

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Statewide Priority Threats
	1 Residential and Commercial Development: Threats to native habitat and wildlife associated with the conversion of natural land to development for residential, commercial and industrial or other non-agricultural land uses with a substantial footprint.		
	1.1 Housing & Urban Areas: Anything that is related to or integrated with urban or housing structures. Urban areas (cities), suburbs, villages, cottages, shopping areas, offices, schools, hospitals, and urban parks, among others.		
		1.1.1 Dense housing & urban areas: Medium- to high-density urban development for residential use and buildings for related services. Allows very little to no maintenance of ecological functions. E.g., urban areas, suburbs, villages, schools, libraries, seniors' housing, hospitals.	
		1.1.2 Low-density housing areas: Extensive development that is residential (including resorts), where the spacing allows ecological functions to continue to some extent. This type of development is seen particularly in rural and agroforestry areas. E.g., residential buildings in agricultural areas, cottages, vacation homes near water bodies, ecotourism lodges, fishing resorts, backcountry ski lodges.	
	1.2 Commercial and Industrial Areas: Anything that is related to or integrated with commercial or industrial structures, as well as designated areas for storing waste material. Includes animal deterrence activities, which are needed near certain infrastructures.		
		1.2.1 Commercial & industrial areas: E.g., industrial parks, manufacturing plants, offices, shopping centres, all military base facilities, power plants, seaports, shipyards, airports.	
		1.2.2 Open dump sites: Open-air facilities that are used to dispose of materials or to store them prior to recycling. E.g., automobile junkyards, metal recycling. Open-air facilities that are used to dispose of materials or to store them prior to recycling. E.g., automobile junkyards, metal recycling centres.	
		1.2.3 Landfills	
	3.3 Renewable Energy: Exploring and developing infrastructure for and producing renewable energy; excludes its transport.		
	4 Transportation and Service Corridors: Threats from developing, using and maintaining transportation corridors (roads, pipelines, power lines, etc.) and their rights-of-way. These types of facilities may create obstacles or hinder the natural movement of species in addition to causing disturbances during maintenance (e.g., disturbance of falcon nests during bridge maintenance; widespread avoidance of roads by bobcat, etc.). This threat also includes vegetation control during rights-of-way maintenance and collisions with wildlife.		
	4.1 Roads and Railroads: Development, maintenance and presence of the surface transportation network. This includes bridges. The impact of rights-of-way may vary according to their size.		
		4.1.1 Roads	
		4.1.2 Railroads	
	7 Natural Systems Modifications: Threats from activities that are generally carried out to improve human welfare, but may result in habitat degradation or destruction. This threat category includes the development or redevelopment (management) of natural and semi-natural habitats, as well as certain natural processes that can act as threats. Stopping a conservation action or a practice that is conducive to conservation is not interpreted as a threat, but as a return to the source threat (e.g., vegetation succession affecting pioneer species). Excludes meteorological or climate change-related threats that may modify natural systems.		
	7.3 Other Ecosystem Modifications: Other activities that contribute to habitat alteration or loss by redeveloping natural systems to improve human welfare. To be distinguished from the development and maintenance of urban parks.		
		7.3.2 Vegetation succession: Natural vegetation succession causing habitat loss for species of early successional habitats.	
	8 Invasive and Other Problematic Species, Genes and Diseases: Threats posed by non-native and native species (plants, animals, pathogens or genetic materials) that have or are expected to have harmful effects on biodiversity following their introduction, spread or increase in population (abundance).		
	8.1 Invasive Non-Native / Alien Plants & Animals: Harmful plants and animals that were not originally present within an ecosystem, but were directly or indirectly introduced into or spread in the ecosystem as a result of human activities. The concept of exotic species includes species that are not native to a specific habitat; it can therefore include the introduction of species that are considered native to a different region of the US. Domestic species are also considered nonnative, whether they are feral or semi-domesticated (e.g., domestic cats going outside). Also includes introduction of wildlife due to "mercy releases".		
