

# Appendix C

## STATE IMPERILED WILDLIFE SPECIES

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**Appendix C**

**STATE IMPERILED WILDLIFE SPECIES OF THE BLUESTONE NATIONAL SCENIC  
RIVER, NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL RIVER, AND THE GAULEY RIVER  
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**



Legend:

### **State Ranks**

State ranks are assigned by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program and refer to the conservation status within West Virginia.

#### *Rank Definition*

- S1: Five or fewer documented occurrences, or very few remaining individuals within the state. Extremely rare and critically imperiled; or because of some factor(s) making it especially vulnerable to extirpation.
- S2: Six to 20 documented occurrences, or few remaining individuals within the state. Very rare and imperiled; or because of some factor(s) making it vulnerable to extirpation.
- S3: Twenty-one to 100 documented occurrences. May be somewhat vulnerable to extirpation.
- S4: Common and apparently secure with more than 100 occurrences.
- S5: Very common and demonstrably secure.
- SH: Historical. Species which have not been relocated within the last 20 years. May be rediscovered.
- B: Breeding population
- N: Non breeding population

### **Global Ranks**

Global ranks are assigned by NatureServe and refer to the conservation status across the global range of the element.

#### *Rank Definition*

- G1: Critically Imperiled - At very high risk of extinction due to extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer populations), very steep declines, or other factors.
- G2: Imperiled - At high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors.
- G3: Vulnerable - At moderate risk of extinction due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors.
- G4: Apparently Secure - Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
- G5: Secure - Common; widespread and abundant.
- GNR: Not ranked

### **Rank Qualifiers**

- ?: Denotes inexact numeric rank
- Q: Taxonomic distinctiveness of this entity at the current level is questionable; resolution of this uncertainty may result in change from a species to a subspecies or hybrid, or the inclusion of this taxon in another taxon, with the resulting taxon having a lower-priority conservation priority.

### **Intraspecific Taxon Conservation Status Ranks**

T#: The status of infraspecific taxa (subspecies or varieties) are indicated by a "T-rank" following the species' global rank. Rules for assigning T-ranks follow the same principles outlined above for global conservation status ranks. For example, the global rank of a critically imperiled subspecies of an otherwise widespread and common species would be G5T1. A T-rank cannot imply the subspecies or variety is more abundant than the species as a whole—for example, a G1T2 cannot occur. A vertebrate animal population, such as those listed as distinct population segments under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, may be considered an infraspecific taxon and assigned a T-rank; in such cases a Q is used after the T-rank to denote the taxon's informal taxonomic status.

### **Park Occurrences:**

B--Bluestone National Scenic River  
NR--New River Gorge National River  
GR -- Gauley River National Recreation Area

### **Sources:**

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NatureServe. 2016. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://explorer.natureserve.org>. (Accessed: May 16, 2016).

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Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Wildlife species Information Website. <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/> (Accessed May 23, 2016)

Taxa Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	State Rank	Global Rank	Park Occurrences	Primary Habitat
Amphibian	Jefferson's salamander	<i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i>	S2	G4	B, NR, GR	terrestrial: upland forests
Amphibian	green salamander	<i>Aneides aeneus</i>	S3	G3G4	B, NR, GR	terrestrial: rock crevices
Amphibian	Eastern hellbender	<i>Cryptobranchus alleganiensis</i>	S2	G4	GR	aquatic: rivers with flat rocks
Amphibian	black-bellied salamander	<i>Desmognathus quadramaculatus</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	aquatic: rivers and streams
Amphibian	cave salamander	<i>Eurycea lucifuga</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian: caves and forest overstory
Amphibian	Midland mud salamander	<i>Pseudotriton montanus diastictus</i>	S1	G5	NR	riparian: soft mud burrows on banks
Amphibian	Northern red salamander	<i>Pseudotriton ruber</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian: under logs, leaf litter
Bird	Cooper's hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	forests, nests in trees
Bird	sharp-shinned hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	forests, nests in horizontal limb next to tree trunk
Bird	spotted sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	S3B	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian, ground nesting
Bird	grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	S3B	G5	B, NR	grasslands, ground nesting
Bird	green-winged teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	S2N	G5	B, NR, GR	marsh, ground nesting
Bird	American black duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	S2BS4N	G5	B, NR, GR	marsh, ground nesting
Bird	great blue heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	S3BS4N	G5	B, NR, GR	marsh, tree and ground nesting
Bird	American bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	S1BS1N	G4	B, NR, GR	marsh, ground nesting

Taxa Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	State Rank	Global Rank	Park Occurrences	Primary Habitat
Bird	Swainson's thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	S3B	G5	B, NR, GR	forests, nest in forest understory
Bird	Northern harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	S1BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	open floodplain, ground nesting
Bird	black-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	forests, tree nesting
Bird	Eastern wood peewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>	S5B	G5	B, NR, GR	forests, tree nesting
Bird	black vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	S3BS4N	G5	B, NR, GR	open woodland, cliff nesting
Bird	cerulean warbler	<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>	S4B	G4	B, NR, GR	bottomland forests, nests in horizontal limb of a deciduous tree in mid-to upper-canopy
Bird	yellow-rumped warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	S3BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	nests in shrubs or in the lower branches of pine or cedar trees
Bird	prairie warbler	<i>Dendroica discolor</i>		G5	B, NR, GR	open woodland, shrub nesting
Bird	Blackburnian warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	S3B	G5	B, NR, GR	woodland, tree nesting
Bird	bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	S3B	G5	B, NR, GR	flooded meadows, tall grass, ground nesting
Bird	Acadian flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	S5B	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian, tree nesting

