

**ILLINOIS LIST OF ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES
5-YEAR REVIEW AND REVISION ENDING IN 2014**

Summary of action taken by the Board in final listing decisions relative to comments received during the public hearing and written comment period for the ESPB 2014 proposed revision of the Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species. (More detailed information and discussion may be reflected in the 163rd meeting minutes, which will be posted to the Board’s website following approval.)

From the public hearing, noon – 4:00 PM, June 26, 2014			
Hearing transcript			
Comment number	Nature of comment	Commenter name	Summary of action taken by the Board in a final listing decision at the 163rd meeting held August 15, 2014
	No comments received.		n/a
From the written comment period, noon June 26, 2014 – midnight July 11, 2014			
Comment number	Nature of comment	Commenter name	Summary of action taken by the Board in a final listing decision at the 163rd meeting held August 15, 2014
1	Recommends against changing listing status from threatened to endangered for Black Cohosh (<i>Cimicifuga rubifolia</i>).	Chris Evans	The commenter’s information did not change the known current status and distribution, including number of protected sites, from what was considered by the Board when making its preliminary decision to change the status from threatened to endangered. The commenter provided evidence of observation for only 1/18 element occurrences for the species – and it was an EO that was already noted for recent observations when the Board made its preliminary decision. The commenter’s suggestion that a greater number of EOs are protected uses a different definition of protected than what is used by the Board during the List review. The Board confirmed its preliminary decision to change the status of the species from threatened to endangered.
2	Recommends adding Bison (<i>Bison bison</i>) to the IL List of Endangered and Threatened Species.	Kenny Bielski	The commenter did not provide evidence or information of an extant, wild, Illinois population supporting the recommendation as meeting the definition of either “endangered” or “threatened” per the ESPA and any of the listing criteria per 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1010. The Board did not take action to add the species to the IL List.
3	Recommends against adding Plain-bellied Watersnake (<i>Nerodia erythrogaster</i>) to the IL List of Endangered and Threatened Species.	Dr. Mike Dreslik	Because the Copperbelly Watersnake (<i>Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta</i>) is federally designated as threatened, even as the Northern Distinct Population Segment only, it is automatically placed on the IL List. The issue is whether or not the species should be designated an Illinois listing status. At the 02/21/2014 ESPB meeting, the Board preliminarily approved designating an Illinois listing status of threatened. The Dreslik recommendation included a position statement document (Dreslik and Phillips No Date) that addresses their argument from the perspective of proposed taxonomic changes (to eliminate neglecta and other sub-specific designations and recognize only one,



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			<p>wide-spread species – <i>N. erythrogaster</i>) that have not been adopted by the USFWS, so much of their argument does not relate to the federally designated taxon and has limited relevance to the Board’s consideration.</p> <p>The Board’s considered that while the listed <i>N. erythrogaster neglecta</i> NDPS is an administrative taxonomic designation, enforcement becomes complicated because the same biological subspecies occurs in Illinois. For this reason, IDNR Legal Counsel and Law Enforcement had provided support for designating an Illinois listing status for <i>N. erythrogaster neglecta</i> per the Board’s preliminary decision. The Board ultimately decided that due to the definitions of the DPS designation, the taxon did not meet the listing criteria per 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1010 for designating an Illinois listing status and did not approve a final decision for designating an Illinois listing status.</p>
4	<p>Recommends against adding Copperbelly Water Snake (<i>Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta</i>) to the IL List as Illinois threatened.</p>	<p>Ann Holtrop</p>	<p>Because the Copperbelly Watersnake (<i>Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta</i>) is federally designated as threatened, even as the Northern Distinct Population Segment only, it is automatically placed on the IL List. The issue is whether or not the species should be designated an Illinois listing status. At the 02/21/2014 ESPB meeting, the Board preliminarily approved designating an Illinois listing status of threatened.</p> <p>The Holtrop recommendation was not accompanied by any evidence or documentation. It addresses the correct subspecies and argues against designating an Illinois listing status for the species.</p> <p>The Board’s considered that while the listed <i>N. erythrogaster neglecta</i> NDPS is an administrative taxonomic designation, enforcement becomes complicated because the same biological subspecies occurs in Illinois. For this reason, IDNR Legal Counsel and Law Enforcement had provided support for designating an Illinois listing status for <i>N. erythrogaster neglecta</i> per the Board’s preliminary decision. The Board ultimately decided that due to the definitions of the DPS designation, the taxon did not meet the listing criteria per 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1010 for designating an Illinois listing status and did not approve a final decision for designating an Illinois listing status.</p>
5	<p>Recommends adding Illinois Cave Beetle (<i>Pseudanophthalmus illinoisensis</i>) to the IL List as Illinois endangered.</p>	<p>Seth Fielding Turner</p>	<p>The commenter did not provide current information or evidence of an extant, wild, Illinois population supporting the recommendation as meeting the definition of either “endangered” or “threatened” per the ESPA and any of the listing criteria per 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1010. The Board did not take action to add the species to the IL List.</p>

