

New York Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need *Susquehanna Watershed*



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“A Statewide Plan for Coordinating Management and Restoration of Critical Wildlife Habitat on New York’s Private Forest Lands”

A collaborative project of the NYS DEC, the New York Forest Owner’s Association, Cornell University, and Cornell Cooperative Extension: Chenango County



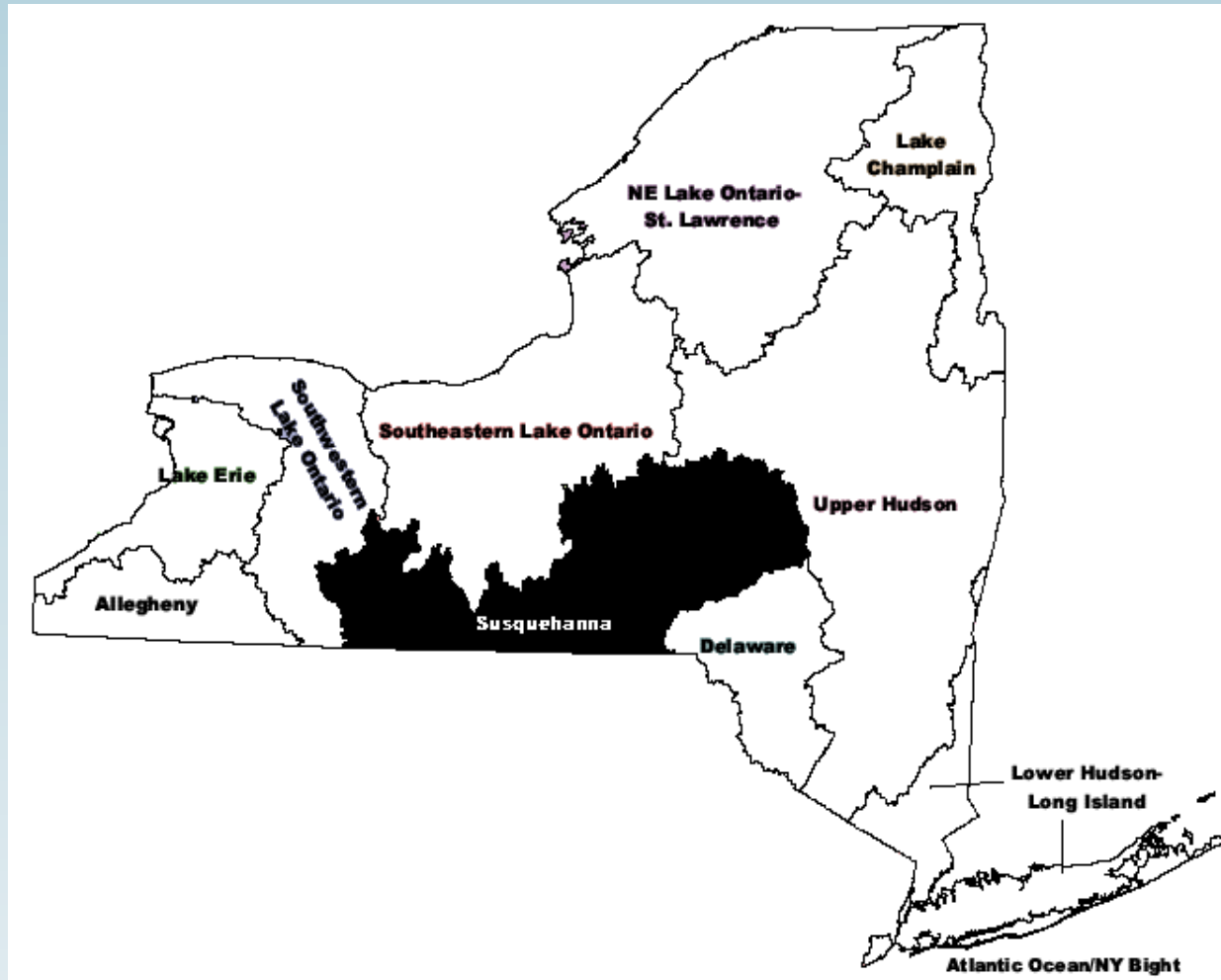
New York State's Wildlife:

Home to these species:

- ◎ **32 amphibians**
- ◎ **39 reptiles**
- ◎ **375 birds**
- ◎ **92 mammals**
- ◎ **160 freshwater fishes**



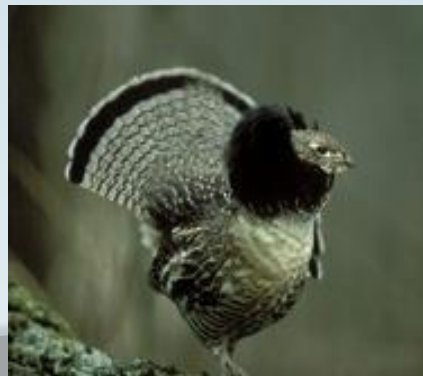
The Susquehanna Watershed



Susquehanna Watershed

64 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN):