<b>Taxa Category</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>State Rank</b>	<b>Global Rank</b>	<b>Park Occurrences</b>	<b>Primary Habitat</b>
Bird	horned lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	S2BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	fields, open cultivated areas, ground nesting
Bird	peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	S1BS2N	G4	B, NR, GR	nests in cliffs or manmade structures
Bird	American coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	S1BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	rivers, floating nests
Bird	bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	S2BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	forests near river, nests in tall trees or structures
Bird	worm-eating warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorus</i>	S5B	G5	B, NR, GR	hillside forests, ground nesting
Bird	wood thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	S5B	G5	B, NR, GR	forests, nests in fork or horizontal branch 2 to 15 meters above the ground
Bird	Swainson's warbler	<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	S3B	G4	B, NR, GR	floodplain forests, nests in dense understory
Bird	hooded merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	S1BS4N	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian, cavity nesting
Bird	red-headed woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	S2BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	open woodland, nests in dead trees or dead parts of live trees
Bird	osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	S2B	G5	B, NR	riparian, nests in snags or treetops
Bird	cliff swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	S3B	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian, cliff nesting

Taxa Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	State Rank	Global Rank	Park Occurrences	Primary Habitat
Bird	vesper sparrow	<i>poocetes gramineus</i>	S3BS2N	G5	B, NR, GR	open habitats with grass, ground nesting
Bird	prothonotary warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	S2B	G5	B, NR, GR	bottomland forests, cavity nesting
Bird	bank swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	S2B	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian, burrow nests in banks and bluffs
Bird	American woodcock	<i>Scopolax minor</i>	S4BS4N	G5	B, NR, GR	forest, ground nesting
Bird	Louisiana waterthrush	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>	S5B	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian, nests in cavities on stream banks, under fallen logs, or within roots of an upturned tree.
Bird	yellow-bellied sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	S1BS3N	G5	B, NR, GR	bottomland forests and edge habitat, nests in cavities
Bird	dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	S2B	G5	BR, NR	grassland, ground nesting
Bird	field sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	S4BS4N	G5	B, NR, GR	open woods, nests on ground or in bushes
Bird	golden-winged warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	S2B	G4	B, NR	open woods, nests on ground or in a low bush

Taxa Category	Common Name	Scientific Name	State Rank	Global Rank	Park Occurrences	Primary Habitat
Bird	blue-winged warbler	<i>Vermivora pinus</i>	S4B	G5	B, NR	open woods, nests on ground or in a low bush
Bird	Nashville warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	S1B	G5	B, NR, GR	forest, ground nesting
Bird	Canada warbler	<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>		G5	B, NR, GR	forest, ground nesting
Mammal	Rafinesque's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	S1	G3G4	B, NR, GR	caves/trees
Mammal	least shrew	<i>Cryptotis parva</i>	S2	G5	B, NR, GR	open fields
Mammal	silver-haired bat	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	S2	G5	B, NR, GR	winter: caves; summer: trees
Mammal	Eastern red bat	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>		G5	B, NR, GR	trees
Mammal	hoary bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>		G5	B, NR, GR	trees
Mammal	Eastern small-footed bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	S1	G3	B, NR, GR	hemlock forests
Mammal	Allegheny woodrat	<i>Neotoma magister</i>	S3	G3G4	B, NR, GR	caves, rock outcrops, riverbank boulders
Mammal	evening bat	<i>Nycticeius humeralis</i>	S1	G5	B, NR, GR	trees
Mammal	golden mouse	<i>Ochrotomys nuttalli</i>	S2	G5	B, NR, GR	ground nesting
Mammal	long-tailed shrew	<i>Sorex dispar</i>	S2S3	G4	B, NR, GR	high elevation
Mammal	pygmy shrew	<i>Sorex hoyi</i>	S2S3	G5	B, NR, GR	subterranean tunnels
Mammal	Southern bog lemming	<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	burrows
Mammal	meadow jumping mouse	<i>Zapus hudsonius</i>	S3	G5	B, NR, GR	burrows, streamside brush
Reptile	Worm snake	<i>Carphophis amoenus</i>	S3	G5	GR	burrows, debris, snags

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Reptile	timber rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	S3	G4	NR, GR	rock outcrops, high ridges
Reptile	broad-headed skink	<i>Eumeces laticeps</i>	S2	G5	NR, GR	tree trunks
Reptile	wood turtle	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	S3	G4	NR, GR	riparian
Reptile	rough green snake	<i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>	S2	G5	B, NR, GR	riparian vegetation
Reptile	river cooter	<i>Pseudemys concinna</i>	S2	G5	NR, GR	river