Species in Greatest Conservation Need

Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*)

Farmland & Prairie Campaign

Bigeye Chub (*Hybopsis amblops*)

Streams Campaign

Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis)*

Forest & Woodland Campaign

Regal Fritillary (*Speyeria idalia*)

Farmland & Prairie Campaign

Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina*)

Forest & Woodland Campaign

Black-crowned Night-heron (*Nycticorax nycti-*

Green Cities Campaign

Four-toed Salamander (*Hemidactylium scuta-*

Forest & Woodland Campaign

Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)

Farmland & Prairie Campaign

Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*)

Lake Michigan & Coastal Area Campaign

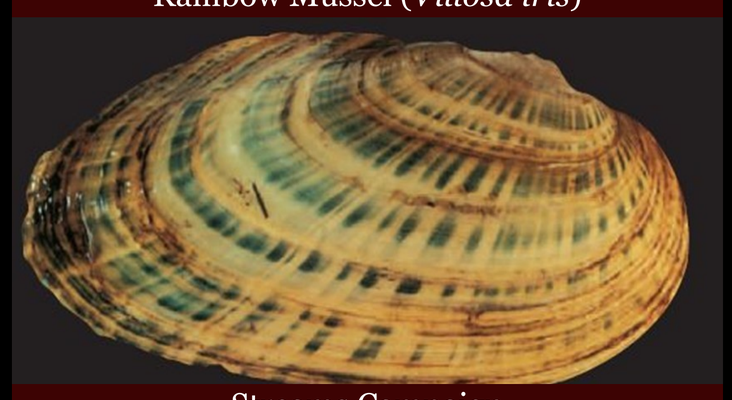
Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*)

Wetlands Campaign

Mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*)

Streams Campaign

Rainbow Mussel (*Villosa iris*)

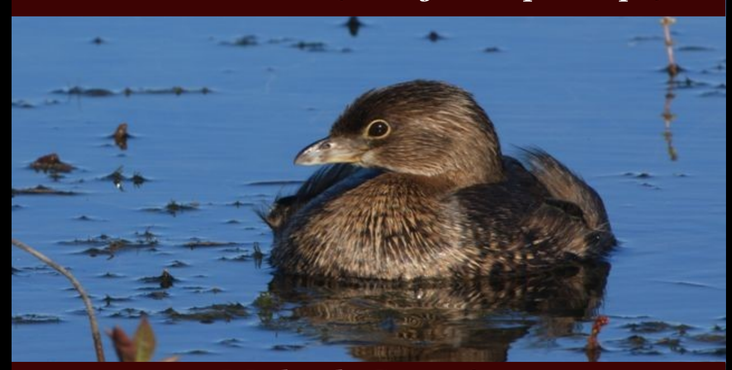


Streams Campaign

Pistolgrip Mussel (*Tritogonia verrucosa*)

Streams Campaign

Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)



Wetlands Campaign

Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*)

Forest & Woodland Campaign

Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) are wildlife species that have been identified as being vulnerable to specific threats, having rare or declining habitat, or possessing certain characteristics that make them vulnerable.

The core of the Wildlife Action Plan revolves around conservation actions that address threats and stressors to these species and their habitats. There are a total of 421 Species in Greatest Conservation Need in Illinois.

In addition to SGCN, the Wildlife Action Plan also focuses on a group of Watch List species, which includes 308 species, whose conservation status could not be determined due to a lack of information. The Watch List was developed to prioritize research needs for these species in order to fill knowledge gaps.

The Illinois SGCN include species of all taxa, with invertebrates comprising the majority of the list (172 non-mussels; 37 mussels), followed by birds (82), fish (80), herptiles (38), and mammals (12).

To support conservation actions directed at SGCN and their habitats, each species was assigned a lead Campaign. With 147 SGCN, the Streams Campaign contains the most species of any Campaign. It is followed by the Forest & Woodland (84), Farmland & Prairie (83), Wetlands (74), Lake Michigan & Coastal Area (30), and Green Cities (3) Campaigns.

For more information on SGCN, please visit https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/IWAP/Pages/default.aspx.

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