

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

**NORTHERN LAKE MICHIGAN COASTAL ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE**

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**HIGH PRIORITY SGCN AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES**

- |                          |                               |                                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ➤ Caspian Tern           | ➤ Mudpuppy                    | ➤ White-lip Dagger               |
| ➤ Common Tern            |                               |                                  |
| ➤ Eastern Meadowlark     | ➤ Black Striate               | ➤ Boreal Rich Fen                |
| ➤ Forster’s Tern         | ➤ Boreal Top                  | ➤ Boreal Forest                  |
| ➤ Great Egret            | ➤ Bright Glyph (snail)        | ➤ Emergent Marsh                 |
| ➤ Horned Grebe           | ➤ Cherrystone Drop            | ➤ Floodplain Forest              |
| ➤ Olive-sided Flycatcher | ➤ Hine’s Emerald Dragonfly    | ➤ Great Lakes Alkaline Rockshore |
| ➤ Piping Plover          | ➤ Iowa Pleistocene Vertigo    | ➤ Great Lakes Beach              |
| ➤ Snowy Egret            | ➤ Lake Huron Locust           | ➤ Great Lakes Dune               |
| ➤ Upland Sandpiper       | ➤ Midwest Pleistocene Vertigo | ➤ Great Lakes Ridge & Swale      |
| ➤ Whimbrel               | ➤ Mystery Vertigo             | ➤ Lake Michigan                  |
|                          | ➤ Phyllira Tiger Moth         | ➤ Northern Sedge Meadow          |
| ➤ Lake Sturgeon          | ➤ Sculpted Glyph              | ➤ Northern Wet-mesic Forest      |
| ➤ Shoal Chub             | ➤ Swamp Metalmark             | ➤ Warmwater Rivers               |

**PRIORITY CONSERVATION ACTIONS**

- Protect and restore harbor and river mouth shoreline and wetland habitats.
- Manage forested ridge and swale and boreal rich fen areas as part of a vegetation mosaic that includes other open wetland communities, shrub swamp, and swamp conifer forest by promoting older age classes, protecting site hydrology, and early detection and management of invasive exotic species.
- Increase near shore representation of boreal forest by encouraging retention of white spruce, white pine, white cedar, and balsam fir, especially in older age classes, by adaptive management and selective planting.
- Improve regulations and education to prevent the introduction of additional exotic species and slow the spread of existing invasive species.
- Manage Great Lakes beach and dune habitat as part of a vegetation mosaic that includes forested ridge and swale, interdunal wetland, shrub carr, and swamp conifer forest with older age classes. Promote concentrated public access points, limited recreational activities in areas where SGCN are present (particularly during breeding seasons), protecting site hydrology, and early detection and management of invasive exotic species.
- Implement new cost-sharing programs or continue voluntary programs to monitor for and aggressively eliminate invasive species, especially in Great Lakes beach, dune, and ridge and swale communities.
- Preserve habitat on the Niagara Escarpment and protect ecologically significant areas currently occupied by SGCN from conversion to other land uses.
- Protect and manage water bodies containing Hine’s Emerald Dragonfly, monitor populations and conduct basic life history research.
- Protect and restore habitat in the lower Wolf River to accommodate Shoal Chub.
- Maintain long-term wetland productivity on state properties by mimicking natural hydrologic regimes and using adaptive management techniques.
- Initiate wetland renovation projects to enhance Forster’s Tern habitat.

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- Utilize artificial nest platforms to maintain Forster's Tern populations.
- Keep open aspect to west shore wetlands and sedge meadows by using prescribed fire, fluctuating water levels where appropriate, and tree shearing and harvest.

## **CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREAS**

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

Lake Michigan including embayments and Migratory/Winter Bird Habitat

**COA(s):** Lake Michigan (A.02) including embayments such as Rowley's Bay and Moonlight Bay.

SGCN – Horned Grebe, Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Lake Sturgeon, Banded Killifish, Mudpuppy, Bald Eagle, Greater Redhorse

Public Land – The lake is public water

Legacy Places – None.

Important Bird Areas – None.

Northern Door County natural community complexes including Great Lakes Beach, Great Lakes Alkaline Rockshore, Great Lakes Dune, Boreal Rich Fen, Floodplain Forest, Northern Sedge Meadow, Northern Wet Forest, Northern Wet-mesic Forest, Boreal Forest, Great Lakes Ridge & Swale, and Northern Hardwood Swamp. These sites also include portions of the Niagara Escarpment including Dry Cliff, Moist Cliff and bedrock communities.

