

DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO MINNESOTA'S LIST OF
ENDANGERED, THREATENED,
AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES

(MAMMALS)

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Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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This document contains the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' ("DNR") draft amendments to Minnesota's List of Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species ("List"). The DNR maintains the List under the authority of Minnesota's Endangered and Threatened Species Statute (Minnesota Statutes, Section 84.0895; "MESA"). The List is codified as Minnesota Rules, Chapter 6134. Amendments to the List will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Administrative Procedures Act (Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14).

The DNR wishes to provide you with an opportunity to comment on these draft amendments early in the administrative rulemaking process. Later in administrative rulemaking, you will have additional opportunities to review and comment on amendments to the List.

Copies of this document and related materials are available at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ets/rulesrevision.html>, or by contacting the DNR (above).

NUMERICAL SUMMARY OF DRAFT AMENDMENTS

| | CURRENT LIST | | | | TOTAL CHANGES | DRAFT AMENDMENTS | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|--|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | CHANGES IN PROTECTED (E/T) STATUS | | | CHANGES IN LISTED (E/T/SC) STATUS | | |
| | E | T | SC | TOTAL | | PROTECTION REMOVED (E/T to SC/N) | PROTECTIO N ADDED (SC/N to E/T) | PROTECTION UNAFFECTED | DELISTED | LISTED | NO EFFECT IN LISTED STATUS |
| ALL SPECIES | 96 | 101 | 242 | 439 | 273 | 16 | 93 | 164 | 25 | 170 | 78 |
| VASCULAR PLANTS | 57 | 66 | 133 | 256 | 130 | 9 | 64 | 57 | 9 | 65 | 56 |
| LICHENS | 8 | 3 | 6 | 17 | 24 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 1 | 22 | 1 |
| MOSSES AND LIVERWORTS | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 27 | 0 | 3 | 24 | 0 | 26 | 1 |
| FUNGI | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| MAMMALS | 0 | 1 | 14 | 15 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| BIRDS | 7 | 6 | 15 | 28 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 3 |
| REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS | 2 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FISH | 0 | 1 | 20 | 21 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| MUSSELS | 8 | 12 | 5 | 25 | 12 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| SNAILS | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| JUMPING SPIDERS | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| LEAFHOPPERS | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| DRAGONFLIES | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS | 5 | 3 | 8 | 16 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| CADDISFLIES | 1 | 0 | 12 | 13 | 23 | 0 | 15 | 8 | 4 | 16 | 3 |
| TIGER BEETLES | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

EXPLANATION OF FORMAT

Scientific Name: All scientific names used in this document reflect current scientific knowledge regarding the relationships between species. Where the scientific name of a listed species has changed since the last revision of the List, a parenthetical notation in the form of “(Δ to *Xxx xxx*)” indicates that a change in the scientific name used in Minnesota Rules, Chapter 6134 accompanies its draft change in status. Page 34 lists cases in which a species’ scientific name will be changed without a change in its status. Page 35 identifies the references that provide the source of scientific names used in the List.

Common Name: Although common names are not standardized in general use, they are provided in this document for convenience. However, the DNR intends to remove common names from Minnesota Rules, Chapter 6134. Common names may continue to appear in documents designed for use by the general public.

Current Status/Draft Status: The following abbreviations are used in the Current Status and the Draft Status columns. For legal definitions, see MESA.

- E** Endangered (threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within Minnesota; protected under MESA; location records maintained by DNR)
- T** Threatened (likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range within Minnesota; protected under MESA; location records maintained by DNR)
- SC** Special Concern (extremely uncommon in Minnesota, or with unique or highly specific habitat requirements and deserving careful monitoring of its status, or on the periphery of its range, or once threatened or endangered but now have increasing or protected, stable populations; *not* protected under MESA; location records maintained by DNR)
- N** No Legal Status (location records maintained by DNR, in most cases)
- N (X)** No Legal Status, and probably extirpated from Minnesota (location records maintained by DNR, in most cases)
- No Legal Status (location records *not* yet maintained by DNR)

Explanation: The explanation column contains up to three lines of information supporting each draft change in status. The explanation for each species will be expanded upon in a Statement of Need and Reasonableness that will be available later in the administrative rulemaking process.

The first two lines of each species’ explanation may include a description of the species’ distribution in the state, its habitat, and the completeness of the survey effort for the species. For any species about which information is maintained by the Minnesota DNR’s Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), these two lines usually end with “(# EOs),” the number of Element Occurrences (i.e., areas in which a local population of the species has been documented to occur in the past or at present) for which the NHIS has records. Note that some EOs may no longer support the species. If the DNR does not currently maintain records on the species, the explanation will, in most cases, either describe the known location/s or include “# sites represented by collections.” This is an estimate of the number of local populations for which museums or other biological collections are known to have specimens in their holdings.

The final line of each explanation (“Adjacent SRank/Status:”) summarizes the conservation status of the species in the states and provinces that are adjacent to Minnesota (WI = Wisconsin; IA = Iowa; SD = South Dakota; ND = North Dakota; MB = Manitoba; ON = Ontario). A dash (“-”) indicates that the species is not known to occur in that state or province. “US” indicates that the species has the indicated status under the federal Endangered Species Act.