- ◎ 39 birds
- ◎ 4 freshwater fish
- ◎ 17 reptiles and amphibians (herptiles)
- ◎ 4 mammals



39 Bird Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) in the Susquehanna Basin

| <i>Species Group</i> | <i># Species</i> | <i>%SGCN</i> |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| ESH/shrubland | 11 | 28 |
| Grassland | 10 | 27 |
| Deciduous/mixed forest | 7 | 18 |
| Forest raptors | 6 | 15 |
| Misc. | 3 | 8 |
| Freshwater marsh | 2 | 5 |

Birds of Greatest Conservation Need



American bittern

- Habitat:
freshwater
marshes
- Species group:
freshwater
marsh nesting
birds



American woodcock

- ① **Habitat:** early success forest/
shrublands

- ① **Species group:**
Early succession
forest/shrubland
birds



Bald Eagle

- ◎ **Habitat:** usually near seacoasts, rivers, or lakes; nests in tall trees or on cliffs.
- ◎ **Species group:**
Bald Eagle



Black-billed cuckoo

- ⦿ **Habitat:** primarily in deciduous forests; includes woodland, riparian, and marshland edges, shrubby second-growth forests.
- ⦿ **Species group:** Early succession forest/shrubland birds



Black-throated blue warbler

- Habitat: deciduous /mixed forests
- Species group: Deciduous/mixed forest breeding birds



Blue-winged warbler

- ◉ **Habitat:** lives in early succession forests and shrublands; are ground nesting birds



- ◉ **Species group:**
Early succession forest/shrubland birds

Bobolink

- **Habitat:** open grasslands and fields
- **Species group:** Grassland birds



http://www.tsuru-bird.net/a_species/bobolink/index.html

Bobolink -male- (MT) Copyright 2008 - Monte M. Taylor

Brown thrasher

- ◎ **Habitat:** common in hedgerows, woodland edges, early succession forests, shrublands
- ◎ **Species group:** Early succession forest/ shrubland birds



Canada warbler

- ① **Habitat:** early succession forests and shrublands
- ① **Species group:** Early succession forest/shrubland birds



<http://www.tolford.com/photography/birds.htm>

Cerulean Warbler

- **Habitat:** deciduous and mixed forests
- **Species group:**
Deciduous/mixed forest breeding birds

