



San Marcos Salamander Species Information

Scientific Name: Eurycea nana

Family: Plethodontidae

Description: Unlike some species of salamanders, the San Marcos salamander does not have lungs making it impossible to live outside of water. These salamanders most likely reproduce year round with eggs taking about 3 weeks to hatch. Once hatched, the larvae keep their yolk sacs for about 7-10 days and start to feed on small crustaceans and immature insects a few days prior to absorbing all the yolk. They can grow to about 8-9 centimeters long and live for at least 4 years in captivity.

Status: Due to dewatering, water quality degradation and loss of their riparian habitat the San Marcos salamander was officially listed as threatened in 1980 and still face the same challenges today.

Native Area: The San Marcos salamander lives in the San Marcos River in Texas where temperatures are about 22°C or 72°F.



Information provided by Uvalde National Fish Hatchery, photo provided by San Marcos National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center.

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/fisheries/uvalde/index.html>