

Ratings for Indicators

For each Indicator, the terrestrial habitat team determined and weighted a range of measurements to assess the relative health of associated Key Factors, which in turn reflect the integrity of the associated habitat:

Poor Level: Rapid declines and/or extirpations imminent.

Fair Level: Gradual, long-term declines and/or extirpations possible.

Good Level: Populations are expected to remain stable indefinitely.

Very Good Level: Populations robust; increases in abundance possible.

Conservation Actions

Conservation actions propose to manage and conserve the identified habitats as determined by the Indicator thresholds. The threshold for viability of the species is defined for each habitat at the 'Good' level. Conservation actions were formulated for each habitat that call for bringing each Indicator's current status up to or above the 'Good' threshold. Using this methodology, 383 measurable conservation actions were formulated for the 38 habitat types using specific, quantified objectives for each Indicator.

Current Status and Monitoring

In addition to species-specific monitoring strategies presented in Section 2, Arkansas' habitat monitoring strategy consists of measuring indicators in the field. In developing the AWAP, we determined one area of weakness is that information on current status, trends and effort to attain goals is lacking. Developing a cost-effective methodology for monitoring status, coordinated with adjacent states and in-state partners, public and stakeholders will be a priority for the near future of AWAP efforts.