

Appendix 3.3 Kentucky's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy conservation actions.

Code	Conservation action
1	Implement cost-share programs to provide incentives to land owners to reduce acreage of row crop agriculture (e.g., Conservation Reserve Program).
3	Increase Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources staff devoted to raising public awareness and implementation of cost-share programs.
5	Provide technical guidance on private and public lands to encourage the use of wildlife friendly agricultural practices (i.e. no fall plowing, reduce pesticide use, allow fallow fields).
7	Work with partners to focus conservation projects in high priority areas.
8	Acquire or protect agricultural land, through acquisition or easements, and restore to wildlife habitat.
9	Partner with local governments to zone agricultural land as areas not suitable for development.
10	Implement wildlife friendly mowing regimes on Wildlife Management Areas and build partnerships to encourage this practice on private lands.
12	Increase acreage of newly abandoned farmland with incentives from cost-share programs.
13	Acquire or protect agricultural land through acquisition or easements and create newly abandoned areas.
14	Encourage practices that increase structural and vegetative diversity that benefit priority species.
15	Discourage clean farming practices using incentives in cost-share programs.
17	Reduce impacts of livestock grazing through partnerships that increase the use of Best Management Practices (e.g., rotational grazing, fencing of woodlands, vegetative diversity, planting later maturing grasses, etc.) on private land.
19	Work with partners to develop new habitat or green space programs in high priority areas
20	Identify and prioritize high ecological value areas most at risk to urban sprawl and protect from development through acquisition or conservation easements.
21	Partner with local governments to conserve lands outside city limits using "smart growth" tools, such as zoning, land use planning, and restricting infrastructure.
22	Reduce development by working with partners to provide tax incentives to owners of undeveloped property
25	Expand urban wildlife habitat programs (Kentucky Backyard Conservation Program, Backyard Wildlife, etc.) and create new urban habitat programs.
26	Create education programs about the importance of green spaces and their impact on quality of life, etc.
27	Acquire or protect through acquisition or easements shoreline and riparian habitat.

Appendix 3.3 Continued.

Code	Conservation action
28	Work with local governments to zone sensitive shoreline and riparian habitats as areas not suitable for development.
29	Work with partners to expand the use of Best Management Practices during development activities.
31	Partner with the appropriate permitting agency to expand Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources's role in assessing impacts of development on fish and wildlife prior to the permit being issued.
32	Identify and implement shoreline and riparian zone habitat restoration projects.
33	Work with national/international partners to protect or enhance important habitats outside of Kentucky and/or the United States.
35	Decrease conversion of native forests to rotational crop trees (i.e. pine, sycamore, cottonwood) by encouraging the use of existing agricultural lands instead.
36	Encourage the timber industry to use Best Management Practices (buffer strips of native forest, wider tree spacing) when converting to rotational crop trees.
38	Partner with the timber industry to establish Wildlife Management Areas on company lands and implement management plans for priority species.
39	Acquire land previously managed for timber resources and restore to native forest.
40	Facilitate information and idea exchange between Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and timber industry by creating a timber liaison.
41	Work with the KY Department of Transportation (DOT) and other agencies to incorporate wildlife friendly features (incorporate overpasses, signs, road barriers etc.) into construction and maintenance projects to decrease impacts to wildlife.
44	Partner with the Office of Surface Mining to develop regulations that increase the use of wildlife friendly reclamation practices and provide incentives to the industry for doing so.
45	Work with industry and regulatory agencies to develop better protocol for the timing of pre-mining logging and survey needs
46	Partner with appropriate agency to develop new regulations that discourages companies from forfeiting a bond rather than properly reclaiming an area.
47	Partner with the appropriate agency to develop new habitat restoration and enhancement projects using abandoned mine lands funding.
49	Partner with the coal-mining industry to establish Wildlife Management Areas on company lands and implement management plans for priority species.
50	Create innovative methods to better use Fees-in-lieu-of money (or other programs) for permanent protection/restoration of streams and riparian corridors (purchase surface and mineral rights)
51	Provide information and guidance to the mining industry and contractors on reclamation practices that benefit wildlife.

Appendix 3.3 Continued.

