

Conservation Genetics of Mediterranean *Podarcis*

The authors sequenced and analyzed a fragment of the mitochondrial cytochrome b gene of the endemic and endangered lizard *Podarcis atrata* of the Columbretes Archipelago (Mediterranean Spain). The population genetic structure of these lizards was analyzed as a first step to identifying evolutionarily significant units (ESU) for developing appropriate conservation strategies. Their analyses suggest that *P. atrata* from Foradada and El Lobo represent ESUs. The authors also include a brief discussion of the possibility of gene flow, from the mainland to several of these islets, which may threaten the genetic diversity of existing populations.

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