



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 950 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* is one that 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. Candidate species are not protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Federally Endangered, Threatened and Candidate Species in Iowa

MAMMALS

Indiana bat (E)
Northern long-eared bat (T)

BIRDS

Least tern (Interior population) (E)
Piping plover (T)

REPTILES

Eastern Massasauga (T)

FISHES

Pallid sturgeon (E)
Topeka shiner (E and Critical Habitat)

CLAMS (Freshwater Mussels, Unionids)

Higgins' eye pearlymussel (E)
Sheepnose (E)
Spectaclecase (E)

SNAILS

Iowa Pleistocene snail (E)

INSECTS

Poweshiek skipperling (E and CH)
Rusty patched bumble bee (E)

PLANTS

Eastern prairie fringed orchid (T)
Mead's milkweed (T)
Northern wild monkshood (T)
Prairie bush-clover (T)
Western prairie fringed orchid (T)

E = Endangered
T = Threatened
C = Critical Habitat



Prairie bush clover

Photo by USFWS; Phil Delphey



Poweshiek Skipperling

Photo by Minnesota Zoo; Erik Runquist

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
5600 American Blvd., West, Suite 990
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458
612/713-5350

In Iowa:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1511 - 47th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265
309/757-5800

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

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

Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
East Ninth and Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034
515/281-5145



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3

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