Code	Conservation action
52	Facilitate information and idea exchange between Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and mining industry by creating a liaison position.
53	Survey abandoned mines in and around portals to determine the use and importance of an area for bat conservation prior to mine closure (on and off permit area).
54	Revise current Best Management Practices and develop new ones (if needed).
55	Inventory Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources owned land and prepare forest management plans.
57	Garner congressional support for forest management programs (i.e., continuation and/or development)
58	Partner with the KY State Foresters Association and the KY Division of Forestry to provide recommendations on management practices that benefit wildlife.
59	Identify and acknowledge outstanding timber companies and private landowners that make significant contributions to wildlife conservation.
60	Develop workshops for loggers and forestry consultants about timber management practices that most benefit wildlife.
61	Create educational programs for the public, agencies, and consultants about the value of snags and/or cavity trees and how to manage for them (create a how-to video, distribute information on where to place them, etc.).
62	Create more snags and cavity trees on Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources owned or managed lands
63	Work with partners to identify open lands that should not be reforested and maintain priority areas as grassland or early successional habitat.
68	Work with state and federal partner to identify sources of pollutants.
69	Create education programs to inform industry and the public about the potential risks of pollutants to wildlife.
70	Develop programs to encourage the use of native plants or landscape designs that do not require chemical use.
71	Partner with appropriate agency to enforce current laws and develop new laws that deter excessive and/or improper chemical use.
74	Create education programs about the benefits of using native vs. non-native species by using demonstration areas on Wildlife Management Areas as models and by continued outreach during Farm and Field days.
75	Partner with the appropriate agency to identify sources of invasive and exotic species (i.e. fescue, phragmites, serecia, etc.), discourage continued use, and encourage the use of native herbaceous species.
76	Implement control of invasive and exotic species on both public and private lands through partnerships.
80	Work with partners to prioritize land protection, acquisition, and restoration projects that work toward connecting blocks of habitat and restoring ecological processes.

Appendix 3.3 Continued.

Code	Conservation action
82	Use Geographic Information Systems to identify gaps in habitat connectivity.
83	Partner with appropriate agencies to encourage regional land use planning and cooperation on private lands (i.e. watershed management vs. individual property management).
85	Create a landscape ecologist position within Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.
87	Create education programs that promote the ecological value of fire.
88	Provide technical guidance to public agencies and private landowners on how to restore fire regimes.
89	Work with partners to develop and promote the passage of fire-friendly laws.
90	Create fire-teams to implement large-scale fire management programs on private lands.
95	Increase disturbance regimes (i.e. prescribed fire, targeted timber harvest, strip disking, etc.) where appropriate on Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources owned or managed lands.
96	Encourage private landowners to reduce woody encroachment of shallow water wetlands (by flooding, disking, mowing, draining, herbicide application, etc.) through private land consultations and incentive programs.
97	Identify unique microhabitats important to priority species and acquire or protect through acquisition, easements, or cost-share programs.
99	Create new microhabitats on Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources owned or managed lands that benefit priority species.
100	Create education program about the importance of unique microhabitats.
101	Maintain unique microhabitats by retarding succession or invasion of certain plant species where applicable.
102	Implement cave restoration projects (e.g., install or replace cave gates, air dams to improve internal temperatures, etc.) on priority cave systems.
103	Create a unique habitat stewardship program.
107	Encourage landowners to incorporate strategies into management plans that benefit priority species during technical guidance sessions.
108	Implement oak regeneration projects on Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources owned or managed lands.
109	Partner with appropriate agencies to distribute technical guidance about oak regeneration on private lands.
111	Identify areas where overabundance impacts priority species and reduce cervid density.
112	Review and revise cervid harvest regulations as needed.
113	Partner with private landowners to increase public hunting access for cervids through incentive programs.

Appendix 3.3 Continued.

