to be distinct from the others on the rest of the island. (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).

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Eleutherodactylus klinikowskii	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Endangered during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment although this is currently under review. This is a cave-dwelling frog, that occurs in a high tourist area but the species does not seem to be declining and the habitat is not being degraded. Tourists go on a trail through the caves where this species exists, and there are good opportunities for conservation education here (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).
Peltophryne fustiger	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers). This is the largest native toad in Cuba so it could be used for conservation education. Used for traditional witchcraft practices.
Peltophryne peltocephala	4.641761834	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Phylogenetic studies are ongoing but not yet published (A. Rodríguez, pers. comm. March 2011) (see also J. Pramuk's papers). Used for traditional witchcraft practices. Can be used as a husbandry analog for P. florentinoi and P. taladai. Good for conservation education purposes as it can be handled by children (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011).

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Osteopilus septentrionalis	10.66023279	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	Yes	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Useful for conservation education programs about exotic and invasive species. Could be a good husbandry analog for O. dominicensis. Cuban people do not like this species, and there are opportunities for education programs to try change this opinion. Could also be used to educate about invasive species and the damage they cause (L. Díaz, A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).
Eleutherodactylus varians	9.355870895	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Reassessed from Vulnerable during the 2010 Cuban Red List assessment. Is a bromeliad dweller and is sensitive to habitat destruction and requires bromeliads. Is known to re-populate areas where bromeliads have been re-established (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Could be used as a husbandry analog for E. guantanamera and E. melacara. Could be used for education programs due to its very loud and distinctive call.
Eleutherodactylus atkinsi	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	It is a widespread and very common species in Cuba (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011).

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Eleutherodactylus auriculatus	9.355870895	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Is a good analog species for E. bartonsmithi. Is a good species for conservation education. People hear them in the forests and think they are cicadas (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). The species includes four distinct lineages, but these have not yet been described (A. Rodríguez pers. comm. March 2011).
Eleutherodactylus cuneatus	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Is a good candidate for conservation education programs - calls like a cat, responds to its call being imitated. Husbandry analog for other stream-dwelling species such as E. turquinensis.
Eleutherodactylus planirostris	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Occurs in widespread habitats. It is an invasive species. Is a good husbandry analog for other ground-dwelling Eleutherodctylus species. This is a good example of a direct-developing frog and would be good for conservation education programs in schools (L. Díaz, pers. comm. March 2011). Is currently held in captivity.

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Eleutherodactylus varleyi	8.24527454	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	This species will soon be split into two different species. Is a widespread and fairly common species, which tolerates human disturbance. Could be used as a husbandry analog for E. adelus. Could be used for conservation education as it sounds like a cricket. Additional phylogenetic research is required.
Lithobates catesbeianus	8.58388152	No aspect of biology known to be exceptional	No	No research dependent on this species	Yes	Useful for conservation education programs about exotic and invasive species.