“**SRank**” (Subnational Status Rank) is assigned by each state or province, using standardized assessment methodology developed by NatureServe, the international network of Natural Heritage Programs. SRank is expressed with the following numerical rankings:

- S1 = critically imperiled
- S2 = imperiled
- S3 = vulnerable to extirpation or extinction
- S4 = apparently secure
- S5 = demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure

Combined codes (e.g., “S3S4”) indicate that the numerical ranking falls between the two ranks. Additional codes used in this field may include:

- S#? = SRank is inexact
- SNR = present in the state or province, but no SRank is available
- SNA = not applicable because species is not a suitable candidate for conservation action
- SU = unranked due to lack of information or conflicting information
- SH = possibly extirpated (“historical”)

In Minnesota, SRank reflects Current Status. Thus, E = S1, T = S2, and SC = S3.

“**Status**” indicates the legal status (if any) of the species within the state or province, using the same codes as those used in the Current Status and Draft Status fields. Note that SD and ND do not maintain state lists, and no legal status is available for those states. MB and ON rarely assign a provincial status to a species. A “C” after “US:” indicates that the species is a candidate for federal status. A comment at the end of the final line reading “(1996: X to X)” indicates that the species’ status in Minnesota was changed in 1996 (the most recent revision of the List) as noted.

MAMMALS

| <u>Scientific Name</u> | <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Current Status</u> | <u>Draft Status</u> | <u>Explanation</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| <i>Canis lupus</i> | gray wolf | SC | N | Now well-distributed in northern MN's forests, recovery goals exceeded; MN pop'n estimated at 2,301-3,708 in 2003-04; federal delisting likely in the near future. (EOs not maintained) Adj. SRank/Status: WI:S2/T; IA: SX; SD:-; ND: SX; MB:S4; ON:S4; US:T (1996: T to SC) |
| <i>Lynx canadensis</i> | Canada lynx | -- | SC | Since 2000, this federally threatened species has been documented in association with snowshoe hare habitat throughout northeastern MN, and reproduction has been confirmed. Adjacent SRank/Status: WI:-; IA:-; SD:-; ND: SX; MB:S5; ON:S5; US:T |
| <i>Onychomys leucogaster</i> | northern grasshopper mouse | N | SC | Locally common, never abundant in dry grassland habitat of western MN; increasing pressure from gravel mining; very few new locations found despite considerable survey effort. (36 EOs) Adjacent SRank/Status: WI:-; IA:S3; SD:S5; ND: SNR; MB:S3; ON:- |
| <i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i> | western harvest mouse | N | SC | Restricted to old field habitats in southern MN, which are being converted to conflicting uses; absent from many old locations; few new sites despite extensive on-going surveys. (37 EOs) Adjacent SRank/Status: WI:S2; IA:S4; SD:S5; ND: SNR; MB:-; ON:- |
| <i>Spermophilus richardsonii</i> | Richardson's ground squirrel | N | SC | Found colonially in old fields, where vulnerable to local extirpation; several colonies in southwestern MN recently discovered, but land use changes have eliminated others. (5 EOs) Adjacent SRank/Status: WI:-; IA:S3; SD:S5; ND: SNR; MB:S5; ON:- |
| <i>Taxidea taxus</i> | American badger | -- | SC | Never present in large numbers, a solitary species known to be scattered widely across MN; state's population is believed to be declining due to fragmentation and loss of grassland habitat. Adjacent SRank/Status: WI:S4; IA:S4; SD:S5; ND: SNR; MB:S4; ON:S2 |
| <i>Thomomys talpoides</i> | northern pocket gopher | SC | T | Known from dry grasslands at western edge of Kittson Co., but last found in 1991; 2003 survey found no evidence of presence; continuing threat of habitat loss and persecution. (13 EOs) Adjacent SRank/Status: WI:-; IA:-; SD:S5; ND: SNR; MB:S5; ON:- |

DRAFT CHANGES IN SCIENTIFIC NAME **NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A CHANGE IN STATUS**

| <u>Taxonomic Group</u> | <u>Old Scientific Name</u> | <u>New Scientific Name</u> | <u>Status</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Vascular Plants | <i>Eleocharis olivacea</i> | <i>Eleocharis flavescens</i> var. <i>olivacea</i> | T |
| | <i>Psoralidium tenuiflora</i> | <i>Psoralidium tenuiflorum</i> | E |
| | <i>Ruppia maritima</i> | <i>Ruppia cirrhosa</i> | SC |
| Fungi | <i>Fuscoboletinus weaverae</i> | <i>Suillus weaverae</i> | E |
| Mammals | <i>Cervus elaphus</i> | <i>Cervus canadensis</i> | SC |
| | <i>Phenacomys intermedius</i> | <i>Phenacomys ungava</i> | SC |
| Reptiles and Amphibians | <i>Clemmys insculpta</i> | <i>Glyptemys insculpta</i> | T |
| | <i>Emydoidea blandingii</i> | <i>Emys blandingii</i> | T |
| Fish | <i>Ammocrypta asprella</i> | <i>Crystallaria asprella</i> | SC |
| | <i>Erimystax x-punctata</i> | <i>Erimystax x-punctatus</i> | SC |
| | <i>Notropis amnis</i> | <i>Hybopsis amnis</i> | SC |
| Mussels | <i>Pleurobema coccineum</i> | <i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i> | T |
| Caddisflies | <i>Setodes gutatus</i> | <i>Setodes oligius</i> | SC |
| Butterflies and Moths | <i>Atrytone aragos</i> | <i>Atrytone aragos</i> subsp. <i>iowa</i> | SC |

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