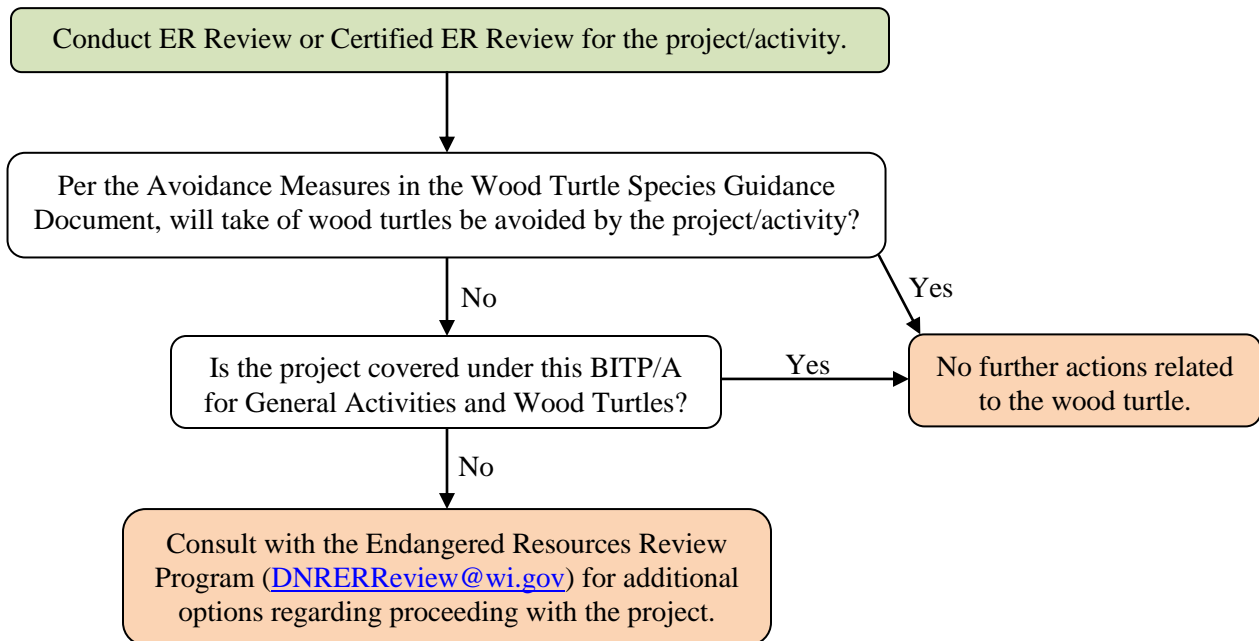


**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Common Activities**

**General Activities
and
Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)**

The first step in determining whether a project could impact a rare species is to have an [Endangered Resources \(ER\) Review](#) or [Certified ER Review](#) conducted. If an ER Review or Certified ER Review has indicated the likely presence of the wood turtle with a project area **and** avoidance is not possible (per the [Wood Turtle Species Guidance](#)), this Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization (BITP/A) should be followed for those areas.

In general, this BITP/A covers most activities that do not permanently impact habitat (e.g., land management, forestry activities, utility activities) but does not cover land conversion activities (e.g., commercial development, residential development, road expansion).



For additional information regarding this Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization, please contact the DNR's Endangered Resources Review Program at DNRERReview@wi.gov.

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The following activities are NOT covered under this Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization but may be eligible to apply for an individual Incidental Take Permit/Authorization or an Endangered/Threatened (E/T) Permit:*

1. Land conversion activities (e.g., commercial development, residential development, road expansion) that permanently alter or reduce habitat.
2. Ground disturbance, heavy equipment operation or supply/equipment storage within nesting habitat (exposed sand or gravel areas within 200 ft of a suitable stream/river) during the nesting season (May 20 – September 18). Please note that ground disturbance, heavy equipment operation or supply/equipment storage on non-nesting habitat within 200 ft is allowed.
3. Prescribed burning during the egg laying period (May 20 – July 5) within nesting habitat (exposed sand or gravel areas within 200 ft of a suitable stream/river). Please note that burning non-nesting habitat within 200 ft is allowed.
4. Instream work and drawdowns during the maximum overwintering period (October 1 – April 30). In stream work includes, but is not limited to, streambank/rip rap installation, ford installations, open cut trenching, and dredging.
5. Intentional killing or collection of wood turtles (includes eggs, hatchlings, juveniles and adults).

