

Federally Listed Endangered, Threatened and Candidate Species for Minnesota


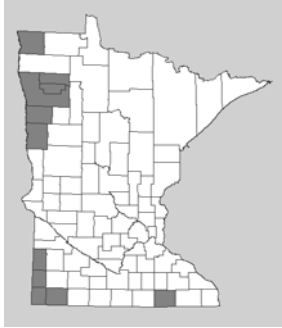

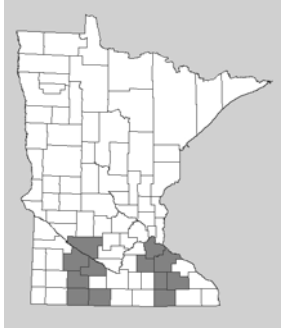
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 612-725-3548, www.fws.gov/midwest/twincities



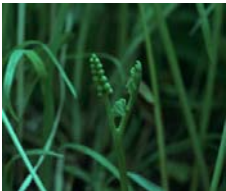





Congress passed the federal **Endangered Species Act** in 1973 to stop further extinctions of plants and animals. The act defines **endangered species** as a plant or animal in danger of extinction, and a **threatened species** as a plant or animal likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future. It is illegal under the Endangered Species Act to kill or harm an endangered or threaten species. It is also illegal to destroy or modify critical habitats they depend on.


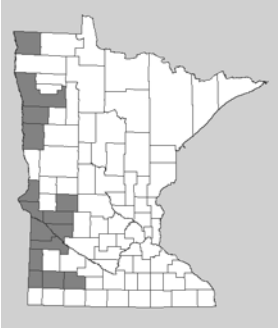

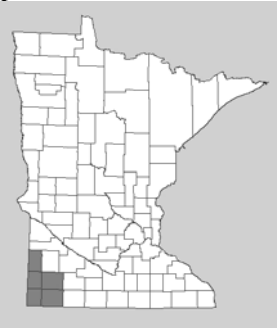




The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) maintains the federal lists of endangered and threatened species. Six federally listed endangered species and four federally listed threatened species live in Minnesota. Also listed are **candidate species**, species that are in process of being designated as threatened or endangered. There are currently five federally listed candidate species in Minnesota.





The following list is current as of June 2008. The list is divided into two parts; those species considered to be most susceptible to pesticide damage, and those species considered to be less susceptible to pesticide damage.

Most susceptible to pesticide damage: Federally listed endangered, threatened, and candidate species considered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to be most susceptible to pesticide damage (Photos US Fish and Wildlife Service):



Species	Status	Habitat and Range
<p>Western prairie fringed orchid (<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>)</p>  <p>Flower stalks up to 47 inches tall with up to 40 white flowers.</p>	<p><u>Threatened</u> – due to loss of prairie habitat and pesticide damage to hawkmoths, which the plant depends on for pollination.</p>	<p>Wet prairies and sedge meadows.</p> 
<p>Prairie bush clover (<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>)</p>  <p>A 9 to 18 inch tall prairie plant with pink to cream colored flowers.</p>	<p><u>Threatened</u> – due to loss of tall grass prairie habitat. Found in fewer than 25 counties in the Upper Midwest.</p>	<p>Native prairie on well-drained soils.</p> 