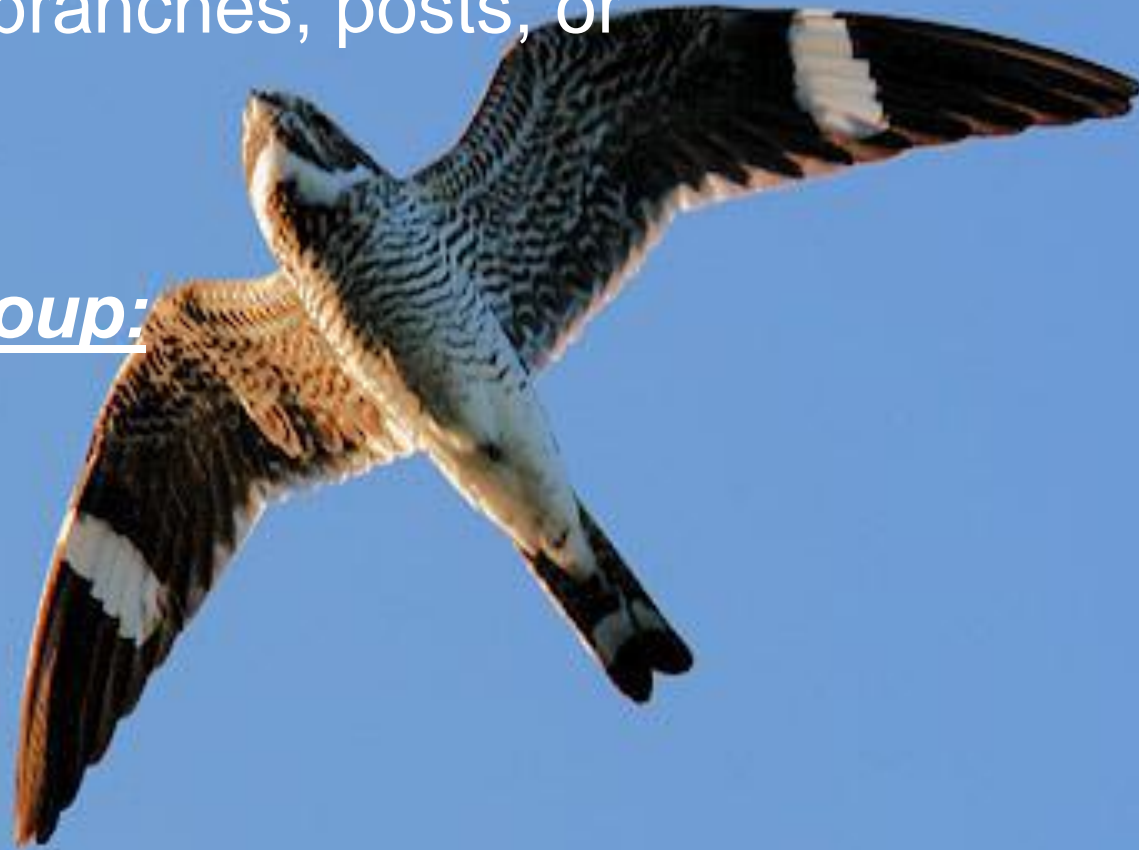


Common nighthawk

◎ *Habitat:* found in woodlands, suburbs, towns. Roosts on the ground, on branches, posts, or roofs.

◎ *Species group:*

Common
nighthawk



Cooper's Hawk

- ◉ **Habitat:** inhabits broken woodlands or streamside groves that are typically deciduous
- ◉ **Species group:** Forest breeding raptors



Eastern Meadowlark



- ◎ **Habitat:**
grasslands, fields,
and meadows
- ◎ **Species group:**
Grassland birds

Golden Eagle

- ◉ **Habitat:** open country, open coniferous forests, and barren areas.
- ◉ **Species group:**
Forest breeding raptors



Golden-winged warbler

- Habitat: early succession forests and shrublands

- Species group:
Early succession
forest/shrubland



Grasshopper sparrow

◎ **Habitat:** grasslands and weedy fields

◎ **Species group:**
Grassland birds



Henslow's sparrow

- ① **Habitat:** wet shrubby fields, weedy meadows, grasslands
- ① **Species group:**
Grassland birds



Horned Lark

- ◉ **Habitat:** grasslands, dirt fields, gravel ridges, and shores



- ◉ **Species group:**
Grassland birds

Kentucky warbler



© Habitat: deciduous and mixed forests

© Species group:
Deciduous/mixed forest breeding birds

Long-eared owl

- ① **Habitat:** forests, thick woods; hunts in open fields and marshes.
- ① **Species group:**
Forest breeding raptors



Northern goshawk

- ◉ **Habitat:** conifer dominated and mixed woodlands
- ◉ **Species group:**
Forest breeding raptors



Northern harrier

- ① **Habitat:** grasslands, croplands, and open wetlands
- ① **Species group:**
Grassland birds



Peregrine falcon

- **Habitat:**
open wetlands
near cliffs
- **Species group:**
Peregrine falcon



Pied-billed grebe

● **Habitat:**
freshwater
marshes or
ponds with
dense stands
of emergent
vegetation.

● **Species
group:**
Freshwater
marsh
breeding
birds





Prairie warbler

- ◎ **Habitat:** early succession forests, shrublands, and overgrown fields
- ◎ **Species group:** Early succession forest/shrubland

Prothonotary warbler

Habitat: deciduous
and mixed forests

Species group:
Deciduous/mixed
forest breeding
birds



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Red-headed woodpecker

- ① **Habitat:** deciduous and mixed forests
- ① **Species group:**
Deciduous/
mixed forest
breeding birds



Red-shouldered hawk

- **Habitat:** found in moist, mixed woodlands; often seen near water

Species group: Forest breeding raptors



Ruffed grouse



Paul Curtis, Cornell DNR

- **Habitat:** early succession forests and shrublands
- **Species group:** Early succession forest/shrubland breeding birds

Sedge Wren

- *Habitat:* grasslands, wet meadows, sedge marshes
- *Species group:*
Grassland birds



Sharp-shinned hawk

- ◎ **Habitat:**

mixed
woodlands

- ◎ **Species group:**

Forest
breeding
raptors



Short-eared owl

© Jean Van Hohen

- **Habitat:** open country, grasslands, marshes, weedy fields



- **Species group:**
Grassland birds



Upland sandpiper

- **Habitat:** grasslands
- **Species group:**
Grassland birds

Vesper sparrow

- *Habitat:*
grasslands,
farmlands
- *Species group:*
Grassland birds



Whip-poor-will

- ◎ **Habitat:** early succession forests, shrublands

Species group:

Early succession
forest/shrubland
habitat



Willow flycatcher

- ◎ **Habitat:** early succession forests, shrublands
- ◎ **Species group:** Early succession forest/shrubland



