**Species Planning Document**

*Detailed instructions and examples can be found in the Species Planning*

*Document Standards and Guidelines on the* [*Recovery Guidance*](https://naturalheritage.illinois.gov/speciesconservation/recovery/recovery-guidance.html) *website*

**Scientific Name:**

**Common Name:**

**Author:**

**Date:**

**SPECIES PHOTO:**

**Species Planning Document Goal**

The Species Planning Document identifies conservation objectives and inventories and prioritizes potential actions to achieve the objectives.

1. **Need for Conservation**
2. Brief synthesis of the species’ status. Broad assessments of the species’ status and trends as described in the SSA are briefly provided. Trends (or contemporary status, at a minimum) for each of the three SSA components (distribution, abundance, population viability) should be addressed, with spatial and temporal scale identified.
3. Identify the stressors and threats **currently acting upon the species**. Characterize each item by providing the spatial extent, frequency, and intensity of each stressor or threat.
   1. Stressors: factors that constrain productivity, development, or reproductive success (e.g., predation, disease, lack of mates, salinization, unsuitable temperature, or moisture conditions)
   2. Threats: processes or events that cause harm to the species, typically by producing stressors (e.g., harvest, invasive species, land development, climate change, habitat loss or fragmentation)
4. Identify information needs. A list of surveying and monitoring needs or data inadequacies that will hinder the management of the species.
5. **Conservation Objectives**
6. Conservation objectives. A description of desired conservation outcomes written as objectives (i.e., measurable). Objectives shall be ordered according to priority (highest priority first).
7. **Conservation Actions**
8. Conservation actions. Each action is described along with the associated conservation objective(s) and the stressors/threats/information needs addressed. Resource requirements and years to expected completion are estimated for each action (include funding, staff time, and/or contractual expenses that could be expected to complete the action). Actions shall be ordered according to priority (highest priority first).
9. Synthesis table of conservation actions. Table columns include: Action, Objective Addressed, Purpose of Action (what associated stressor, threat, and/or information need is addressed), Estimated Resources Required (staff hours, dollars, and/or contractual), and Years to Complete.
10. **Citations**