

Biennial Commission Review of SD Threatened and Endangered Species List September 2024 Commission Meeting

SDCL 34A-8-4 states: The Game, Fish and Parks Commission shall conduct a review of the state list of endangered and threatened species within the period ending July 3, 1979, and every two years thereafter and may amend the list by appropriate additions or deletions.

In 2018, Wildlife Diversity staff drafted status reviews for all state threatened and endangered (T&E) species to describe the current level of knowledge and identify monitoring and research priorities needed to help develop and meet downlisting and delisting goals. If sufficient information allowed, downlisting and/or delisting criteria were identified. Downlisting a species changes its status from state endangered to threatened. Delisting a species removes it from the state T&E list.

Staff have identified state downlisting and/or delisting goals for 12 species. Five species are also federal listed, and state recovery will be linked to federal recovery goals. Four species lack sufficient information to allow setting downlisting and/or delisting goals.

Staff updated the status reviews in 2020, 2022 and 2024 to reflect completion of projects that provided revised survey or research information. Each status review includes a section that highlights any significant updates since 2020. Some overall highlights are described here:

- GFP continued contracting with peregrine falcon (state threatened) expert Bob Oakleaf of Lander, WY to search for and monitor nesting in western South Dakota, with an emphasis on the Black Hills. This species was downlisted from state endangered to state threatened in 2022 based on Oakleaf's monitoring data. Surveys continued in 2024 to assess the continued recovery of this species in western South Dakota.
- Additional survey results from 2023 were included for Least Tern, Piping Plover, American Dipper, Osprey, and False Map Turtle.
- Regional and statewide aquatic management plans now include commitments to standardize nongame fish sampling across the state, these plans were updated January 2024. These efforts have the potential to provide additional records for the state listed fish species.
- GFP funded a project to study the population structure of Sicklefin Chub (state endangered) and Sturgeon Chub (state threatened) in the Missouri River and its major tributaries to update information on distribution and status of these species from 2020-2022. On September 20, 2023, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a not-warranted 12-month finding after evaluating these species for potential Endangered Species Act listing.
- Lake Chub, a rare species in the Black Hills, was petitioned to be state listed endangered by a member of the public in August 2020. GFP funded a project to update information on the distribution and status of rare fishes in the Black Hills, including Lake Chub and Longnose Sucker, from 2021-2023. GFP has reviewed the status of Lake Chub and plans to continue to monitor Lake Chub as well as conduct trap and transfer efforts to establish additional populations in the Black Hills.

- A Wildlife Diversity Small Grant project surveyed sites within the Little Missouri River in 2023, which historically contained records for several rare species. No rare species were sampled.

For the 2024 biennial review of South Dakota's list of threatened and endangered species, Wildlife Diversity staff have no recommended status changes, additions or deletions.

Emphasis will continue to be placed on identifying and meeting information and data needs of currently state listed species to aid in developing and documenting downlisting and delisting criteria.

Document updated in 2024 by Chelsey Pasbrig, Jennifer Buchanan, and Eileen Dowd Stukel, SDGFP.

STATE THREATENED or ENDANGERED SPECIES
(as of September 2024)

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATE STATUS
Fishes		
Banded killifish	<i>Fundulus diaphanus</i>	SE
Blacknose shiner	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>	SE
Finescale dace	<i>Chrosomus neogaeus</i>	SE
Longnose sucker	<i>Catostomus catostomus</i>	ST
Northern pearl dace	<i>Margariscus nachtriebi</i>	ST
Northern redbelly dace	<i>Chrosomus eos</i>	ST
Pallid Sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>	SE
Sicklefin chub	<i>Macrhybopsis meeki</i>	SE
Sturgeon chub	<i>Macrhybopsis gelida</i>	ST
Reptiles and amphibians		
Eastern hog-nosed snake	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	ST
False map turtle	<i>Graptemys pseudogeographica</i>	ST
Lined snake	<i>Tropidoclonion lineatum</i>	SE
Birds		
American dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>	ST
Eskimo curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	SE
Least tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	SE
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	ST
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	ST
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	ST
Whooping crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	SE
Mammals		
Black-footed ferret	<i>Mustela nigripes</i>	SE
Swift fox	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	ST

SE = State Endangered; ST= State Threatened

STATE T&E SPECIES STATUS REVIEWS

- A status review was reviewed and updated as needed for each state threatened or state endangered species to summarize the current status of each in the state.
- If sufficient information existed, draft criteria for downlisting (changing status from endangered to threatened) and/or delisting (removing a threatened or endangered species from the state list) are described. If such information was lacking, the review describes additional monitoring or research needs.
- For species also listed as federal threatened or federal endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, separate state recovery goals were not drafted. For those, SD Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) will continue cooperating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to meet identified recovery goals or assist in recovery planning, consistent with the “Cooperative Agreement between the U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service and South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks for the Conservation of Endangered and Threatened Animals.” This agreement was approved on June 30, 1977 and has been updated annually since then.
- The authority for state threatened and endangered species conservation and recovery, including listings, delistings, and status changes, corresponds to the state’s boundaries. South Dakota’s state endangered species law does not require that the state list of threatened and endangered species agree with the federal list developed under the authority of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Species that have been delisted under the ESA may be included on South Dakota’s list because they remain rare within the state’s boundaries, and federal listed species not considered rare within South Dakota’s borders are not necessarily state listed.
- South Dakota’s endangered species law is included in this document as Appendix A. The law can also be viewed here:
http://www.sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=34A-8
- An additional law addressing black-footed ferret reintroduction is included in this document as Appendix B. The law can also be viewed here:
https://sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/2064247
- These status reviews will be revisited at least every two years to comply with the biennial review schedule of the state list of threatened and endangered species by the GFP Commission.