Code	Conservation action
114	Create education programs about the negative impacts of domestic pets or exotic species (e.g., American Bird Conservancy’s “Cats Indoors” program).
116	Identify specific location where predation is adversely affecting a species at risk and develop a management plan for that site.
118	Implement species-specific habitat improvement projects (e.g., providing nest boxes, cavity trees, cavity restrictors, high-quality habitat) on private and public lands to reduce competition.
119	Identify specific locations where overlap of species and potential hybridization may occur. Implement species-specific habitat improvement projects on private and public lands to reduce likelihood of hybridization.
120	Acquire, protect, or improve habitat for isolated populations or those with low population densities through habitat improvement projects, land acquisitions, and easements.
123	Information & Education public about identification of protected and/or species sensitive to overharvest, and the impacts of overharvest on native wildlife
124	Increase awareness among Law Enforcement partners, pet store owners, bait shops, etc. on commercial collecting for pet trade.
125	Increase awareness among Law Enforcement partners, commercial fishermen, bait shops, etc. on market hunting for human consumption.
126	Focus cost-share programs to mitigate impacts to or create new spawning, nesting, or breeding habitat for priority species.
129	Acquire, protect, or improve habitat critical for spawning, nesting, or breeding through habitat improvement projects, land acquisitions, and easements.
132	Information & Education campaign to alert public about potential signs of diseased animals
135	Create education programs on proper identification of priority species (e.g., differences between Whooping Crane and Snow Goose, Rails and Snipe, etc.) to decrease impacts from hunting.
136	Encourage creation of wetland habitat for priority species on private land through incentive programs (i.e. Wetland Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Program, etc.).
138	Acquire and protect wetland habitat and manage for priority species (manage for prey species, breeding and cover habitat, etc.).
142	Work with industry and agencies to decrease impacts of man-made structures (communication towers, wind towers, buildings, powerlines, etc.) through use of wildlife-friendly structures and practices.
144	Information & Education to inform public on potential impacts of certain man-made structures
146	Create education programs to inform the public about the potential impacts of human disturbance to priority species (create signs, presentations, brochures, etc.).

Appendix 3.3 Continued.

Code	Conservation action
147	Work with other agencies and landowners to protect critical habitats from human disturbance through acquisition, easements, gates, buoys, etc.
148	Review, revise, and develop new regulations to protect species from human disturbance.
151	Information & Education public, schools, etc. on regulations protecting impacted species from illegal killing.
152	Work with Law Enforcement partners to establish better programs to apprehend violators of illegal shooting.
153	Information & Education public on identification of species most impacted by wanton shooting/killing and unregulated take and their impact on populations
156	Implement species-specific habitat improvement projects on private and public lands to reduce impacts from stochastic events.
158	Financial incentives to protect riparian corridors and watersheds.
159	Encourage and assist in using, developing, and implementing Best Management Practices, including revision and evaluation as applied to aquatic systems.
160	Inform and educate user groups on significance and importance of riparian corridors and watersheds.
161	Acquisition and conservation easements of critical aquatic habitat.
163	Coordinate and implement existing Farm Bill programs, or other federal incentive programs as applied to aquatic systems.
164	Restoration of degraded aquatic habitat through use of programs such as Fees in Lieu, or other federal grants.
165	Registration and certification programs to recognize land stewards in areas that benefit aquatic species.
166	Work with dam and hydroelectric operators to enhance and protect aquatic habitat.
168	Develop mitigation plan for impacted aquatic systems.
169	Continue to enforce existing laws and regulations that relate to aquatic systems, including the Aquaculture Water Quality Act, and change when needed.
170	Develop public aquatic education programs to inform and educate user groups.
171	Improve coordination among water conservation partners to better utilize existing funding and seek new funding.
172	Obtain granting authority for Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to support aquatic conservation programs.
173	Enforce water quality standards for reservoir tailwater release.
174	Establish working groups to address various broad issues and needs that pertain to water.
175	Work with municipalities, industries, and government agencies to reduce physical impacts of non-point and storm water runoff including Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's)
176	Develop, encourage, and initiate local watershed improvement initiative.

Appendix 3.3 Continued.

Code	Conservation action
177	Develop an aquatic nuisance species plan.
178	Determine impact of incidental and deliberate take of aquatic species.
179	Increase understanding of genetic issues/problems as related to aquatic species.
180	Develop priorities and technology for reintroducing and enhancing aquatic populations.
181	Identify locations of physical barriers to fish and mussel and other aquatic species passage.
182	Improve the data sharing to enhance database information quality
183	Enhance administrative involvement and coordination among upper level management and restructure as appropriate
184	Partner with appropriate agencies to promote construction or restoration of wetland habitat.
185	Restore or create wetland habitat on Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources owned or managed lands and manage for priority species.
186	Encourage reservoir management agencies to manage water levels to benefit shorebirds and waterfowl (expose shoreline and mudflats during the appropriate time of year).
189	Work with the KY Department of Transportation (DOT) and other agencies to incorporate landscape-level planning (e.g. wildlife corridors, habitat connectivity) into infrastructure/road-building efforts.
128 total conservation actions.	
