

**Wisconsin's Wildlife Action Plan (2005-2015)  
Priority Conservation Actions & Conservation Opportunity Areas**

**SOUTHERN LAKE MICHIGAN COASTAL ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE**

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**HIGH PRIORITY SGCN AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES**

- |                    |   |                         |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| ➤ Horned Grebe     | ➤ Beetle ( <i>Colaspis suggona</i> )  | ➤ Mulberry-wing         |
| ➤ Peregrine Falcon | ➤ Broad-winged Skipper  | ➤ Red-tailed Leafhopper |
| ➤ Mudpuppy         | ➤ Leafhoppers ( <i>Paraphilaenus parallelus</i> , <i>Destria crocea</i> , <i>Memnonia panzeri</i> , <i>Aphelonema simplex</i> ) | ➤ Silphium Borer Moth   |
| ➤ Striped Shiner   | ➤ Liatris Borer Moth  | ➤ Two-spotted Skipper   |
|                    |   | ➤ Lake Michigan         |
|                    |   | ➤ Wet-mesic Prairie     |

**PRIORITY CONSERVATION ACTIONS**

- Preserve and manage all wet-mesic prairie sites, restore degraded sites (emphasizing restoration of hydrology), and manage the sites in a matrix of surrogate grasslands and other shrub and savanna habitats for area-sensitive species
- Promote private land management of small sites where possible by offering incentives to private landowners for preservation or restoration of prairies and savannas.
- Monitor wet-mesic prairies to determine whether prescribed burning and other management activities are maintaining invertebrate diversity.
- Protect and restore harbor and river mouth shoreline and wetland habitats.
- Improve regulations and education to prevent the introduction of additional exotic species and slow the spread of existing aquatic invasive species.
- The landscape is especially well suited to conduct research to determine Franklin's Ground Squirrel distribution, habitat use, population size, and mortality factors.
- Conserve habitat for the striped shiner by protecting refuges in the Milwaukee River watershed, and through protection and restoration of natural habitat in the Milwaukee River.
- Improve habitat and water quality conditions in the Milwaukee River basin by controlling non-point pollution.
- Manage for Forster's Tern at Big Muskego Lake Wildlife Area.
- Manage portions of Richard Bong State Recreation Area to accommodate nesting and wintering grassland birds.

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## **CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREAS**

### **Great Lakes and their Shorelines – Global Significance**

Fisheries and Migratory/Winter Bird Habitat.

**COA(s):** Lake Michigan (A.02) including embayments and migratory and wintering bird locations.

SGCN – Greater Redhorse, Lake Sturgeon, Mudpuppy, Horned Grebe.

Legacy Places – Lake Michigan.

Lakeshore natural community complexes, including Great Lakes Beach, Great Lakes Dune, Southern Sedge Meadow, Calcareous Fen, Wet-mesic Prairie, Wet Prairie, and Shrub-carr

**COA(s):** Chiwaukee Prairie (12.01)

SGCN – Blanding's Turtle, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Field Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Short-eared Owl, Willow Flycatcher, Franklin's Ground Squirrel, Red-tailed Leafhopper, Silphium Borer Moth, Liatris Borer Moth, Mulberry-wing, Broad-winged Skipper, Two-spotted Skipper, Colapsis Leaf Beetle, and three SGCN leafhoppers.

Public Land – Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area

Legacy Places – Chiwaukee Prairie

### **Medium-sized Rivers and Streams – Upper Midwest/Regional Significance**

Milwaukee River (main branches) is mid-sized Warmwater River, including riparian communities.

**COA(s):** Milwaukee River (A.03)

SGCN – Greater Redhorse, Striped Shiner, Butler's Garter Snake, Least Darter, Blanding's Turtle, Rusty Blackbird, Solitary Sandpiper, Ellipse, and Slippershell Mussel.

Public Land – Milwaukee County Parks.

### **Extensive Grassland Communities – State Significance**

Features Surrogate Grasslands.

**COA(s):** Bong Grasslands (12.02)

SGCN – Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Short-eared Owl, and Willow Flycatcher.

Public Land – Bong Recreation Area

Legacy Places – Bong Recreation Area.

Important Bird Areas – Richard Bong State Recreation Area.