

Highlights of Biodiversity Loss in Iowa

Extinct, Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened, or Species of Concern in Iowa

- E** Endangered means it is in danger of extirpation soon
- T** Threatened means it is likely to become endangered in the near future
- S** Species of Concern means populations are in decline

Recent Extinctions

blue pike	<i>Sander vitreus glaucus</i>	extinct in 1976
Carolina parakeet	<i>Conuropsis carolinensis</i>	extinct in 1920
passenger pigeon	<i>Etopistes migratorius</i>	extinct in 1914
eastern elk	<i>Cervus canadensis</i>	extinct in 1880

Recently Extirpated (no longer present in the wild in Iowa but not extinct)

buffalo	<i>Bison bison</i>	present in captivity
elk	<i>Cervus canadensis</i>	present in captivity
pronghorn	<i>Antilocapra americana</i>	moved west
prairie chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	2 counties SW Iowa, low numbers
black tailed prairie dog	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	moved west
pygmy shrew	<i>Sorex hoyi</i>	moved north
American marten	<i>Martes americana</i>	moved north
porcupine	<i>Erethizon doroatum</i>	moved north
gray wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	moved north
mountain lion	<i>Felis concolor</i>	moved north

Forest Habitat, Endangered, Threatened or Species of Concern

Plants

	Virginia spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia virginiana</i>	extirpated
	woodland stonecrop	<i>Sedum ternatum</i>	extirpated
E	purple cliff brake	<i>Pellaea atropurpurea</i>	
T	pagoda plant	<i>Blephilia ciliata</i>	
T	forked aster	<i>Eurybia furcatus</i>	syn. <i>Aster furcatus</i>
T	showy ladyslipper	<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>	
S	blue-eyed Mary	<i>Collinsia verna</i>	
S	ground cedar	<i>Diphasiastrum digitatum</i>	syn. <i>Lycopodium digitatum</i>
S	white ladyslipper	<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>	
S	wood orchid	<i>Platanthera clayellata</i>	

Birds

E	barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	
E	short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	
T	long-eared owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	
	eastern screech owl	<i>Megascops asio</i>	declining, Iowa BBA
	scarlet tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	declining, Iowa BBA

woodthrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	declining, Iowa BBA
whip-poor-will	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	declining, Iowa BBA

Mammals

E	Indiana bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	On Federal Endangered list
E	northern long-eared bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	On Federal Endangered list
E	spotted skunk	<i>Spilogale putorius</i>	
S	southern flying squirrel	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>	

Butterflies & Moths

S	pipevine swallowtail	<i>Battus philenor</i>
S	columbine duskywing	<i>Erynnis lucilius</i>
S	hickory hairstreak	<i>Satyrium caryaevorum</i>

Reptiles

E	wood turtle	<i>Clemmys insculpta</i>
E	copperhead snake	<i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>

Prairie Habitat, Endangered, Threatened, Species of Concern

Plants

E	Mead's milkweed	<i>Asclepias meadii</i>	On Federal Endangered list
E	pale green orchid	<i>Platanthera flava</i>	
E	e. prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	On Federal Endangered list
E	Yellow-lipped lady tresses	<i>Spiranthes lucida</i>	
T	prairie bush clover	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>	On Federal Endangered list
T	w. prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	On Federal Endangered list
T	oval lady's tresses	<i>Spiranthes ovalis</i>	
T	spring lady's tresses	<i>Spiranthes vernalis</i>	
T	blue ash	<i>Fraxinus quadrangulata</i>	Iowa 2022 Forest Health Report
	white ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	Iowa 2022 Forest Health Report
	green ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Iowa 2022 Forest Health Report
S	green fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera lacera</i>	
S	plains lady's tresses	<i>Spiranthes magnicamporum</i>	

Birds

E	red-shouldered hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	
E	northern harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	
T	Henslow sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	
S	peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	
	northern bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	declining, Iowa BBA
	eastern bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	declining, Iowa BBA

Mammals

E	red-backed vole	<i>Clethrionomys gapperi</i>
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E	plains pocket mouse	<i>Perognathus flavescens</i>
T	least shrew	<i>Cryptotis parva</i>

Bees

E	rusty patch bumble bee	<i>Bombus affinis</i>	On Federal Endangered list
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Butterflies & Moths

