

## Reviewing and Updating the SWAP

Congressional guidelines for State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAP) require they contain “descriptions of procedures to review the plan at intervals not to exceed 10 years.” The WGFD plans to follow this timeline to continue to be proactive in conserving Wyoming’s Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) and their habitats.

### Updating Activities Prior to the 2027 Revision of the SWAP

The WGFD’s Habitat Technical Advisory Group (HTAG) annually reviews and makes funding recommendations for the State Wildlife Grant (SWG) program and other sensitive species projects. HTAG will continue its role in facilitating interagency coordination on SWAP-related issues, including providing recommendations to the WGFD’s administration on potential updates to Wyoming’s SWAP in response to research, changing threats, partnership opportunities, and state or federal initiatives or directives.

The Wyoming SGCN Species Account Database will be continually updated cooperatively by the WGFD and Wyoming Natural Diversity Database as new information becomes available. Copies of SGCN Species Accounts are electronically available to the public. Each species account identifies information that was included in the last USFWS approved version of the SWAP and what has been subsequently added, but not formally incorporated into the approved plan.

Changes to SGCN designations will be considered on an ongoing basis as compelling information becomes available. Decisions regarding SGCN re-classifications will be made by the WGFD Director’s Office and reviewed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission (WGFC) before being submitted to the USFWS for approval. Progress in surveying SGCN is reported annually in the WGFD Governor’s report of agency performance measures.

### Preparing for the 2027 Revision

Wyoming’s SWAP is currently planned to be revised in 2027. The formal revision of the SWAP will begin 18 months prior to the date the SWAP is to be submitted to the USFWS for approval. The revision process will include:

1. The WGFD will publically announce its intentions to revise the SWAP on its website and through news releases. Announcements will include information on how to submit suggestions on potential SWAP changes and improvements.
2. Any changes to federal SWAP revision guidelines, including the eight required congressional elements for SWAPs, will be reviewed and incorporated.
3. Key individuals within the WGFD, partnering agencies, and stakeholders will be surveyed regarding 2017 SWAP successes and areas of improvement.
4. Successes in achieving conservation and monitoring recommendations identified in the 2017 SWAP will be quantified.
5. Wyoming’s SGCN will be reviewed for potential changes in status and conservation priority.
6. Priority area maps will be re-evaluated based upon updated SGCN designations and distribution information and land use GIS data layers.
7. The 2017 SWAP terrestrial habitat types, aquatic basins, and leading wildlife conservation challenges sections will be distributed within the WGFD and externally to key wildlife and natural resource conservation stakeholders for suggested improvements.
8. Drafts of the revised SWAP will go through an internal and external comment period before it is submitted to the WGFC and USFWS for approval.