



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.

# Federally Endangered and Threatened Species in Illinois

## MAMMALS

- Gray bat (E)
- Indiana bat (E)

## BIRDS

- Least tern (Interior population) (E)
- Piping Plover (E) - critical habitat designated
- Whooping crane - nonessential experimental population

## FISHES

- Pallid sturgeon (E)

## CLAMS (Freshwater mussels, Unionids)

- Clubshell (E)
- Fanshell (E)
- Fat pocketbook (E)
- Higgins' eye pearl mussel (E)
- Orange-foot pimpleback pearl mussel (E)
- Pink mucket pearl mussel (E)
- Sheepnose (C)
- Spectaclecase (C)

## SNAILS

- Iowa Pleistocene snail (E)

## INSECTS

- Hine's emerald dragonfly (E)
- Karner blue butterfly (E)

## CRUSTACEANS

- Illinois cave amphipod (E)

## PLANTS

- Decurrent false aster (T)
- Eastern prairie fringed orchid (T)
- Lakeside daisy (T)
- Leafy prairie-clover (E)
- Mead's milkweed (T)
- Pitcher's thistle (T)
- Prairie bush-clover (T)
- Price's potato-bean (T)
- Small whorled pogonia (T)

E = Endangered  
T = Threatened  
C = Candidate





## 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

In Illinois:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Rural Route 3, Box 328  
Marion, Illinois 62959  
618/997-5491

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

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1000 Hart Road, Suite 180  
Barrington, Illinois 60010  
708/381-2253

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

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

Department of Conservation  
Lincoln Tower Plaza  
524 South Second Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1787  
217/782-6302

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3



September 2007