

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

**Matt Wunder**



Ecological & Environmental Planning

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

- The “DOI and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002” created the State Wildlife Grants program
- Purpose is “... for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished...”
- Congress appropriates funds annually
- New Mexico receives about \$1 million/year
- Fish and Wildlife Service administers the program
- Participating states were required to prepare a SWAP



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

- **The State Wildlife Action Plan:**
  - Is a roadmap for managing wildlife and habitats by all entities within a State
  - Identifies species and habitats of conservation concern
  - Directs wildlife and habitat conservation efforts to prevent species from becoming threatened or endangered
  - Must be reviewed and revised every 10 years (by 30 September 2015)

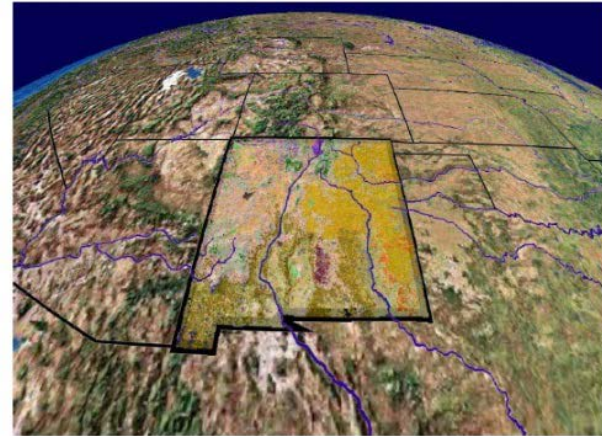


Ecological & Environmental Planning

# Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

- Department prepared the “*Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy For New Mexico in 2005*”
- Approved in 2006
- The Strategy focuses on:
  - Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SCGN)
  - Key wildlife habitats
  - Overcoming challenges

## Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy For New Mexico



Prepared by:

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

In cooperation with:

Over 170 public agencies, conservation organizations, commodity interests, municipalities, private partners, and tribal representatives.

February 14, 2006



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

Eight elements must be included in  
the review

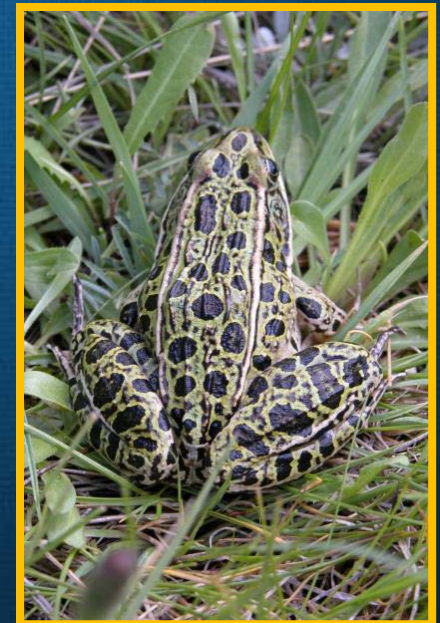


Ecological & Environmental Planning

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 1.

The distribution and abundance of species of wildlife, including low and declining populations as each State fish and wildlife agency deemed appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of wildlife of the State; (Species of Greatest Conservation Need or SGCN.)



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 2.

The location and relative condition of key habitats and community types essential to the conservation of each State's SGCN;



Ecological & Environmental Planning

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 3.

Problems which may adversely affect SGCN or their habitats,  
and priority research and surveys needed to identify factors  
which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of  
SGCN and their habitats;



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 4.

Actions necessary to conserve SGCN and their habitats and establishes priorities for implementing such conservation actions;



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 5.

Provisions for periodic monitoring of SGCN and their habitats, for monitoring the effectiveness of conservation actions, and for adapting conservation actions as appropriate to respond to new information or changing conditions;



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 6.

State's provisions to review its Strategy at intervals not to exceed ten years;



Ecological & Environmental Planning

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 7.

State's provisions for coordination during the development, implementation, review, and revision of its Strategy with Federal, State, and local agencies and Indian Tribes that manage significant areas of land or water within the State, or administer programs that significantly affect the conservation of species or their habitats; and



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Element 8.

State's provisions to provide the necessary public participation in the development, revision, and implementation of its Strategy.



Ecological & Environmental Planning

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

Status:

1. Internal meeting to discuss potential approaches
2. Notified Fish and Wildlife Service of intent
3. Met with the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration staff to clarify requirements
4. Informing the Commission
5. Will seek other agency collaborators to participate



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Approach

1. Identify a point person and establish a core group in the Department to lead the process
2. Identify existing internal and needed external resources
3. Solicit technical participation from a wide range of government, educational, and private entities
4. Gather existing information on species and habitats



Ecological & Environmental Planning

# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

## Approach

5. Assess threats to species and habitats
6. Identify conservation actions
7. Write/edict revisions
8. Solicit and evaluate public input
9. Complete writing and editing
10. Submit to FWS for approval by 30 September 2015



Ecological & Environmental Planning



# State Wildlife Action Plan Review and Revision

QUESTIONS?



Ecological & Environmental Planning