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New Haiti wildlife reserve aims to save endangered iguana

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Ricord Iguana, Photo International Iguana Foundation.

Zoom Picture

Santo Domingo (Rainforest Alliance).- The International Iguana Foundation (IIF) and the people of the Haitian town Anse-a-Pitres work to create a wildlife reserve to save Ricord's iguana (Cyclura ricordii), list as "critically endangered" and is key to the area's reforestation efforts.

Ricord's iguana was thought to be living in just three small, isolated subpopulations in the Dominican Republic: Cabrito Island, within Lake Enriquillo, another on its south shore and in the coastal plain near the town Pedernales.

In 2007 the biologist Ernst Rupp of Grupo Jaragua, working with the International Iguana Foundation (IIF), discovered a new subpopulation.

But further research by Rupp and Accimé Masani, of the IIF, found that the new population was extremely fragile, with estimates of just 250 adults, clinging to survival in what remains of they arid forest habitat that vanishes at an alarming rate.

LINK: ecoindexesp.wordpress.com/2013/06/10/iguana-ricord-Haiti/

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Written by: Perception, 25 Jul 2013 11:59 PM

From: United States

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