



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 1,492 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 and Threatened Species in Minnesota

MAMMALS

Canada lynx - threatened and critical habitat designated
 Gray wolf - threatened
 Northern long-eared bat - threatened

BIRDS

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

FISH

Topeka shiner - endangered and critical habitat

INSECTS

Dakota skipper - threatened and critical habitat
 Karner blue butterfly - endangered
 Poweshiek skipperling - endangered and critical habitat
 Rusty patched bumble bee - endangered

CLAMS (Freshwater Mussels)

Higgins' eye pearl mussel - endangered
 Sheepnose - endangered
 Snuffbox - endangered
 Spectaclecase - endangered
 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.



Dakota Skipper

Photo by Erik Runquist



Karner blue butterfly

Photo by USFWS; Joel Trick

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

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

or:

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



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3

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