



SGCN and Habitat Threats

Level 1 Threat Agriculture and Aquaculture

Level 2 Threat: Annual and Perennial Non-timber crops

Crops planted for food, fodder, fibre, fuel, or other uses

Species Associated With This Threat:		SGCN Priority Level		
		P1 = 17	/ P2 = 30	/ P3 = 6
Class	Ray-finned Fishes (<i>Actinopterygii</i>)	SGCN Priority		
	Bridle Shiner (<i>Notropis bifrenatus</i>)	2		
	Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable			
	Sedimentation and siltation from agriculture is a concern. BDS are known to be affected by poor water quality associated with sedimentation and siltation of habitats.			
	Brook Trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>)	2		
	Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable			
	Improve riparian and shoreline buffer condition by using whatever tactic is appropriate for the area and local land use.			
	Redfin Pickerel (<i>Esox americanus americanus</i>)	2		
	Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable			
	RPK inhabit areas of clean and clear water quality. Sedimentation and siltation degrade water quality. Maintaining or restoring shoreline or riparian areas to mature native conditons for a minimum of 100 feet from occupied habitats is a priority.			
Class	Amphibians (<i>Amphibia</i>)	SGCN Priority		
	Northern Leopard Frog (<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>)	2		
	Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Actionable with Difficulty			
	Wetland habitat loss and degradation of riparian habitat quality and function			
Class	Birds (<i>Aves</i>)	SGCN Priority		
	Bobolink (<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>)	2		
	Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable			
	Bobolinks primarily nest in hayfields and lightly grazed pastures. Early season mowing and rapid shifts to short-cycle or high-yield crops significantly reduce breeding success. Most nests fail when mowing occurs before fledging. Adjusting mowing schedules can improve outcomes, but widespread adoption is limited by farm economics and logistics			
	Eastern Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>)	3		
	Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable			
	Loss of small farms, fencerows, orchards, and hedgerows			



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Class Birds (<i>Aves</i>)	SGCN Priority
Field Sparrow (<i>Spizella pusilla</i>)	2
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Field Sparrows avoid tilled fields and intensively managed haylands. Agricultural intensification reduces suitability by eliminating the shrubby field margins and hedgerows they need.	
Grasshopper Sparrow (<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>)	1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Conversion of suitable grassland habitat to intensive row crops is a major driver of habitat loss. These fields lack the structural diversity and vegetation types GRSP require. This is a primary threat both nationally and within Maine, particularly in former farmland areas.	
Horned Lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>)	2
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Conversion of small, diverse farms to intensive row crops and other changes in agricultural practices, such as shifts to earlier planting dates, denser cover crops, or reduced tillage, can reduce the availability of bare or sparsely vegetated ground necessary for nesting. Shifts to less suitable crops or loss of field edge structure may reduce both nest site availability and foraging habitat. These changes reduce habitat quality even where farmland remains in active production. Encourage farmers to maintain small patches of bare ground in large fields during the nesting season, especially in core areas of the Aroostook Lowlands. This may include rotational tillage, delayed planting in select areas, or maintaining lightly disturbed fallow strips. These practices can provide critical nesting habitat without significantly reducing crop yield and may be compatible with broader soil conservation goals.	
Sedge Wren (<i>Cistothorus stellaris</i>)	1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Sedge meadows are especially vulnerable to conversion to row crops and hayfields. This removes suitable breeding vegetation structure.	
Short-eared Owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>)	1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Degredation, loss, fragmentation, or conversion of grassland and wetlands. Negative impacts to habitat structure and prey abundance. Exposure to herbicides and pesticides may affect survival, reproductive success, and decrease prey populations.	
Upland Sandpiper (<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>)	1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Species status unclear relative to intensive Blueberry mgmt practices such as creation of windbreaks.	



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Class Birds (<i>Aves</i>)		SGCN Priority
Vesper Sparrow (<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Highly Actionable Increased tillage, herbicide/pesticide use, and hedgerow removal contribute to nest failure and reduce habitat suitability.		
Whimbrel (<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable Impacts from disturbance and contaminants during commercial blueberry harvest may be minimized through outreach and environmental permit review.		
Class Marine And Freshwater Molluscs (<i>Bivalvia</i>)		SGCN Priority
Brook Floater (<i>Alasmidonta varicosa</i>)		1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian buffer where intensive land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality		
Tidewater Mucket (<i>Atlanticoncha ochracea</i>)		1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian buffer where intensive land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality		
Yellow Lampmussel (<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>)		1
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian buffer where intensive land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality		
Class Insects (<i>Insecta</i>)		SGCN Priority
American Bumble Bee (<i>Bombus pensylvanicus</i>)		3
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable Habitat loss and fragmentation via intensive land management practices; can also create foraging and nesting habitat		
Appalachian Tiger Beetle (<i>Cicindela ancocisconensis</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable sediment runoff from ag fields could negatively affect habitat for this species		
Arrow Clubtail (<i>Stylurus spiniceps</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian habitat where land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality		



