



Illinois

ENDANGERED & THREATENED SPECIES

How do species make, or get removed from the Illinois list?

Plants and animals become threatened, endangered, or extinct for a variety of reasons. The Federal and State systems are slightly different. Currently, more than 350 species are listed as endangered in Illinois and more than 125 are listed as threatened.

In Illinois, the Endangered Species Protection Board (ESPB) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Office of Resource Conservation, are responsible for deciding which species will be included on the state's endangered and threatened species list. Through scientific research and population monitoring, the ESPB updates the list every five years. Species whose populations have decreased to dangerously low numbers and are extremely limited in the areas they are found, may be added to the list. Species that have population recovery and are no longer threatened or endangered in Illinois may be removed.