Wood thrush

- **Habitat:** moist deciduous or mixed forests



Species group:

Deciduous/
mixed forest
breeding birds

Worm-eating warbler

- ◎ **Habitat:** deciduous and mixed forests
- ◎ **Species group:**
Deciduous/mixed
forest breeding birds



Yellow-breasted chat



- ◎ **Habitat:** early succession forests, shrublands
- ◎ **Species group:**
Early succession forest/shrubland

Freshwater Fish of Greatest Conservation Need



Blackchin shiner

- **Habitat:** slow, clear, weedy areas of large streams and the shallow parts of lakes
- **Species group:** Blackchin shiner



Brook trout

- **Habitat:** lakes and cold, clear, headwater streams
- **Species group:** Brook trout, Heritage strains



Comely shiner

- **Habitat:** moderate sized to larger streams and areas where the water is 2 feet deep or more
- **Species group:** Comely shiner



© Noel M. Burkhead

Swallowtail shiner

- **Habitat:** upland streams and small rivers
- **Species group:** Swallowtail shiner



Reptiles and Amphibians (Herpetofauna) of Greatest Conservation Need



Black rat snake

- ① **Habitat:** woodlands and grasslands
- ① **Species group:** Woodland/grassland snakes



Blue-spotted salamander

- ① **Habitat:** northern hardwood/hemlock forests with vernal pools available
- ① **Species group:** vernal pool salamanders



Coal skink

- ◉ **Habitat:** damp wooded areas with abundant leaf litter or loose stones
- ◉ **Species group:** Lizards



Eastern hognose snake

- ① **Habitat:** woodlands with sandy soil, fields, farmlands, and coastal areas
- ① **Species group:** Woodland/grassland snakes



Eastern ribbonsnake



- **Habitat:**
lakes, rivers,
bogs, salt
marshes
- **Species
group:**
Lake/river
reptiles

Four-toed salamander

- ① **Habitat:** forested habitats surrounding swamps, bogs, marshes, and vernal pools
- ① **Species group:**
Freshwater wetland amphibians



Hellbender

- *Habitat:* aquatic species occurring in clear, fast-flowing, well-oxygenated streams and rivers

- *Species group:* Hellbender

Jefferson salamander

- **Habitat:** shady deciduous woodlands with vernal pools
- **Species group:** Vernal pool salamanders



Longtail salamander

- **Habitat:** streams, swamps, marshes, and wetlands
- **Species group:** Stream salamanders



Northern black racer

- ① **Habitat:** open woodlands, fields, and grasslands
- ① **Species group:** Woodland/grassland snakes



Northern red salamander

- **Habitat:** cold, clean streams and brooks



- **Species group:** Stream salamanders

Short-headed garter snake



◎ **Habitat:**
meadows,
open fields,
and pastures

◎ **Species
group:**
Woodland/
grassland
snakes

Smooth green snake

- **Habitat:** grassy, moist meadows, native prairies and clearings in coniferous forests
- **Species group:** Woodland/grassland snakes



PHOTO BY MARK TEGGES

Snapping turtle

- ◎ **Habitat:** ponds, canals, and streams and along the edge of deep rivers and lakes
- ◎ **Species group:** Snapping turtle



Spotted turtle

- ◎ **Habitat:** marshy meadows, bogs, swamps, ponds, ditches, and other small bodies of water



- ◎ **Species group:** Uncommon turtles of wetlands

Timber rattlesnake

- Habitat: deciduous forests in rugged terrain (often containing rocky ledges)



- Species group: Woodland/grassland snakes

Wood turtle

- **Habitat:** riparian areas, lakes, rivers, and streams with sandy bottoms and vegetated banks
- **Species group:** Lake/river reptiles



A young hoary bat is hanging upside down from a tree branch. The bat has dark fur with lighter patches and its wings are partially spread. The background is a blurred green forest.

Mammals of Greatest Conservation Need

http://jrscience.wcp.muohio.edu/birds/ohio_birds/Hanging_Hoary_Bat.html

Eastern red bat

- **Habitat:** roosts in trees and shrubs preferably near water
- **Species group:** Tree bats



Hoary bat

- ⦿ **Habitat:** found roosting in trees at the edge of clearings, in heavy forests, and open wooded glades
- ⦿ **Species group:**
Tree bats



River otter

- ① **Habitat:** freshwater and coastal marine habitats, including rivers, lakes, marshes, swamps, and estuaries

- ① **Species group:** Furbearers

Silver-haired bat

- ① **Habitat:** roosts in trees, under bark, under rocks and infrequently in open soft-walled caves or mines
- ① **Species group:** tree bats



Information Sources:

- <http://www.ForestConnect.info>
- <http://www.nyfoa.org>; “Wild About Wildlife”
- <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/30483.html>



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension