The Eight Required Elements to include in Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plans

Congress identified the required elements of this conservation strategy in the WCRP legislation and the USFWS adopted those same elements to also apply to SWG required conservation plans, so one document will satisfy both needs. The Plan-Strategy must identify and be focused on the "species in greatest need of conservation," yet address a "broad array of wildlife" and wildlife-related issues. They must provide and make use of:

(1) **information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife**, including low and declining populations as the State fish and wildlife agency deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the State's wildlife; and

(2) **descriptions of locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types** essential to conservation of species identified in (1); and

(3) **descriptions of problems** which may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, and **priority research and survey efforts needed** to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats; and

(4) **descriptions of conservation actions determined to be necessary** to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions; and

(5) **proposed plans for monitoring** species identified in (1) and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of the conservation actions proposed in (4), and for adapting these conservation actions to respond appropriately to new information or changing conditions; and

(6) **descriptions of procedures to review the Plan-Strategy** at intervals not to exceed ten years; and

(7) **plans for coordinating, to the extent feasible, the development, implementation, review, and revision of the Plan-Strategy with Federal, State, and local agencies and Indian tribes** that manage significant land and water areas within the State or administer programs that significantly affect the conservation of identified species and habitats; and

(8) **broad public participation** during the development and implementation of these Plans.