

OHIO COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
POLICY 14 – RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE STATE OF OHIO TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT RARE, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES TO PREVENT THEIR POSSIBLE EXTINCTION BY:

- A. RESTRICTING THE TAKING OR POSSESSION OF NATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES, OR THEIR EGGS OR OFFSPRING, THAT ARE THREATENED WITH STATEWIDE EXTINCTION (O.R.C. 1531.25 AND O.R.C. 1531.99);**
- B. REGULATING THE TAKING, POSSESSION, REMOVAL, TRANSPORTATION OR SALE OF NATIVE PLANT SPECIES LISTED AS ENDANGERED OR THREATENED WITH EXTIRPATION (O.R.C. 1518.03); AND**
- C. PROTECTING THE WATERS THAT PROVIDE A HABITAT FOR RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES (O.R.C. 6111.03(O), O.R.C. 6111.03(R), O.A.C. 3745-1-05(C)).**

Authorities and Administration

- A. ODNR, Division of Wildlife (DOW) protects fish and wildlife species threatened with statewide extinction under O.R.C. 1531.25. The division, with approval from the Wildlife Council, restricts the taking or possession of native species of wild animals, their eggs, or offspring threatened with statewide extinction. This restriction includes all species on the United States list of endangered fish and wildlife native to Ohio or that migrate within the state. The taking of species threatened with statewide extinction for zoological, educational, scientific or propagation purposes requires a written permit from the Chief of the Division of Wildlife (O.R.C. 1531.25 and O.A.C. 1501:31-23 and 1501:31-25). Any violation of this Section is considered a first degree misdemeanor pursuant to O.R.C. 1531.99.

Through the Wildlife Diversity Income Tax Checkoff Program, funds are made available to the DOW for protection and management of rare and endangered animals, including habitat purchase and protection and research.

- B. ODNR, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves (DNAP), has identified, designated, and listed plants that are native to Ohio that are in danger of extirpation or threatened with becoming endangered (O.R.C. 1518.01 and O.A.C. 1501:18-1). This list includes all species native to Ohio that are listed on the United States list of endangered and threatened plants. The removal or injuring of endangered and threatened plant species without permission from the private property owner or the removal from public property is prohibited (O.R.C. 1518.02). The taking of endangered and threatened plants for botanical, educational, scientific, or for propagation in captivity to preserve the species requires a written permit from the Chief of the DNAP pursuant to O.R.C. 1518.03.

Through the Natural Areas Income Tax Checkoff Program, funds are made available to DNAP for the protection and management of rare and endangered plants, including habitat purchase and protection and research.

- C. The Ohio EPA, through the state water quality standards (O.A.C. 3745-1), provides additional protection to aquatic species identified as threatened or endangered. The Antidegradation Policy (O.A.C. 3745-1-05(C)) protects waters of exceptional ecological significance (e.g., waters that provide a habitat for state and federally identified threatened or endangered species). Present ambient water quality in such waters will not be degraded for all substances determined to be toxic or to interfere with any designated use as determined by the Director of Ohio EPA. This authority is used through various permitting actions such as National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits and Section 401 water quality certifications.