		8.1.1 Terrestrial animals: E.g., Norway rats, feral cats, European Starling	
		8.1.2 Terrestrial plants: E.g., <i>Rosa multiflora</i> , garlic mustard, Japanese stiltgrass, Phragmites.	
		8.1.3 Aquatic animals: Zebra mussel, Asian clam, Rusty crayfish, Brown trout, Big head carp	
		8.1.4 Aquatic plants: E.g. Water chestnut, European water milfoil, hydrilla, purple loosestrife.	
	8.2 Problematic Native Plants & Animals: Plants and animals that were originally present in ecosystem(s), but whose populations have increased to a level where they are now "out of control" or overabundant as a direct or indirect result of certain human activities.		
	8.4 Pathogens: Diseases caused by various taxa of pathogenic micro-organisms living within hosts.		
	11 Climate Change: Threats from major changes in ecosystems and severe climate/weather events outside of the natural range of variation that could harm species or habitats.		
	11.1 Habitat Shifting or Alteration: Major changes in habitat composition or location.		

	11.3	Changes in Temperature Regimes: <i>Periods in which temperatures of the air, water or soil either exceed or fall below the normal range of variation. Events that may or may not be related to climate change.</i>
	11.4	Changes in Precipitation & Hydrological Regimes: <i>Periods in which the amount and frequency of precipitation either exceeds or falls below the normal range of variation. Events that may or may not be related to climate change, and exclude periods that are associated with storms and heavy weather.</i>
	12	Other Options: <i>Need for information on fish/wildlife species, species suites and/or their habitats to inform future conservation efforts and management decisions.</i>
	12.2	Resource Needs: <i>Includes data collection, monitoring, and funding needs.</i>
	12.2.1	Lack of initial baseline inventory: <i>Need to gather baseline data regarding fish, wildlife populations and/or habitat status, availability and condition as part of long-term trend analysis.</i>
	12.2.2	Lack of up-to-date existing information: <i>Need to conduct (routine, regular, ongoing) surveys/assessments to provide the up-to-date information regarding population trends or health, and/or status of fish, wildlife and/or their habitats.</i>
	12.2.3	Need to answer research question: <i>Need to address unanswered or unresolved conservation question(s) regarding fish/wildlife species, species suites and/or their habitats that will inform future conservation efforts and management decisions.</i>
	12.2.4	Need to develop new survey techniques: <i>Need to develop and evaluate new species or habitat survey methods or techniques because current survey/assessment efforts fail to obtain the necessary data.</i>
	12.2.5	Need to develop new management techniques: <i>Need to develop and evaluate new (species or habitat) management techniques.</i>
	12.3	Education & Outreach Needs
	12.3.1	Need for improved knowledge of fish and wildlife and their habitats: <i>Lack of general knowledge or understanding (ecological literacy) of fish and wildlife and habitat conservation.</i>
	12.3.2	Need to improve specific understanding of agency/organization goals, objectives and ongoing wildlife conservation actions: <i>Need to develop greater understanding of and support for agency's/organization's conservation work among general public and constituent groups (i.e., conservation partners, government agencies, the general public, farmers, business, homeowners, recreationists).</i>
	12.4	Administrative Needs: <i>Need to provide the tools for a fish and wildlife agency to support its agency functions.</i>
	12.4.1	Lack of multi-state, regional, and landscape scale planning: <i>Limits cooperative conservation efforts at a larger scale (e.g., standardized survey protocols to analyze regional trends) and restricting states' abilities to develop region- or landscape-scale conservation strategies.</i>
	12.4.2	Lack of stable funding: <i>Limits implementation of actions necessary to address to guide conservation strategies and regulatory processes. E.g., large scale, multi-year research, habitat management and monitoring, and priority actions identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan.</i>
	12.5	State Specific Issues: <i>Includes state regulations and policies.</i>
	12.5.1	State Regulations
	12.5.2	State Policies