

recommended, although total extirpation of the rodent is indicated.

At present the introduced guinea pig, rabbits, white-tailed deer, and domestic cat are not considered as of ecological importance, but any one or all of these exotics could potentially become a serious problem.

TAXONOMY

(For Plants and Animals)

1. Collect adequate series of each species, where not already available, and be alert to save any remains that come to light of extirpated forms, depositing same where they best have long-time custodial care.
2. List the kinds of species and subspecies now living on St. John Island and ascertain the differences between each of these kinds and its nearest relatives on adjoining islands.
3. Determine reason or reasons for variation by appraisal of the following: Rate of speciation from early Cenozoic to Present; determine numerical degree of effectiveness of barriers; trace clines from point of origin and correlate with environmental gradients; determine effect of topography and ecology on distribution; determine if size of island is correlated with stability of genetic characters--is variation adaptive or non-adaptive; determine degree of adaptability of birds as counterparts of mammals under changing environmental condition on St. John; determine degree of population fluctuation, retraction and expansion of range with morphological change; for purposes of reintroduction of extirpated species, bring back adjoining subspecies into the Park only if variation of the species or subspecies on outlying islands is adaptive; determine role of predator pressure on evolution of insular forms.