

**Wisconsin’s Wildlife Action Plan (2005-2015)
Priority Conservation Actions & Conservation Opportunity Areas**

CENTRAL LAKE MICHIGAN COASTAL ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE

HIGH PRIORITY SGCN AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES 1

PRIORITY CONSERVATION ACTIONS 1

CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREAS..... 2

 Great Lakes and their Shorelines – Global Significance 2

 Niagara Escarpment – Global Significance 2

 Medium-sized Rivers and Streams – Upper Midwest/Regional Significance..... 3

 High Quality Wetlands – State Significance 3

HIGH PRIORITY SGCN AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES

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|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| ➤ Caspian Tern | ➤ Banded Killifish | ➤ Floodplain Forest |
| ➤ Common Tern | ➤ Lake Sturgeon | ➤ Great Lakes Beach |
| ➤ Forster’s Tern | ➤ Shoal Chub | ➤ Great Lakes Dune |
| ➤ Great Egret | | ➤ Great Lakes Ridge and Swale |
| ➤ Horned Grebe | ➤ Phyllira Tiger Moth | ➤ Moist Cliff |
| ➤ Peregrine Falcon | ➤ Land Snails | ➤ Lake Michigan |
| | | ➤ Northern Hardwood Swamp |
| ➤ Mudpuppy | ➤ Alvar | ➤ Warmwater Rivers |

PRIORITY CONSERVATION ACTIONS

- Protect and restore harbor and river mouth shoreline and wetland habitats.
- Improve regulations and increase education to prevent the introduction of additional exotic species and slow the spread of existing invasive species.
- Manage Great Lakes beach and dune habitat as part of a vegetation mosaic that includes forested ridge and swale, interdunal wetland, shrub-carr, and swamp conifer forest with older age classes. Promote concentrated public access points, limited recreational activities in areas where SGCN are present (particularly during breeding seasons), protecting site hydrology, and early detection and management of invasive exotic species.
- Implement new cost-sharing programs and/or continue voluntary programs to monitor for and aggressively eliminate invasive species, especially in Great Lakes beach, dune, and ridge and swale communities.
- In the Niagara Escarpment Conservation Opportunity Area, encourage public and private landowners to maintain natural forest cover, protect areas where surface waters drain into natural fissures, minimize pesticide infiltration, and maintain partially open sinkholes that serve as bat hibernacula.
- Preserve habitat on the Niagara Escarpment and protect ecologically significant areas currently occupied by SGCN from conversion to other land uses.
- Protect Wisconsin’s only large alvar (Red Banks) by minimizing impacts from quarrying, road construction, and housing development through acquisition of fee title, development rights, transfer of development rights, and zoning.
- Manage alvars by thinning densely vegetated areas and removing aggressive exotic shrubs.
- Protect and restore habitat in the lower Wolf River to accommodate the habitat preferences of Shoal Chub.
- Maintain and connect large blocks of older floodplain forest to provide habitat for the large number of SGCN that use this habitat while addressing the regeneration difficulties associated with dense stands of reed canary grass.
- Initiate wetland renovation projects for Forster’s Tern and use artificial nest platforms to maintain existing Forster’s Tern populations.
- Maintain long-term wetland productivity on public properties by mimicking natural hydrologic regimes within an adaptive management framework.

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- Protect large insular hardwood swamps from hydrological changes and fragmentation due to road and housing development.
- Develop management and response plans for hardwood swamps to prepare for the probable arrival of emerald ash borer.

CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITY AREAS

Great Lakes and their Shorelines – Global Significance

Lake Michigan including embayments and Migratory/Winter Bird Habitat.

COA(s): Lake Michigan (A.02)

SGCN – Horned Grebe, Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Lake Sturgeon, Banded Killifish, Mudpuppy, Bald Eagle, Greater Redhorse

Public Land – The lake is public water

Legacy Places – None

Important Bird Areas – Ozaukee Bight Lakeshore Migration Corridor, Harrington Beach Lakeshore Migration Corridor, and Cleveland Lakeshore Migration Corridor.

Lake Michigan Shore Features – including Great Lakes Beach, Great Lakes Dune, Interdunal Wetland, Great Lakes Ridge and Swale, and Emergent Marsh.

