

Wisconsin's Threatened and Endangered Species Laws and Forest T/E Species



Carly Lapin, Wisconsin DNR
Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation

Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation

Vision:

We envision a Wisconsin with a thriving natural heritage supported by, and benefiting, everyone.

Mission:

We work to conserve Wisconsin's native plants, animals, and their habitats using science, collaborative approaches, and creative strategies.



L. Hays



D. Feldkirchner



E. and P. Bauer



Threatened and Endangered

Endangered: Any species whose continued existence as a viable component of this state's wild animals or wild plants is determined by the Department to be in jeopardy on the basis of scientific evidence.

Threatened: Any species which appears likely, within the foreseeable future, on the basis of scientific evidence, to become endangered.

“Endangered” and “Threatened” = “Listed”

Federal Threatened & Endangered

- Animals protected everywhere in the country
- Plants protected on federal lands or if taken in violation of state law or criminal trespass law



State Threatened & Endangered

- Animals protected everywhere in the state
- Plants protected on public lands only, exemption on public lands for agriculture, forestry, and utility activities
- Conservation is required





Special Concern Species

- Suspected problem of abundance or distribution in WI, but not yet proven
- Avoid future endangerment
 - SC/M = fully protected by Migratory Bird Act
 - SC/P = protected wild animal
 - SC/H = take regulated by open/closed seasons
 - SC/N = no laws regulating use, possession, or harvesting
 - SC/FL = federally listed, not listed in WI

Other Protective Laws

- Federal Lacey Act
- Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
- Protected Wild Animals Rule (s. 10.02, Wis. Adm. Code)



Protection from what?

- Protection from 'take', transport, possession, processing, or selling
- Take is the direct mortality of an animal or plant
 - Defined by the State as shooting, pursuing, hunting, catching, or killing any wild animal or cutting, rooting up, severing, injuring, destroying, removing, or carrying away any wild plant.
- Habitat is not protected by state law



R. Eckstein



Why are Species Rare/T/E in
Wisconsin?

Why are species rare in WI?

- Habitat loss



Why are species rare in WI?

- Habitat loss
- Habitat specificity



Why are species rare in WI?

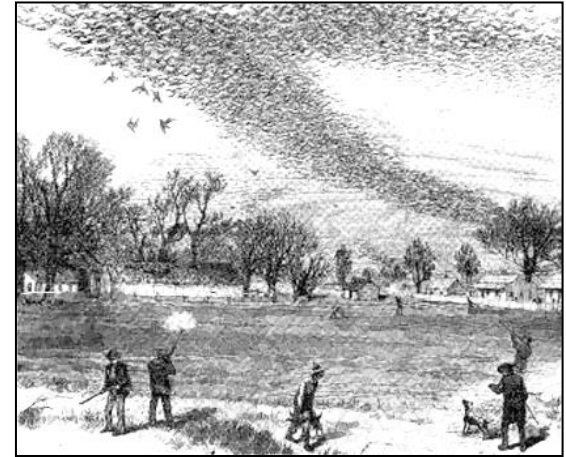
- Habitat loss
- Habitat specificity
- Edge of Range



A.B. Sheldon

Why are species rare in WI?

- Habitat loss
- Habitat specificity
- Edge of Range
- **Persecution/Overexploitation**



Why are species rare in WI?

- Habitat loss
- Habitat specificity
- Edge of Range
- Persecution/Overexploitation
- Competition with other species (native and exotic)
- Predation
- Disease
- Environmental Stressors





Listed species in Northern Wisconsin forests

- Forest Raptors
- Forest Songbirds
- Bird Rookeries
- Turtles
- Cave Bats

Forest Raptors



Red-Shouldered Hawk (THR)

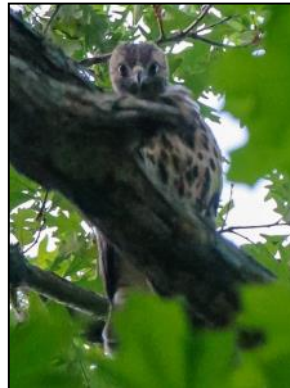


Northern Goshawk (SC)



Forest Raptor Avoidance

- Seasonal restrictions (i.e., avoid harvest/disturbance during the breeding season)
- Often based around a nest location, if known



Listed Forest Songbirds

- Nests very difficult to locate
- Seasonal restrictions based on habitat/forest type



Bird Rookeries



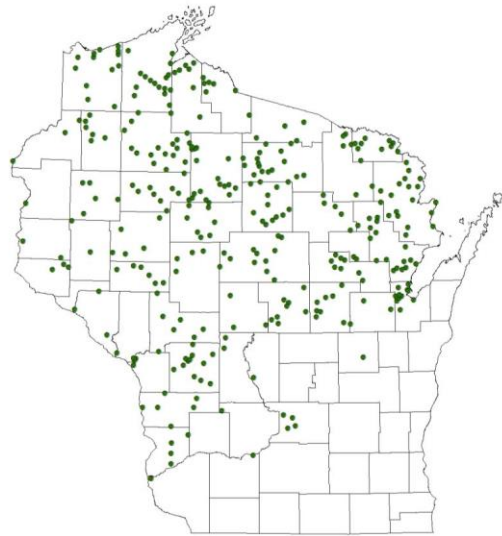
Listed Turtles



Blanding's Turtle (SC/P)



Wood Turtle (THR)



Turtle Avoidance

- Avoid suitable nesting habitat near streams and wetlands during the nest incubation period (May-Sep/Oct)



Cave Bats



Big brown



Little brown



Northern long-eared



Dark-colored



Important Bat Facts

- Cave bat decline due to white-nose syndrome
- Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota DNR's have developed a joint Habitat Conservation Plan
- Regulatory 'coverage' is provided for
 - forest management,
 - prescribed burning, and
 - road and trail construction and maintenance for forest management and recreation



Alan Hicks



Bat Avoidance Measures

- Implement sustainable forestry (Chapter 24 of Silviculture Guidelines)
- No timber harvest (year round)
 - Within 150 feet of known occupied maternity roost tree
 - Within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of known hibernaculum entrance
 - No loud noises within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of known hibernaculum entrance
- Timber harvest activities tracked and reported





Questions?