

The Eight Required Elements of a State Wildlife Action Plan

Through the State Wildlife Grant program legislation, Congress identified eight required elements for each state's Wildlife Action Plan. Specifically, each Plan must identify and provide for:

1. Information on the distribution and abundance of species, including low and declining populations that are indicative of the diversity and health of the state's wildlife.
2. Descriptions of locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types essential to conservation of species identified in (1).
3. Descriptions of problems that may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, and priority research and survey efforts needed to identify factors that may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats.
4. Descriptions of conservation actions proposed to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions.
5. Proposed strategies 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.
6. Descriptions of procedures to review the Wildlife Action Plan at intervals not to exceed 10 years.
7. Strategies for coordinating the development, implementation, review, and revision of the Wildlife Action 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. Provisions to ensure broad public participation in the development, implementation and revision of the Wildlife Action Plan, and associated projects and programs.