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Class	Insects (<i>Insecta</i>)	SGCN Priority
	Boreal Snaketail (<i>Ophiogomphus colubrinus</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Actionable with Difficulty Degradation of the riparian zone affects water quality and roosting/feeding habitat	1
	Cobra Clubtail (<i>Gomphurus vastus</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian habitat where land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality	2
	Comet Darner (<i>Anax longipes</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian habitat where land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality	2
	Common Sanddragon (<i>Progomphus obscurus</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian habitat where land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality	2
	Dusky Dancer (<i>Argia translata</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian habitat where land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality	2
	Pine Devil (<i>Citheronia sepulcralis</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable Some barren habitat is being converted to intensive blueberry production	3
	Pink Sallow (<i>Psectraglaea carnosae</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable Some barren habitat is being converted to intensive blueberry production	3
	Pygmy Snaketail (<i>Ophiogomphus howei</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Actionable with Difficulty Degradation of the riparian zone affects water quality and roosting/feeding habitat	3
	Spatterdock Darner (<i>Rhionaeschna mutata</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable in riparian habitat where land use and loss of intact forest canopy can degrade aquatic habitat integrity and water quality	2



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Class	Insects (<i>Insecta</i>)	SGCN Priority
	Waxed Sallow Moth (<i>Chaetagnalea cerata</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable Some barren habitat is being converted to intensive blueberry production	3
	Yellow Bumble Bee (<i>Bombus fervidus</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable this species' preferred habitat is open grasslands/fields with preferred forage plants (e.g., clover, vetch, thistle); conversion of these habitats to tilled monoculture crops can reduce, degrade and fragment habitat	2
Class	Reptiles (<i>Reptilia</i>)	SGCN Priority
	Wood Turtle (<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable Hay field mortality (only at applicable sites)	1
Class	Eudicots (<i>Eudicots</i>)	SGCN Priority
	Barren-strawberry (<i>Geum fragarioides</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	1
	Great St John's-wort (<i>Hypericum ascyron</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	1
	Hairy Boneset (<i>Eupatorium pubescens</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	2
	Northern Blazing Star (<i>Liatris novae-angliae</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	1
	Seneca Snakeroot (<i>Polygala senega</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	1
	Swamp White Oak (<i>Quercus bicolor</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	2
	Unicorn Root (<i>Aletris farinosa</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	2
	Upright Bindweed (<i>Calystegia spithamea</i>) Severity: Moderate Severity Actionability: Moderately Actionable	1



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Class Eudicots (<i>Eudicots</i>)		SGCN Priority
White-topped Aster (<i>Sericocarpus asteroides</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
blueberry production		
Wild Ginger (<i>Asarum canadense</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Class Clubmoss (<i>Lycopodiopsida</i>)		SGCN Priority
Southern Bog-clubmoss (<i>Lycopodiella appressa</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Class Monocots (<i>Monocots</i>)		SGCN Priority
Bicknell's Sedge (<i>Carex bicknellii</i>)		1
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Canada Mountain-ricegrass (<i>Piptatherum canadense</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Highly Actionable	
blueberry production		
Cat-tail Sedge (<i>Carex typhina</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Clothed Sedge (<i>Carex vestita</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Dawn-land Sedge (<i>Carex waponahkikensis</i>)		1
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Macgregor's Rye (<i>Elymus macgregorii</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Muhlenberg Sedge (<i>Carex muehlenbergii</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Orono Sedge (<i>Carex oronensis</i>)		1
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	
Slender Spikerush (<i>Eleocharis nitida</i>)		2
Severity: Moderate Severity	Actionability: Moderately Actionable	



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Class Monocots (*Monocots*)

SGCN Priority

Swarthy Sedge (*Carex adusta*)

2

Severity: Moderate Severity

Actionability: Moderately Actionable

Habitats Associated With This Threat:

Macrogroup Acadian-Northern Appalachian Forest

Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest

land conversion to agriculture

Acadian Sub-boreal Spruce Flat

land conversion to agriculture

Acadian-Appalachian Montane Spruce-Fir Forest

land conversion to agriculture

Acadian-Northern Appalachian Forest Macrogroup- Unknown Habitat System

Clearing for cropland

Acadian-Northern Appalachian Forest Macrogroup- Unknown Habitat System

land conversion to agriculture

Laurentian-Acadian Northern Hardwood Forest

Clearing for cropland

Laurentian-Acadian Pine-Hemlock-Hardwood Forest

Clearing for cropland

Laurentian-Acadian Sub-boreal Dry-Mesic Pine-Black Spruce-Hardwood Forest

land conversion to agriculture

Macrogroup Laurentian-Acadian Flooded & Swamp Forest

Laurentian-Acadian Flooded & Swamp Forest Macrogroup- Unknown Habitat System

not much new clearing, but much has been cleared in the past; opportunities for riparian restoration?

Laurentian-Acadian Floodplain Forest

not much new clearing, but much has been cleared in the past; opportunities for riparian restoration

Macrogroup North Atlantic Coastal Forest & Woodland

North Atlantic Coastal Plain Maritime Forest

Most ag impacts are historical legacy; FIA data may provide details on current conversions

Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Pitch Pine Barrens

Clearing for cropland



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The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, threats, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.