

3. Species of Greatest Conservation Need Summaries

Sections 3.1 to 3.6 provide information on Wisconsin's Species of Greatest Conservation Need:

- Section 3.1 Mammals
- Section 3.2 Birds
- Section 3.3 Fish
- Section 3.4 Reptiles & Amphibians (Herptiles)
- Section 3.5 Invertebrates (divided further into aquatic insects, mussels, terrestrial insects and other invertebrates)

The information presented in this Section addresses Elements 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Eight Required Elements for State Wildlife Action Plans.

(1) Information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife, including low and declining populations as the State fish and wildlife agency deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the State's wildlife;

(2) Descriptions of locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types essential to conservation of species identified in the 1st element.

(3) Descriptions of problems which may adversely affect species identified in Element 1 or their habitats, and priority research and survey efforts needed to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats.

(4) Descriptions of conservation actions determined to be necessary to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions.

Each summary is organized the same, starting with a description of the results of the SGCN assessment for each taxonomic group, a presentation of the natural community and ecological landscape association scores (SGCN-NC and SGCN-EL scores) for each SGCN and finally, species with information needs (SINS). The latter portion of each summary is dedicated to a description of the threats and issues¹ affecting most or all SGCNs in that taxonomic group paired with the most important conservation actions needed to address them. All raw data and summary figures and tables are presented after the text portion of each summary. There is some exception to the standardized organization of the invertebrate Section 3.6 in that they are separated as aquatic and terrestrial species broken down into taxonomic orders.

¹ Threats, issues and challenges are used interchangeably in the WWAP. The first term has more common usage in conservation biology and planning; the latter two terms are a more moderate way to convey the same concepts to WWAP users.

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