

Nasua nasua (Linnaeus, 1766)

The South American coatié, *Nasua nasua* is broadly distributed in South America, ranging from Colombia and Venezuela in the north to Uruguay and northern Argentina in the south. The coatié occurs in forested habitat, it is omnivorous feeding largely on invertebrates and fruit. It has been reported to consume vertebrates, this is however not a common occurrence. The coatié is diurnal and adult males are solitary while female and immature males move in groups of up-to 30 individuals.

The coatié has been introduced to the Robinson Crusoe island, one of the Juan Fernández Islands of Chile. The Juan Fernández Islands are home to several endemic and threatened species. They were designated as a national park in 1935 (protected from 1967) and a biosphere reserve in 1977. The Chilean government began a habitat restoration programme in 1997, and the islands have been nominated for World Heritage listing.

Endemic to the Juan Fernandez Islands, the 'Critically Endangered (CR)' Juan Fernandez Firecrown (*Sephanoides fernandensis*) is threatened by invasive cats (*Felis catus*), rats (*Rattus spp.*), coatiés, herbivorous mammals (especially rabbits - *Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and the spread of invasive plants such as elm-leaf blackberry (*Rubus ulmifolius*) maqui (*Aristotelia chilensis*) and murtilla (*Ugni molinae*). Removing these invasive vertebrates and plants



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is critical to the recovery of this species.

Predation by introduced mammals such as feral cats, rats and coatiés are blamed for declining populations of the 'Vulnerable (VU)' Defilippe's Petrel (*Pterodroma defilippiana*) and 'VU' Pink-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus creatopus*) both east Pacific seabirds which breed on these islands.

References:

IUCN 2011. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2011.2. [[link](#)]

ISSG 2012. Global Invasive Species Database [[link](#)]



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