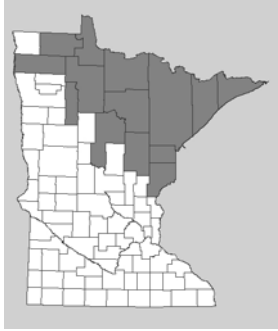

Species	Status	Habitat and Range
<p>Minnesota dwarf trout lily (<i>Erythroniu propullans</i>)</p>  <p>Pale pink flowers the size of a dime appear briefly during April and May.</p>	<p><u>Endangered</u> – due to invasive species, habitat loss to housing developments, logging, and agriculture. Only exists in Minnesota.</p>	<p>Forested north facing slopes and floodplains.</p> 
<p>Slender moonwort (<i>Botrychium lineare</i>)</p>  <p>Small perennial fern with a grape cluster-like structure.</p>	<p><u>Candidate</u> – due to habitat being lost and plants being destroyed by vehicle and foot traffic, roadside pesticide use, and livestock grazing.</p>	<p>Disturbed areas, in MN found in mine tailings.</p> 
<p>Leedy's roseroot (<i>Sedum integrifolium</i> ssp. <i>leedyi</i>)</p>  <p>Cliff side plant with waxy leaves and red to orange flowers.</p>	<p><u>Threatened</u> – due to dependence on cool cliff side habitat that only occurs in six locations in two states.</p>	<p>Cool, wet groundwater-fed limestone cliffs.</p> 
<p>Karner blue butterfly (<i>Lycaeides melissa samuelis</i>)</p>  <p>Small butterfly with a 1 inch wingspan. Feeds on the wild lupine and plant nectar.</p>	<p><u>Endangered</u> – due loss of habitat supporting wild lupine, the only known food of the butterfly's larvae. Its numbers are also reduced by butterfly collectors.</p>	<p>Pine barrens and oak savannas on sandy soils.</p> 

Species	Status	Habitat and Range
<p>Dakota skipper (<i>Hesperia dacotae</i>)</p>  <p>Thick body butterfly with a 1 inch wingspan. Adults feed on wild flowers.</p>	<p><u>Candidate</u> – due to loss of high quality native prairie habitat.</p>	<p>Undisturbed prairie habitat.</p> 
<p>Topeka shiner (<i>Notropis topeka</i>)</p>  <p>A small minnow, normally less than 3 inches long.</p>	<p><u>Endangered</u> – due to habitat loss from in-stream projects and sedimentation.</p>	<p>Small to mid-size prairie streams.</p> 
<p>Higgins eye pearlymussel (<i>Lampsilis higginsii</i>)</p>  <p>Freshwater mussel of larger rivers where it grows to 4 inches in size.</p>	<p><u>Endangered</u> – due to damming of rivers, siltation and impacts of invasive zebra mussels.</p>	<p>Mississippi and St. Croix Rivers.</p> 
<p>Winged mapleleaf mussel (<i>Quadrula fragosa</i>)</p>  <p>Freshwater mussel of larger rivers where it grows to 4 inches in size.</p>	<p><u>Endangered</u> – due to damming of rivers, siltation and potential impacts of invasive zebra mussels.</p>	<p>St. Croix River</p> 

Species	Status	Habitat and Range
<p>Sheepnose mussel (<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>)</p>  <p>Freshwater mussel of larger rivers where it grows to 5 inches in size.</p>	<p><u>Candidate</u> – due to damming of rivers, siltation and potential impacts of invasive zebra mussels</p>	<p>St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers</p> 
<p>Spectaclecase mussel (<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>)</p>  <p>Freshwater mussel of larger rivers where it grows to 10 inches in size.</p>	<p><u>Candidate</u> – due to damming of rivers, siltation, and potential impacts of invasive zebra mussels.</p>	<p>St. Croix and Mississippi River</p> 

Less susceptible to pesticide damage: Federally listed endangered, threatened, and candidate species considered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to be less susceptible to pesticide damage. (Photos US Fish and Wildlife Service):

Species	Status	Habitat and Range
<p>Piping plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)</p>  <p>Shorebird with 8 inch wingspan that nest in northern states and Canada and winters along the southern Atlantic coast.</p>	<p><u>Endangered</u> – due to habitat loss, flooding of nesting sites, and disturbance of nesting by human activities.</p>	<p>Sandy beaches and islands.</p> 

Species	Status	Habitat and Range
<p>Canada lynx (<i>Lynx canadensis</i>)</p>  <p>Cat weighting 18 to 23 pounds feeding predominately on snowshoe hare.</p>	<p><u>Threatened</u> - due to loss of habitat through forest management practices.</p>	<p>Northern forested areas.</p> 
<p>Eastern massasauga (<i>Sistrurus catenatus catenatus</i>)</p>  <p>Small rattlesnakes growing to 2 feet long feeding on small rodents and frogs.</p>	<p><u>Candidate</u> – due to habitat loss and tendency of people to kill rattlesnakes when found.</p>	<p>Floodplain wetlands and nearby upland areas.</p> 