E	Dakota skipper	<i>Hesperia dacotae</i>
E	ringlet	<i>Coenonympha tullia</i>
T	powersheik skipperling	<i>Oarisma poewsheik</i>
T	mulberry wing	<i>Poanes massasoit</i>
T	silvery blue	<i>Glaucopsyche lygdamus</i>
T	Baltimore	<i>Euphydryas phaeton</i>
T	Byssus skipper	<i>Problema byssus</i>
S	Olympia white marble	<i>Euchloe olumpia</i>
S	regal fritillary	<i>Speyeria idalia</i>
S	zebra swallowtail	<i>Eurytides marcellus</i>
S	dreamy duskywing	<i>Erynnis icelus</i>
S	sleepy duskywing	<i>Erynnis brizo</i>
S	wild indigo duskywing	<i>Erynnis baptisiae</i>
S	Ottoe skipper	<i>Hesperia ottoe</i>
S	Leonardus skipper	<i>Hesperia leonardus</i>
S	pawnee skipper	<i>Hesperia leonardus pawnee</i>
S	beardgrass skipper	<i>Atrytone arogos</i>
S	Zabulon skipper	<i>Poanes zabulon</i>
S	broad-winged skipper	<i>Poanes viator</i>
S	sedge skipper	<i>Euphyes bimacula</i>
S	dusted skipper	<i>Atrytonopsis hianna</i>
S	salt-and-pepper skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes hegon</i>
S	purplish copper	<i>Lycaena helloides</i>
S	Acadian hairstreak	<i>Satyrium acadicum</i>
S	Edward's hairstreak	<i>Satyrium edwardsii</i>
S	striped hairstreak	<i>Satyrium liparops</i>

Reptiles

E	great plains skink	<i>Eumeces obsoletus</i>
E	Massasauga rattlesnake	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>
E	prairie rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridis</i>
E	w. hognose snake	<i>Heterodon nasicus</i>
T	western worm snake	<i>Carphophis amoenus vermis</i>
T	speckled kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getulus</i>
T	slender glass lizard	<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>
S	bullsnake	<i>Pituophis catenifer sayi</i>
S	smooth green snake	<i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>

Rivers & Wetlands

Plants

E	roundleaf sundew	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>
E	water willow	<i>Justicia americana</i>
E	arrow arum	<i>Peltandra virginica</i>
S	fringed sedge	<i>Carex crinita</i>
S	purple spikerush	<i>Eleocharis atropurpurea</i>
	black ash	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>

Iowa 2022 Forest Health Report
tadpoles depend on ash leaves

Birds

E	piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>
E	least tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>
E	king rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>
S	Forster's tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>
S	black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>

On Federal Endangered list

Mammals

T	southern bog lemming	<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>
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Fish

E	pugnose shiner	<i>Notropis texanus</i>
E	pearl dace	<i>Semotilus margarita</i>
E	freckled madtom	<i>Noturus nocturnus</i>
E	bluntnose darter	<i>Etheostoma chlorosomum</i>
E	lake sturgeon	<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>
E	pallid sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>
E	weed shiner	<i>Notropis taynus</i>
E	least darter	<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>
T	chestnut lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon castaneus</i>
T	American brook lamprey	<i>Lampetra appendix</i>
T	grass pickerel	<i>Esox americanus</i>
T	blacknose shiner	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>
T	western sand darter	<i>Ammocrypta clara</i>
T	black redhorse	<i>Moxostoma duquesnei</i>
T	burbot	<i>Lota lota</i>
T	orangethroat darter	<i>Etheostoma spectabile</i>
T	Topeka shiner	<i>Notropis topeka</i>
S	pugnose minnow	<i>Notropis emiliae</i>
S	pirate perch	<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>

On Federal Endangered list

Reptiles

E	yellow mud turtle	<i>Kinosternon flavescens</i>
E	copperbelly water snake	<i>Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta</i>
E	blue-spotted salamander	<i>Amystoma laterale</i>
E	crawfish frog	<i>Rana areolata</i>
T	diamondback water snake	<i>Nerodia rhombifera</i>
T	mudpuppy	<i>Necturus maculosus</i>
T	central newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>
T	musk turtle	<i>Stenotherus odoratus</i>
T	Blanding's turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>
T	ornate box turtle	<i>Terrapene cornata</i>

Fresh Water Mussels

E	spectacle case	<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>	On Federal Endangered list
E	slippershell	<i>Alasmodonta viridis</i>	
E	buckhorn	<i>Tritogonia verrucosa</i>	
E	Ozark pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia ozarkensis</i>	
E	bullhead (sheepnose)	<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>	On Federal Endangered list
E	Ohio river pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i>	
E	slough sandshell	<i>Lampsilis teres teres</i>	
E	yellow sandshell	<i>Lampsilis teres anodontoides</i>	
E	Higgin's-eye pearly mussel	<i>Lampsilis higginsii</i>	
T	cylinder	<i>Anodontoides ferussacianus</i>	
T	strange floater	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	
T	creek heelsplitter	<i>Lasmigona compressa</i>	
T	butterfly mussel	<i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i>	On Federal Endangered list
T	ellipse	<i>Venustaconcha ellipsiformis</i>	

Butterflies & Moths

S	swamp metalmark	<i>Calephelis mutica</i>
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For a complete list of plants, mammals, birds, fish etc., go to:

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Iowas-Wildlife/Threatened-and-Endangered>

<https://iowabba2.org/>

* Declining populations noted in Iowa Breeding Bird Atlas II by Dinsmore and Ehresman.

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Forest-Health/ForestHealthReports>

** Iowa's 2022 Forest Health Highlights, Goerndt, Feeley, Runkle.