

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

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HIGH PRIORITY SGCN AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| ➤ American Golden Plover | ➤ Black Redhorse | ➤ Impoundments/Reservoirs |
| ➤ Bobolink | ➤ Redside Dace | ➤ Northern Mesic Forest |
| ➤ Dunlin | | ➤ Surrogate Grasslands |
| ➤ Solitary Sandpiper | ➤ Eastern Red Bat | ➤ Warmwater Rivers |
| ➤ Trumpeter Swan | ➤ West Virginia White | |
| ➤ Wilson's Phalarope | | |

PRIORITY CONSERVATION ACTIONS

- Maintain the largest blocks of northern mesic and oak forest, especially in the identified Conservation Opportunity Areas.
- Increase connectivity of forest patches, especially in the identified conservation opportunity areas.
- Encourage regeneration and reestablishment of eastern hemlock, Canada yew, white cedar, other conifers and yellow birch, where appropriate through adaptive management techniques.
- Work towards a balance of age classes, especially in the oak conservation opportunity area.
- Research Eastern Red Bat life history, including roosting and foraging habitat, population dynamics, trends, migration, and dispersal patterns.
- Identify and protect refuge areas, and restore coolwater stream Conservation Opportunity Areas to conserve Redside Dace.
- This landscape has an especially important role for managing shorebird habitat at the Big Eau Pleine Flowage and other flowages and impoundments. Through dams and dikes, water levels can be raised to flood these areas, and through water control structures, water levels can be manipulated to benefit shorebirds. Migration phenology and specific habitat requirements must be considered when managing for shorebirds.

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CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREAS

Large Blocks of Predominately Older Northern Forest – Upper Midwest/Regional Significance

Includes the Lakewood District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and features Northern Mesic Forest, Northern Wet-mesic Forest, Northern Wet Forest, Northern Dry-mesic Forest, Alder Thicket, and Inland Lakes, especially marl.

COA(s): Menominee Forest (16.01)

SGCN – Four-toed Salamander, Pickerel Frog, Wood Turtle, Bald Eagle, Black-billed Cuckoo, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Canada Warbler, Least Flycatcher, Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Veery, Wood Thrush, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Flying Squirrel, Silver-haired Bat, Water Shrew and Woodland Jumping Mouse, and West Virginia White.

Public Land – Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Upper Wolf Fishery Area, Evergreen River Fishery Area, Lakewood Rearing Station, Woods Flowage Fishery Area, Statewide Spring Ponds.

Legacy Places – Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Upper Wolf River, Menominee County, Red River.

Important Bird Areas – Menominee Forest.

Features complexes of oak forest and lakes in the northwest – Northern Mesic Forest, Northern Dry-mesic Forest, Southern Dry-mesic Forest, Northern Wet Forest, and Inland Lakes.

COA(s): Straight Lake (16.03)

SGCN – Four-toed Salamander, Wood Turtle, Black-billed Cuckoo, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Northern Goshawk, Least Flycatcher, Red-shouldered Hawk, Trumpeter Swan, Veery, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Whip-poor-will, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Flying Squirrel, and Woodland Jumping Mouse.

Public Land – Balsam Branch Wildlife Area, Clam River Fishery Area, Loon Lake Wildlife Area, McKenzie Creek Wildlife Area, Rice Beds Creek Wildlife Area, Scattered Forest Lands, Sand Creek Fishery Area, Straight Lake Recreation Area.

Legacy Places – Clam River, Balsam Branch Creek and Woodlands, Straight River Channel.

Important Bird Areas – Straight Lake.

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

Feature Warmwater Rivers, Floodplain Forest, Coldwater/Coolwater streams including stream side communities and Alder Thicket

COA(s): Lower St. Croix River [part continental] (A.46); Rib and Little Rib Systems (A.26); Wisconsin River, middle (A.20); Little Wolf River (A.07); Wolf River (A.05)

SGCN – Redside Dace, Greater Redhorse, Lake Sturgeon, Black Redhorse, Redfin Shiner, Four-toed Salamander, Mudpuppy, Pickerel Frog, Wood Turtle, American Golden Plover, Black Tern, Blue-winged Teal, Canvasback, Dunlin, Forster's Tern, Lesser Scaup, Osprey, Short-billed Dowitcher, Solitary Sandpiper, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat, Water Shrew, Spectacle Case, Purple Wartyback, Butterfly, Elephant Ear, Snuffbox, Higgin's-Eye, Pink Papershell, Winged Mapleleaf, Monkeyface, Wartyback, Salamander Mussel, Buckhorn, Fawnsfoot, Lancet Clubtail, Pygmy Snaketail, St. Croix Snaketail, Armored Mayflies, Small Square-gilled Mayfly, Flat-headed Mayflies, Primitive Minnow Mayflies, Dubirhopia Riffle Beetles, Riffle Beetles, and Water Measurers.

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Public Lands – Upper Wolf Fisheries Area, Langlade County Forest, Marathon County Forest, St. Croix National Scenic River.

Important Bird Areas – St. Croix River.

Extensive Grassland Communities – State Significance

Features managed Surrogate Grassland, Impoundments and Northern Mesic Forest.

COA(s): Mead (16.02)

SGCN – American Golden Plover, Blue-winged Teal, Bobolink, Brown Thrasher, Dickcissel, Dunlin, Eastern Meadowlark, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Henslow's Sparrow, Northern Harrier, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Short-billed Dowitcher, Short-eared Owl, Upland Sandpiper, Western Meadowlark, Willow Flycatcher, Regal Fritillary, and Ottoe Skipper.

Public Land – Mead Wildlife Area, Big Eau Pleine Park, Central Wisconsin Grassland Wildlife Area.

Legacy Places – Central Wisconsin Grassland.

Important Bird Areas – George W. Mead Wildlife Area.

Diverse Aquatic Communities – State Significance

Features Coldwater/Coolwater Streams including streamside communities Northern Wet-Mesic Forest, and Alder Thicket.

COA(s): Plover River (A.25)

SGCN – Redside Dace, Four-toed Salamander, Pickerel Frog, Wood Turtle, Osprey, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat, Water Shrew, Lancet Clubtail and Sand Snaketail.

Public Lands – Plover River Fisheries Area.

Legacy Places – Plover River.