** The above activities are allowed if take can be completely avoided through exclusion fencing, species removal or another method, as indicated under the initial ER Review or Certified ER Review letter.*

All projects not listed above are covered under this Broad Incidental Take Authorization if the following measures are followed:

1. Project personnel (individuals on site for project purposes rather than for the purpose of looking for turtles) must move any turtles observed on site out of harm's way.
2. Only the following herbicides may be used during periods when the turtles could be negatively impacted: 2, 4-D salt at concentrations of 40 ppm or less (2, 4-D ester should not be used), clopyralid (e.g., Transline), Cutrine without a surfactant, diquat (dibromide) at concentrations of 1.0 ppm or less, glyphosate without a surfactant (e.g., Aquaneat), glyphosate with methylated seed oil as a surfactant only, hexazinone (e.g., Velpar), imazapyr (e.g., Arsenal, Chopper), Triclopyr ester and salt concentrations of less than 2.0 ppm. Other herbicides may be approved on a case by case basis by the Endangered Resources Review Program (DNRRERReview@wi.gov). *Note – these herbicide brand names are only provided for reference and are not an endorsement of any specific brand.*

Voluntary Conservation Measures (these are strictly voluntary measures at the discretion of the landowner but would help to conserve this species, wherever possible):

1. For streambank stabilization/rip rap projects, it is recommended that all voids in exposed rock above the Ordinary High Water Mark be filled with soil and seeded with a native seed mix

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appropriate for the habitat. It is recommended that any riprap not able to be top-dressed with soil and seeded will have the interstitial voids filled with 0.5 to 2.0 inch gravel to ensure that hatchling turtles cannot become entrapped in large voids between rocks.

2. It is recommended that activities during the turtle's active season that occur within 100 feet of a suitable wood turtle stream/river take place when 100% of the area is naturally snow covered.
3. It is recommended that activities during the turtle's active season that occur greater than 100 feet from a suitable wood turtle stream/river take place at any time of year when 50% or more of the harvest area is naturally snow covered.
4. Minimize work within wood turtle upland foraging areas (measured out from a suitable stream/river shoreline).

Dates*	Wood Turtle Upland Foraging Area (Recommend Minimizing Disturbance in These Areas)
Nov 1 - Mar 14	none
Mar 15 – May 14	0-75 m (0-264 ft)
May 15 – Sept 15	0-300 m (0-984 ft)
Sept 16 - Oct 31	0-75 m (0-264 ft)

**The dates listed can change each year based on annual weather conditions (e.g., cold spring, late snowfall, early frost). These changes will be posted on the DNR website:*

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/Herps.asp#regs>.

***Uplands are defined as any area that is not a stream/river (i.e., not overwintering habitat).*

5. If erosion matting (also known as an erosion control blanket, erosion mat or erosion mesh netting) will be used, the following matting (or something similar) should be installed: Use matting that incorporate a “leno” or “gauze” weave (where strands have independent movement). Ensure the weave is loose and the strands have good mobility. American Excelsior “FibreNet” or “NetFree” products; East Coast Erosion biodegradable jute products; Erosion Tech biodegradable jute products; ErosionControlBlanket.com biodegradable leno weave products; North American Green S75BN, S150BN, SC150BN or C125BN; or Western Excelsior “All Natural” products. *Note – these brand names are only provided for reference and are not an endorsement of any specific brand.*
6. Nest site creation/restoration/enhancement (if you are interested in this option, please contact a District Ecologist or the Endangered Resources Review Team for more information).
7. Invasives clearing from a nesting or foraging area (if you are interested in this option, please contact a District Ecologist or the Endangered Resources Review Team for more information).
8. Install culverts under roads with turtle exclusion fencing (if you are interested in this option, please contact a District Ecologist or the Endangered Resources Review Team for more information).