# Student Page: Minnesota Life on the Edge

A species is considered:

**Endangered** if the species is threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

**Threatened** if the species is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Of **special concern** if, although the species is not endangered or threatened, it is extremely uncommon in Minnesota, or has unique or highly specific habitat requirements and deserves careful monitoring of its status. Species on the edge of their range that are not listed as threatened may be included in this category along with those species that were once threatened or endangered but now have increasing or protected, stable populations.

**Instructions**: Choose a plant or animal from the list on the next page. Then answer the questions below. Research the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website to find more information about your plant or animal.

**Species Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Species Latin Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. What is its status? (threatened/endangered/special concern)
2. Where is its range within the state?
3. Which biome(s) does it live in? (coniferous forest/deciduous forest/prairie/tallgrass aspen parkland)
4. What is its preferred habitat? (ex: wetland, forest, etc.)
5. What happens to it in the winter?
6. Describe some of its characteristics.
7. Why is it rare, threatened, or endangered?
8. Are people taking any actions to improve its chances of survival?
9. What are some ways that people can help this species?
10. What other species depend on it for food or shelter?
11. Give at least three reasons why it important that this species survives.

## Minnesota Endangered Species

| ANIMALS**Mammals**Canada lynxGray wolfMooseTri-colored batNorthern bog lemmingLeast weaselEastern spotted skunk**Birds**Piping ploverLoggerhead shrikeHorned grebeBoreal owlPurple martin**Amphibians**Spotted salamanderGreat Plains Toad**Reptiles**Blandings turtlePlains hognose snakeCommon five-lined skink**Insects**Karner blue butterflyPoweshiek skipperlingRusty-patched bumblebeeQuebec emerald**Mussels**Purple cat's paw pearlymusselWinged mapleleaf**Fish**Lake sturgeonPaddlefish | **grasses****moose****cliff swallow bird****Frog**dragonfly | PLANTSMinnesota dwarf trout lilyLeedy’s roserootPrairie bush cloverWestern prairie fringed orchidPrairie shooting starEnglish SundewRattlesnake masterHudson Bay eyebrightSmall white water-lilyPlains prickly pearSnow trilliumBlanket flowerWhite wild indigoOTHERConcentric ring lichenPixie foam lichenLuminous Moss |
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