COA(s): Green Bay West Shores (8.03); Point Beach and Woodland Dunes (8.05); Kohler-Andrae (8.06)

SGCN – Blanding's Turtle, Four-toed Salamander, Mink Frog, Pickerel Frog, Wood Turtle, American Bittern, American Golden Plover, American Woodcock, Bald Eagle, Black-billed Cuckoo, Blue-winged Teal, Bobolink, Brown Thrasher, Common Tern, Dunlin, Great Egret, Forster's Tern, Hudsonian Godwit, Least Flycatcher, Marbled Godwit, Northern Harrier, Rusty Blackbird, Short-billed Dowitcher, Solitary Sandpiper, Snowy Egret, Veery, Whimbrel, Willow Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Yellow Rail, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Northern Flying Squirrel, Northern Long-eared Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Water Shrew, Woodland Jumping Mouse, Two-spotted Skipper, and Phyllira Tiger Moth.

Public Land – Point Beach State Forest, Kohler-Andrae State Park, Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area, Barkhausen County Resource Area, Woodland Dunes Nature Preserve and State Natural Area.

Legacy Places – Fisher Creek, Kohler-Andrae Dunes, Point Beach and Dunes, West Shore Green Bay Wetlands.

Important Bird Areas – Woodland Dunes Nature Preserve, Point Beach State Forest, and Green Bay West Shore Wetlands.

Niagara Escarpment – Global Significance

Dry Cliff, Moist Cliff, Alvar and Bedrock Glade communities.

COA(s): Greenleaf Escarpment (8.09); Red Banks Escarpment (8.10); Red Banks Alvar (8.02)

SGCN – Sculptured Glyph, Cherrystone Drop, White-tip Dagger, Black Striate, Midwest Pleistocene Vertigo, Iowa Pleistocene Vertigo, Mystery Vertigo, Boreal Top.

Public Land – Red Banks Alvar State Natural Area, High Cliff State Park, Stockbridge Ledge State Natural Area, Brown County Parks, Calumet County Parks, Baird Creek Parkway, Heritage Hill State Park, Scattered Wildlife Areas.

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Legacy Places – Niagara Escarpment.

Medium-sized Rivers and Streams – Upper Midwest/Regional Significance

Lower Wolf, Embarrass, and Shioc Rivers, including Floodplain Forest, Northern Sedge Meadow, Emergent Marsh, and Warmwater Rivers.

COA(s): Lower Wolf, Embarrass, and Shioc Rivers (A.06); Lower Wolf River Corridor (8.01)

SGCN – Greater Redhorse, Lake Chubsucker, Lake Sturgeon, River Redhorse, Shoal Chub, Western Sand Darter, Four-toed Salamander, Wood Turtle, American Black Duck, Black-billed Cuckoo, Blue-winged Teal, Great Egret, Least Flycatcher, Prothonotary Warbler, Red-shouldered Hawk, Rusty Blackbird, Solitary Sandpiper, Veery, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Buckhorn, Elktoe, Fawnsfoot, Mapleleaf, Round Pigtoe, Salamander Mussel, Slippershell Mussel, Snuffbox, Clio Stripetail, Easter Red Damsel, Elegant Spreadwing, Elusive Clubtail, Gloyd's Bluet, Lancet Clubtail, Plains Clubtail, Pygmy Snaketail, Stygian Shadowfly, Armored Mayflies, Common Burrower Mayfly, Common Netspinner Caddisfly, Dubiraphia Riffle Beetle, Flat-headed Mayfly, Long-horned Casemaker Caddisfly, Predaceous Diving Beetles, Primitive Minnow Mayfly, Small Minnow Mayfly, Velvet Waterbugs, Water Measurers, Water Scavenging Beetles, Water Scorpions, and White River Crayfish.

Public Land – Deer Creek Wildlife Area, Mack Wildlife Area, Maine Wildlife Area, Navarino Wildlife Area, Outagamie Wildlife Area, Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area, Hortonville Bog State Natural Area, Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Natural Resources Area, Wolf River Bottoms State Natural Area.

Legacy Places – Lower Wolf River.

Important Bird Areas – Lower Wolf River Bottoms

High Quality Wetlands – State Significance

Northern Hardwood Swamp, Floodplain Forest, Northern Sedge Meadow, Shrub Carr, and Emergent Marsh

COA(s): Hardwood Swamps (8.04); Kellner Lake (8.07); Holland Red Maple Swamp (8.08)

SGCN – Four-toed Salamander, American Woodcock, Least Flycatcher, and Veery.

Public Land – Buzz Besadny Fish and Wildlife Area, Holland Wildlife Area.

Legacy Places – Insular Black Ash Swamps