

## **APPENDIX 8: Tier I At-Risk Species**

Tier I species are those that are globally or nationally most at-risk of extinction and which occur in Nebraska. This list is used to help prioritize conservation planning and actions and does not have legal or regulatory ramifications. Conservation of these species is needed to prevent future state/federal listings and help existing listed species recover.

The Tier I at-risk species lists will be periodically reviewed and revised by taxon experts. This revision will occur on an ongoing basis as new information on the abundance, distribution, and population trends becomes available, with an overall review at least every five years.

Species were selected for the Tier I when they met one or more of the following criteria:

**State and Federally Listed Species:** Species listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act or the Nebraska Non-game and Endangered Species Conservation Act. Recovery and de-listing of these species is a goal of the plan.

**G1-G3 Species:** Species ranked by NatureServe and the Natural Heritage Network as either globally critically imperiled (G1), imperiled (G2) or vulnerable (G3) (see Appendix 4).

**Declining species:** Species whose abundance and/or distribution has been declining across much of their entire range. For land birds, the Partners in Flight national watch list was used as a guide.

**Endemic Species** (or nearly so): Species whose entire range of distribution occurs within or primarily within Nebraska. Conservation actions in Nebraska would be critical to the conservation of the species.

**Disjunct Species:** Species whose populations in Nebraska are widely disjunct (200 miles +) from the species' main range of distribution. Such populations may contain genetic variations that could be important to the long-term survival of the species.

Following the list of species is information on each Tier I species. A few of the fields that are not self-explanatory are described below.

**G-Rank, S-Rank:** Explanation of ranks is found in appendix 4.

**Goal:** The minimum number of populations to be conserved in Nebraska.

**Distribution:** The species distribution in Nebraska relative to its entire range. This was a factor used in setting the goal for each species (see Chapter 3).

Endemic: species that only occur within NE or generally have more than 90% of their range within the state.

Limited: species that occur primarily within one region (e.g. Great Plains)

Widespread: species that are common in a number of regions and widespread in NE.

Peripheral: species that are found mainly in other regions, generally less than 10% of the range is within NE.

**Landscapes:** These are the biologically unique landscapes for which there were known occurrences of populations (or migratory stopover sites) for the species.

## Nebraska Natural Legacy Project Tier 1 At-risk Species

### **Birds**

Bald Eagle  
Bell's Vireo  
Brewer's Sparrow  
Buff-breasted Sandpiper  
Burrowing Owl  
Cerulean Warbler  
Ferruginous Hawk  
Greater-Prairie Chicken  
Henslow's Sparrow  
Interior Least Tern  
King Rail  
Lewis' Woodpecker  
Long-Billed Curlew  
McCown's Longspur  
Mountain Plover  
Piping Plover  
Short-Eared Owl  
Trumpeter Swan  
Whooping Crane

### **Fish**

Blacknose Shiner  
Blue Sucker  
Finescale Dace  
Lake Sturgeon  
Northern Redbelly Dace  
Pallid Sturgeon  
Pearl Dace  
Plains Topminnow  
Sicklefin Chub  
Sturgeon Chub  
Topeka Shiner

### **Insects**

American Burying Beetle  
Bucholz Black Dash  
Iowa Skipper  
Ottoe Skipper  
Platte River Caddisfly  
Regal Fritillary  
Salt Creek Tiger Beetle  
Tawny Crescent

### **Reptiles**

Blanding's Turtle  
Massasauga  
Timber Rattlesnake

### **Mammals**

Fringe-Tailed Myotis  
Long-legged Myotis  
Northern River Otter  
Plains Harvest Mouse  
Plains Pocket Mouse  
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep  
Southern Flying Squirrel  
Swift Fox  
Townsend's Big-Eared Bat

### **Mollusks**

Fatmucket  
Flat Floater  
Pimpleback  
Pistolgrip  
Plain pocketbook  
Pondmussel  
Scaleshell  
Slough Sandshell  
Threeridge  
Higgins eye

### **Plants**

American Ginseng  
Barr's Orophaca  
Blowout Penstemon  
Colorado Butterfly Plant  
Dog-Parsley  
Gordon's Wild Buckwheat  
Hall's Bulrush  
Iowa Moonwort  
Large-Spike Prairie-Clover  
Matted Prickly-phlox  
Meadow Lousewort  
Missouri Sedge  
Saltwort  
Sandhill Goosefoot  
Short's Milkvetch  
Small White Lady's-Slipper  
Snow trillium  
Ute Ladies' Tresses  
Western Prairie White-Fringed Orchid  
Wolf's Spikerush



**Range in NE** Shortgrass Prairie ecoregion in the panhandle  
**Habitat** Sandsage Prairie, shortgrass, mixed grass w/sandsage component, shrub associated species - low shrubs  
**Threats** Sage removal (to improve rangeland), land conversion – pivots  
**Research/Inventory** Identify habitat requirements, continue surveys, survey for sage  
**Landscapes** Oglala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies, Upper Niobrara River

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**Common Name** Buff-breasted Sandpiper      **Scientific Name** Tryngites subruficollis  
**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S?      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, PIF watch list  
**Range in NE** Rainwater basins in East-Central area of state  
**Habitat** Cropland associated with palustrine wetlands-open flats, very short stature grasslands, playa wetlands, require mixture of agricultural and wetlands  
**Threats** Agricultural practices, contaminants  
**Research/Inventory** Identify food sources, migratory stopover duration, roost sites, what agricultural practices favor them, effects of agricultural practices-contaminants, population trend  
**Landscapes** Rainwater Basin-East

