Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

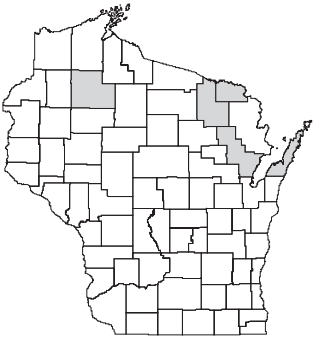
Small Round-leaved Orchis

(Amerorchis rotundifolia)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened

Description: The small round-leaved orchis is identified by the single, round basal leaf, 1 1/2 to 4 inches long, and an erect flower stalk (6 to 17

inches tall) with five or more pinkish, orchid-like flowers with dark purple spots on the lip. These flowers appear in early to mid-summer.

Habitat: This wild orchid occurs mainly in swamps, or forests bordering swamps, and bogs. These conifer swamps are characterized by tamarack, cedar, balsam fir and spruce.

Forestry Considerations: This rare, beautiful wildflower is especially intolerant of canopy removal and soil compaction. Care should be taken to avoid habitat modification and to limit disturbance where the plant is known to occur.