



## TAKE ACTION

### Wildlife Action Plans/Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies

In order to receive federal funds through the **State Wildlife Grants** program, Congress charged each state and territory with developing a comprehensive wildlife conservation strategy. Also known as **wildlife action plans**, these proactive plans will help conserve wildlife and vital natural areas before they become too rare and costly to protect. As our communities grow, the wildlife action plans will give us the ability to fulfill our responsibility to conserve wildlife and the lands and waters where they live for future generations.



## PRESS RELEASES



## WILDLIFE FUNDING IN CONGRESS



## WILDLIFE FUNDING IN YOUR STATE

**State-by-State** Information on state wildlife strategy development activities, including contact information, links, and brief summaries for each state. [\[more\]](#)



## STATE WILDLIFE STRATEGIES

**Resources for State Wildlife Strategy Development** Tools used in the development of the state wildlife action plans.

### Overview Information

- **Fact Sheet: Wildlife Action Plans** (.pdf, 115 KB)
- **Fact Sheet: Eight Required Elements** (.pdf, 119 KB)
- **State Wildlife Strategies Guiding Principles** (.pdf, 126 KB)
- **State Wildlife Grant Success Stories**

Every state and territory submitted their wildlife action plan to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for review and approval by the October 1st, 2005 deadline. As of December 12th, the following state's wildlife action plans have been officially approved:

- **Alabama**
- **Georgia**
- **Nebraska**
- **Nevada**
- **North Carolina**

- **Hawaii**
- **Illinois**
- **Kansas**
- **Kentucky**
- **Louisiana**
- **Michigan**
- **Minnesota**

- **Oklahoma**
- **Utah**
- **Vermont**
- **Washington**
- **Wisconsin**
- **Wyoming**

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## State Wildlife Conservation Strategies: Eight Required Elements

Congress identified eight required elements to be addressed in each state's wildlife conservation strategy. Congress also directed that the strategies must identify and be focused on the "species in greatest need of conservation," yet address the "full array of wildlife" and wildlife-related issues. The strategies must provide and make use of:

- (1) **Information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife**, including low and declining populations as the State fish and wildlife agency deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the State's wildlife; and,
- (2) **Descriptions of locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types** essential to conservation of species identified in (1); and,
- (3) **Descriptions of problems** which may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, **and priority research and survey efforts** needed to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats; and,
- (4) **Descriptions of conservation actions** proposed to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions; and,
- (5) **Proposed plans for monitoring** species identified in (1) and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of the conservation actions proposed in (4), and for adapting these conservation actions to respond appropriately to new information or changing conditions; and,
- (6) **Descriptions of procedures to review the strategy** at intervals not to exceed ten years; and,
- (7) Plans for **coordinating the development, implementation, review, and revision of the plan with Federal, State, and local agencies and Indian tribes** that manage significant land and water areas within the State or administer programs that significantly affect the conservation of identified species and habitats.
- (8) Congress also affirmed through this legislation that **broad public participation** is an essential element of developing and implementing these plans, the projects that are carried out while these plans are developed, and the Species in Greatest Need of Conservation that Congress has indicated such programs and projects are intended to emphasize.