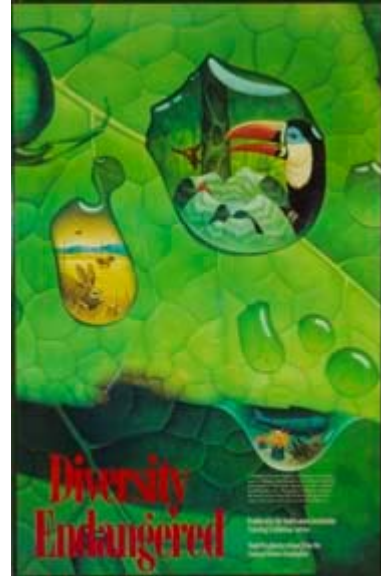


May 1, 2009 – June 29, 2009

Diversity Endangered

Diversity Endangered is a natural history exhibit created by the Smithsonian Institution with a grant from the National Science Foundation. Thirteen colorful panels cover every aspect of the effect humans have on the Earth's ecosystems.

You don't have to be a scientist to recognize that vast areas of wilderness are disappearing. Every time a highway is constructed, a river dammed, a streambed diverted, or a forest cleared, the natural habitat of plants and animals is lost. In many cases, habitat is not destroyed entirely. What does vanish is the unseen diversity that depends on complex interactions between all of an environment's elements. More than likely, the world's wildlife will never disappear completely. Some species, such as grey squirrels, starlings, and ragweed, actually flourish in degraded areas. It is the species that are specialized and more sensitive to environmental changes—otters, bluebirds, columbine—that vanish. Conceivably, much of the earth may one day be populated only by those few species hardy enough to survive in depleted environments.



Chapters in South Carolina History: Colonial Life

Experience Colonial Life in the South through this insightful exhibit. See how lives were impacted and how South Carolina was forever changed after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.