

Climate change and State Wildlife Agencies

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NEFWDTC

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NEFWDTC work

- Regional SWAP analysis (due December 2017)
- SWAP Database (available now)
- Regional Species of Greatest Conservation Need (ongoing since 1999)
- Regional Conservation Needs grant program (Initiated in 2005)

Regional SWAP analysis

- 14 SWAPs
- Database
- Shared species, habitats, threats, and actions
- Top threats
 - Pollution
 - Development
 - Dams and water management
 - Invasive species
 - Wildlife disease
 - Climate change
- Report recommendations include high priority actions to take at the regional scale



NE SWAP Database

- All 14 northeast wildlife action plans
- Species, habitats, threats, and actions
- Linkages between them




- Questions you can answer:
 - How many states listed Blanding's Turtle as SGCN? Is it RSGCN?
 - What kind of habitat does Blanding's Turtle live in?
 - What are the threats to Blanding's Turtle?
 - What are the threats in Blanding's Turtle habitat?
 - What did states propose to do in support of Blanding's Turtle?

The screenshot shows the 'Species of Greatest Conservation Need' web interface. The title bar reads 'SGCN'. The main heading is 'Species of Greatest Conservation Need'. Below this, there are several search and filter options: 'Show Species for: Northeast Region', 'Taxon: Reptiles', 'Species: Blanding's Turtle', 'Regional ID: 419', 'ELCODE: MAAD0400', and 'Print State List:'. There are also buttons for 'SGCN Search' and 'Print RSGCN List'. Below the search options, there are fields for 'Common Name: Blanding's Turtle', 'Scientific Name: Emydoides blandingi', 'Federal Status:', 'Global Rank: G4', 'RSGCN: Very High Concern', and 'Data Deficient'. There are also buttons for 'Edit Species', 'Print Threats', 'Print Actions', and 'Print Habitats'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Designated SGCN in 5 of 14.' with a 'Show State Info:' dropdown and a list of states with checkboxes: Connecticut, Delaware, D. C., Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

RSGCN list

- Considerations:
 - Regional responsibility
 - Conservation concern
- Uses:
 - Grant justifications/
funding decisions
 - Regional partners
 - Inter-state collaboration
 - Action prioritization



Big Sandy Crayfish
Credit: Zachary Loughman

SGCN and RSGCN

Taxonomic Group	SGCN	RSGCN
Birds	269	17
Mammals	103	21
Reptiles	69	17
Amphibians	82	13
Fish	324	63
Invertebrate – Arthropods	1,674	109
Invertebrate – Non Arthropods	437	64

Scarlet Bluet
Credit: Pam Hunt

RCN program

- Regional Conservation Needs
- Conservation assessments / plans for RSGCN



State wildlife agencies and climate change

- So many threats, so many imperiled species, so little money
- Reactive, hard to be proactive
- SWAPs are 10-year plans
- Climate smart planning
- Adaptation most likely to occur where climate change is now... Coasts



Piping Plover
Credit: Donald R. Miller

Tonight !

- Poster session about regional swap analysis and database

Conserving Fish and Wildlife Diversity in the Northeast: Mining the State Wildlife Action Plans

Northeast Fish and Wildlife Diversity Technical Committee
supported by Elizabeth Crisfield and Karen Terwilliger (Terwilliger Consulting, Inc.)



The Regional Conservation Needs grant program has provided ongoing support to analyze interconnections between issues affecting target species and habitats in multiple states. In 2015, states submitted revised Wildlife Action Plans. By building the Northeast Regional SWAP database and mining the information in these plans, the Northeast Fish and Wildlife

Diversity Technical Committee can direct coordinated action to best address issues that are beyond the reach of any one state fish and wildlife agency. Pie charts below show number of species, by taxonomic group (color frame indicates taxa), that are associated with issues or habitats. Linkages are examples of priorities currently being discussed.

