



**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAM**

An Introduction to the Endangered Species Act of 1973

Module 3 of 11 – Section 3 Definitions

Time: 1:05

Slide 1 (Music plays)

Slide 2

The terms endangered and threatened are used throughout the Endangered Species Act. Section 3, Definitions, provides their meaning.

“The term ‘endangered species’ means any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.”

“The term ‘threatened species’ means any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.”

Though not as extreme as endangered status, threatened species face conservation challenges which, if left unaddressed, would most likely lead to endangered status.

Slide 3

Section 3 also defines the terms “conserve,” “conserving,” and “conservation.”

“The terms ‘conserve’, ‘conserving’, and ‘conservation’ mean to use and the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring any endangered species or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided pursuant to this Act are no longer necessary.”

End Segment