

In 1973 Congress passed a law called the *Endangered Species Act*. The purpose of this law is:

- to identify animals and plants that are in trouble; and
- to protect these animals and plants and their habitats.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service keeps a list of animals and plants that are protected by the Endangered Species Act.

There are over 1,265 animals and plants from the United States on the list of endangered and threatened species:

- An *endangered species* is in danger of extinction throughout the area in which they are usually found.
- A *threatened species* could become endangered in the near future.
- A *candidate species* has been sufficiently studied, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has decided that it should be proposed for threatened or endangered status.

## Federally Endangered, Threatened and Candidate Species in Minnesota

### MAMMALS

Canada lynx - threatened and critical habitat designated  
Gray wolf - delisted on May 4, 2009

### BIRDS

Piping plover - endangered and threatened\*  
Whooping crane - nonessential experimental population

### REPTILE

Eastern massasauga - candidate

### FISH

Topeka shiner - endangered and critical habitat

### INSECTS

Dakota skipper - candidate  
Karner blue butterfly - endangered

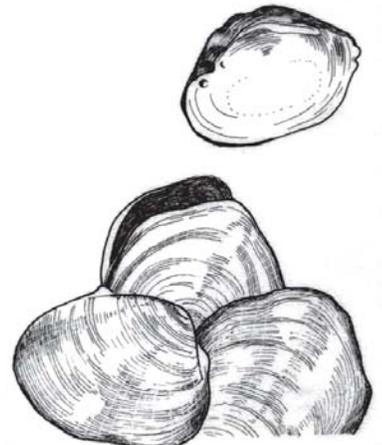
### CLAMS (Freshwater Mussels, Unionids)

Higgins' eye pearlymussel - endangered  
Sheepnose Mussel - candidate  
Spectaclecase Mussel - candidate  
Winged mapleleaf mussel - endangered

### PLANTS

Leedy's roseroot - threatened  
Minnesota dwarf trout lily - endangered  
Prairie bush-clover - threatened  
Western prairie fringed orchid - threatened

\*= Endangered in the Great Lakes drainage, threatened in the rest of its range, including Lake of the Woods.



# The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The mission of the *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service* is to preserve, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the people.

*Region 3* of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service covers an eight-state area: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Region 3's *Ecological Services* Program works to protect and enhance wetland and upland habitats, study the effects of contaminants on fish and wildlife, inventory and map wetlands, and protect and restore endangered species.

The *Division of Endangered Species* in Region 3 works with other Federal agencies, state agencies, and private groups and landowners to:

- help prevent animals and plants within the eight states of Region 3 from becoming extinct;
- help protect habitats important to these species; and
- help bring populations of animals and plants to the point where they are no longer threatened or endangered.

For more information about animals and plants protected by Federal law, call or write to:

Division of Endangered Species  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building  
1 Federal Drive  
Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111-4056  
612/713-5350

or:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4101 East 80th Street  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55425-1665  
612/725-3548

Most states, including Minnesota, have their own programs to protect locally endangered animals and plants.

For information about animals and plants protected by Minnesota law, write to:

Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7, 500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4037  
612/296-2549



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3

November 2008