

WISCONSIN ENDANGERED RESOURCES REPORT 12

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WISCONSIN PUBLIC NONGAME WORKSHOPS, 1984

Compiled by S. Kelly Kearns

SUMMARY

Six public workshops were conducted throughout Wisconsin in 1984, to generate ideas and priorities for the Bureau of Endangered Resources (BER). Over 200 participants defined and ranked a total of 30 issues, and proposed the following as highest priority for BER:

- 1) the need to protect, restore, and manage critical natural areas and habitats (ranking score 281).
- 2) the need for increased nongame and environmental education in schools and for the general public, in both rural and urban areas (score 232).
- 3) the need to develop stable, adequate funding for BER through sources in addition to the tax check-off (score 171).
- 4) the need to obtain better baseline data on life history, distribution, population status, and potential threats for most nongame species and habitats, especially for plants, invertebrates, and lower vertebrates (score 121).

Other important issues included: publicity; human/wildlife conflicts; prioritization of BER activities; environmental contaminants; enforcement of regulations; cooperation between BER and other agencies, DNR bureaus, private groups, and volunteers; need for an ecosystems approach, etc.

This report describes the issues defined by participants as well as the solutions offered.

BUREAU OF ENDANGERED RESOURCES
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
608-266-7012

November 1984

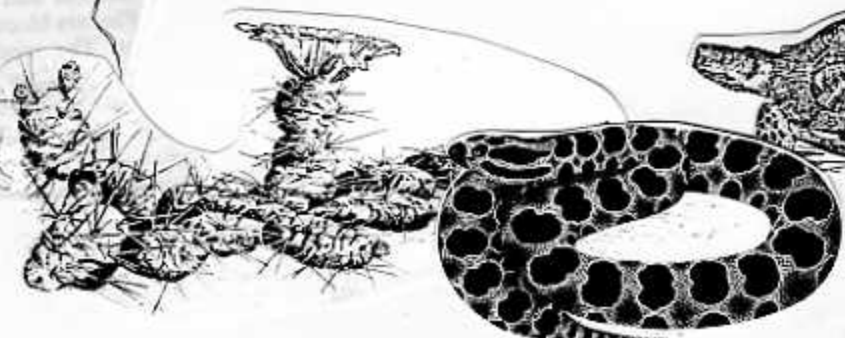




WISCONSIN ENDANGERED RESOURCES REPORT 12

Proceedings of the Wisconsin Public Nongame Workshops 1984

Sponsored by:
Bureau of Endangered Resources, Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
Madison Audubon Society
Schlitz Audubon
Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary
UWSP College of Natural Resources
Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute
La Crosse Audubon Society



**Proceedings of the Wisconsin
Public Nongame Workshops**

1984

**Held at: Madison, Milwaukee, Green Bay
Stevens Point, Ashland and La Crosse**

**July 16, 18, 23, 24 and 25
and August 7, 1984**

**Conducted by:
Bureau of Endangered Resources
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

**Ronald F. Nicotera, Bureau Director
Randle L. Jurewicz, Nongame and Endangered Species
Section Chief**

Proceedings Compiled by:

S. Kelly Kearns, Nongame Program Planner

Artwork by:

**Jim McEvoy, Dan Metz, Georgine Price,
Erica Otten and Elva Hamerstrom Paulson**

1984 Public Nongame Workshops

HIGHLIGHTS - Wisconsin citizens participating in the nongame workshops almost unanimously stated that their three major concerns for the nongame program were: (1) Habitat and wild areas protection and management for endangered, threatened, and nongame plants and animals; (2) Provide nongame information and educational opportunities to all age levels; and (3) Obtain sufficient funding for the Endangered Resources program. Additional problems and suggestions indicated the wide range of concerns expressed by the participants.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION Purpose of the Public Workshops.	1
Wisconsin's Endangered Resources Program.	2
-Nongame Program	
-Scientific and Natural Areas Program.	3
-The Endangered Resources Fund	3
Workshop Schedule	3
Workshop Agenda	3
WORKSHOP RESULTS	
Methods for Ranking Priorities.	4
Ranking of Problems	5
Summary of Priority Problems and Solutions.	6
Additional Problems Presented by Workshop Participants.	23
Additional Suggestions Offered by Workshop Participants	24
WORKSHOP SUMMARY	25
APPENDICES	
A. List of Participants.	26
B. List of Moderators.	27
C. Organizations Represented at the Nongame Public Workshops	29
D. Guidelines for Small Group Discussions.	30
E. Results From the Nongame Post-Workshop Questionnaire.	32
F. Volunteer Projects.	33
G. Selected Results of the 1983 Nongame and Endangered Resources Study	34
H. Bureau of Endangered Resources Staff.	36
I. DNR District Endangered Resource Coordinators	36

Please send any questions, comments or requests for information to:

Bureau of Endangered Resources
Department of Natural Resources
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
(608) 266-1571

Introduction

Purpose of the Public Nongame Workshops

This report compiles ideas generated by six public nongame workshops held throughout the state in the summer of 1984. The purpose of these workshops was to gather input on the nongame program from a wide range of Wisconsin citizens. The Bureau of Endangered Resources (BER) is interested in hearing what the citizens of the state feel should be done with the money contributed through the tax checkoff.

Ideas and priorities generated from these meetings will be used to plan the nongame program in Wisconsin. BER will soon be developing a long range plan that will provide direction for the nongame program for the next 10 years. Concerns and suggestions from these workshops will be of great assistance in setting priorities. Suggestions for new projects and new approaches will be incorporated into the plan wherever feasible.

Input from workshop participants will also assure the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administration and the State Legislature that Wisconsin citizens feel strongly that the nongame program is of primary importance to preserve our natural heritage. Over 200 individuals and organizations have indicated an interest in helping with the endangered resources program. The list was compiled by distributing a questionnaire at each workshop and to other interested persons.

The Bureau of Endangered Resources appreciates the interest and concerns expressed by supporters of the program and would like to thank all of the workshop participants (Appendix A) for their attendance and ideas. Special thanks go to the sponsors of the workshops for their help in organizing and publicizing the workshops and to the moderators for conducting the small group discussions (Appendix B).

Wisconsin's Endangered Resources Program

The Bureau of Endangered Resources is a relatively small bureau within the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, charged with the task of protecting and managing the scientific and natural areas and all of the nongame wildlife and plants in the state.

The Nongame Program. The term "nongame" is used here to include all endangered and threatened species, as well as all animal species which are not hunted, trapped, or fished, and all rare plants. Out of Wisconsin's 598 vertebrate species, some 503 come under the jurisdiction of the nongame program. One hundred-seven endangered and threatened plant species, and hundreds more rare plant species, are also included in the nongame classification, as well as an unknown number of invertebrates such as butterflies and molluscs.