**COA(s):** Rock Island (14.01), Detroit Harbor (14.02), Big and Little Marsh (14.03), Coffey Swamp (14.04), Jackson Harbor (14.05), Chambers Island (14.06), Gardner Marsh (14.07), Potawatomi State Park (14.08), Bayshore Blufflands (14.09), White Cliff Fen and Forest (14.10), Thorp Pond (14.11), Baileys Harbor to Peninsula (14.12), Kangaroo Lake (14.13), Hibbard Creek (14.14), Logan Creek (14.15), Whitefish Dunes to Sturgeon Bay (14.16), Ellison Bluff (14.17), Door Bluff County Park (14.18), Mink River to Europe Bay (14.19), Boyer's Bluff (14.20) Green Bay West Shores (14.22)

SGCN – Blanding's Turtle, Four-toed Salamander, Mink Frog, Pickerel Frog, Wood Turtle, American Bittern, American Woodcock, Black-billed Cuckoo, Black Tern, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Blue-winged Teal, Bobolink, Brown Thrasher, Canada Warbler, Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Dunlin, Forster's Tern, Hudsonian Godwit, Least Flycatcher, Marbled Godwit, Northern Goshawk, Northern Harrier, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Rusty Blackbird, Solitary Sandpiper, Snowy Egret, Veery, Whimbrel, Willow Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Yellow Rail, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Flying Squirrel, Northern Long-eared Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Water Shrew, Woodland Jumping Mouse, Lake Huron Locust, Bright Glyph (snail), Hine's Emerald Dragonfly, Swamp Metalmark, Phyllira Tiger Moth, Two-spotted Skipper, Sculptured Glyph, Cherrystone Drop, White-tip Dagger, Black Striate, Midwest Pleistocene Vertigo, Iowa Pleistocene Vertigo, Mystery Vertigo, and Boreal Top.

Public Land – Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest State Natural Area, Bloch Oxbow State Natural Area, Gardner Swamp Wildlife Area, Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area, Mud Lake Wildlife Area, Newport State Park, Peninsula State Park, Potawatomi State Park, Rock Island State Park, Seagull Bar Wildlife Area, Whitefish Dunes State Park, TNC Mink River Preserve, UW-Green Bay Toft Point, The Ridges Sanctuary, Small Scattered State Natural Areas, Door County Land Trust Preserves, Door County Parks.

Legacy Places – Northern Door County, Green Bay West Shore Wetlands, Oconto Marsh, Peshtigo Harbor, and Seagull Bar and Niagara Escarpment.

Important Bird Areas – Whitefish Dunes - Shivering Sands, Toft Point - Ridges - Mud Lake, and Mink River Estuary - Newport State Park, Green Bay West Shore Wetlands, Lower Peshtigo River, and Seagull Bar.

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

Including Floodplain Forest, Northern Sedge Meadow, Emergent Marsh, and Warmwater Rivers.

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**COA(s):** Lower Wolf River (A.06)

SGCN – Greater Redhorse, Lake Sturgeon, River Redhorse, Shoal Chub, Western Sand Darter, Four-toed Salamander, Wood Turtle, American Black Duck, Black-billed Cuckoo, Blue-winged Teal, Great Egret, Least Flycatcher, Prothonotary Warbler, Red-shouldered Hawk, Rusty Blackbird, Solitary Sandpiper, Veery, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Buckhorn, Elktoe, Round Pigtoe, Salamander Mussel, Snuffbox, Elegant Spreadwing, Elusive Clubtail, Plains Clubtail, Pygmy Snaketail, Stygian Shadowfly, Predaceous Diving Beetles, Caenid Mayfly, Water Scavenging Beetles, Dubiraphia Riffle Beetle, White River Crayfish, and Mississippi Grass Shrimp.

Public Land – None

Legacy Places – Lower Wolf River.

Important Bird Areas – Lower Wolf River Bottoms.

**High Quality Wetlands – State Significance**

Boreal Rich Fen, Northern Wet-mesic Forest, Northern Wet Forest, Northern Sedge Meadow, Shrub-Carr, and Emergent Marsh.

**COA(s):** Lake Noquebay (14.21)

SGCN – Blanding's Turtle, Four-toed Salamander, Mink Frog, Pickerel Frog, Wood Turtle, American Bittern, American Woodcock, Bald Eagle, Black-billed Cuckoo, Black Tern, Blue-winged Teal, Canada Warbler, Northern Harrier, Osprey, Rusty Blackbird, Veery, Willow Flycatcher, Yellow Rail, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Water Shrew, and Woodland Jumping Mouse and Two-spotted Skipper.

Public Land – Lake Noquebay Wildlife Area.

Legacy Places – Noquebay Conifer Swamp.