

ESPB Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species Review and Revision Process

ESPB authority to make changes to the List, definitions of “Endangered” and “Threatened”, and criteria for listing and delisting species.

The Board may list, as endangered or threatened, species of animals or plants which have reproduced in or otherwise significantly used, as in migration or overwintering, the area which is now the State of Illinois, if there is scientific evidence that the species qualify as endangered or threatened as these terms are defined in the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act (520 ILCS 10/7).

“Endangered Species” means any species of plant or animal classified as endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, P.L. 93-205, and amendments thereto, plus such other species which the Board may list as in danger of extinction in the wild in Illinois due to one or more causes including but not limited to, the destruction, diminution or disturbance of habitat, overexploitation, predation, pollution, disease, or other natural or manmade factors affecting its prospects of survival (520 ILCS 10/2).

“Threatened Species” means any species of plant or animal classified as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, P.L. 93-205, and amendments thereto, plus such other species which the Board may list as likely to become endangered in the wild in Illinois within the foreseeable future (520 ILCS 10/2).

ESPB criteria for listing species as endangered or threatened on the Illinois List

- Species designated as Federally Endangered or Threatened.
- Species proposed for Federal Endangered or Threatened status, which occur in Illinois.
- Species which formerly were widespread in Illinois, but have been nearly extirpated from the State due to habitat destruction, collecting, or other pressures resulting from the development of Illinois.
- Species which exhibit very restricted geographic ranges of which Illinois is a part.
- Species which exhibit restricted habitats or low populations in Illinois.
- Species which are significant disjuncts in Illinois, i.e., the Illinois population is far removed from the rest of the species’ range.

ESPB reasons for delisting species from the Illinois List

- A peripheral species that presently occurs only in disturbed/non-native habitats in Illinois.
- A species now considered to be only a vagrant breeding species in Illinois.
- All native populations are now considered to be extirpated in Illinois.
- Illinois records for this species are now believed to be based on misidentified specimens.
- Now known to be more common in Illinois than previously thought.
- Commercial fishing regulations determined by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources provide adequate protection for this species in Illinois.
- The species is now considered extinct.
- A species now considered to be recovered from endangerment or the threat of endangerment in Illinois.



ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SPECIES **PROTECTION BOARD**

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