Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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Blue-stemmed Goldenrod

(Solidago caesia)

Federal Status: Not Listed
Status: Endangered

Description: The blue-stemmed goldenrod gets its name from the blue-gray hairless stem which is covered with a waxy film. Sharply toothed, lance-shaped leaves, about 1 inch wide and 4 inches long, alternate along the stem. Small yellow flowers cluster at the bases of these leaves and at the plant's summit. The plant grows about 3 feet tall. It has a short, thick underground stem and fibrous roots.

Habitat: This extremely rare yellow wildflower occurs in southeastern Wisconsin's deciduous forests.

Forestry Considerations: Blue-stemmed goldenrod lives in the shade of deciduous forests. Single-tree or small group-selection harvest, that allows the forest canopy to remain essentially intact, would be the technique most compatible with the continued existence of this rare wildflower.