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**Common Name** Burrowing Owl      **Scientific Name** Athene cunicularia  
**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S3      **Goal** 4      **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in nearly all states in its range  
**Range in NE** Western two-thirds of state  
**Habitat** Prairie dog towns, Shortgrass Prairie, Mixed-grass Prairie, heavily grazed grasslands  
**Threats** Prairie dog control, habitat conversion-pivots, loss of short, open grasslands; plague  
**Research/Inventory** Expand inventory, productivity, cause of population variability-predators, status and trends of prairie dogs  
**Landscapes** Central Loess Hills, Cherry County Wetlands, Kimball Grasslands, North Platte River Wetlands, Oglala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies, Sandhills Alkaline Lakes, Upper Niobrara River, Wildcat Hills, Sandsage North, Sandsage South, Rainwater Basins-West, Rainwater Basins-East, Elkhorn Headwaters, Dismal Headwaters

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**Common Name** Cerulean Warbler                      **Scientific Name** Dendroica cerulea  
**G-Rank** G4                      **S-Rank** S2                      **Goal** 1                      **Distribution** Peripheral

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**      Declining, PIF watch list

**Range in NE**                      Missouri River bluffs from Thurston to Richardson counties

**Habitat**                      Deciduous forest with emergents, old forest with little undergrowth, Eastern Riparian Forest, Red Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest, Lowland Hackberry Forest, streams where bluff meets floodplain

**Threats**                      Logging, fragmentation, cowbirds

**Research/Inventory**      Habitat requirements - particularly in relation to habitat alteration

**Landscapes**                      Missouri River, Indian Cave Bluffs, Ponca Bluffs, Thurston-Dakota Bluffs

**Common Name** Ferruginous Hawk                      **Scientific Name** Buteo regalis  
**G-Rank** G4                      **S-Rank** S2                      **Goal** 7                      **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**      Ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in nearly all states in its range

**Range in NE**                      Western third of state-primarily panhandle

**Habitat**                      Rock Outcrop, Shortgrass Prairie, Sandhills Dune Prairie, prairie dog towns, (may be using rock outcrops less now)

**Threats**                      Human activity (agriculture/farming), prairie dog control, habitat fragmentation

**Research/Inventory**      Survey southwest NE, Sandhills, and southern Sioux County, identify range in Sandhills associated with prairie dogs, long range movement

**Landscapes**                      Central Loess Hills, Kimball Grasslands, Oglala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies, Pine Ridge, Sandsage South, Upper Niobrara River

**Common Name** Greater-Prairie Chicken                      **Scientific Name** Tympanuchus cupido  
**G-Rank** G4                      **S-Rank** S3S4                      **Goal** 4                      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**      Declining, PIF watch list

**Range in NE**                      Primarily north-central sandhills, scattered eastern three-quarters of state

**Habitat**                      Sandsage Prairie, Tallgrass Prairie, Sandhills Dry Valley Prairie, Loess Mixed-grass Prairie

**Threats**                      Habitat conversion and fragmentation, grassland management (loss of forbs), loss of some shrubs

**Research/Inventory**      Continue surveys

**Landscapes**                      Central Loess Hills, Cherry County Wetlands, Sandsage Prairie, Sandstone Prairies, Southeast Prairies, Verdigre-Bazile Watershed

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<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	Henslow's Sparrow	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	Ammodramus henslowii				
<b><u>G-Rank</u></b>	G4	<b><u>S-Rank</u></b>	S1	<b><u>Goal</u></b>	7	<b><u>Distribution</u></b>	Limited
<b><u>Criteria for selection as Tier I</u></b>	Declining, PIF watch list						
<b><u>Range in NE</u></b>	SE portion of state						
<b><u>Habitat</u></b>	Tallgrass Prairie, Wet-mesic Tallgrass Prairie, will use CRP, prefers large open grasslands						
<b><u>Threats</u></b>	Annual burning (lack of litter), habitat conversion, woody species invasion, haying during nesting period						
<b><u>Research/Inventory</u></b>	Needs inventory, identify prairie size requirements						
<b><u>Landscapes</u></b>	Sandstone Prairies, Southeast Prairies						

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<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	Interior Least Tern	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	Sterna antillarum athalassos				
<b><u>G-Rank</u></b>	G4T2	<b><u>S-Rank</u></b>	S2	<b><u>Goal</u></b>	10	<b><u>Distribution</u></b>	Limited
<b><u>Criteria for selection as Tier I</u></b>	State and federally listed, G2						
<b><u>Range in NE</u></b>	Platte River east of Lake McConaughy, lower reaches of major rivers north of Platte River						
<b><u>Habitat</u></b>	Bare sand bars and sandy shorelines of large rivers, lakes and sand pits						
<b><u>Threats</u></b>	Loss of natural river flows to maintain bare sandbar and shoreline habitat; flooding of nests; loss of nests to vehicles and human disturbance						
<b><u>Research/Inventory</u></b>	Nesting surveys throughout breeding range in state						
<b><u>Landscapes</u></b>	Calamus River, Central Platte, Lower Loup River, Lower Loup River Core, Lower Platte River, Lower Niobrara River, Middle Loup River, Missouri River, Niobrara River, Verdigre-Bazile Watershed, Elkhorn Confluence, Ponca Bluffs, Lake McConaughy						

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<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	King Rail	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	Rallus elegans				
<b><u>G-Rank</u></b>	G4	<b><u>S-Rank</u></b>	S1	<b><u>Goal</u></b>	1	<b><u>Distribution</u></b>	Widespread
<b><u>Criteria for selection as Tier I</u></b>	Declining						
<b><u>Range in NE</u></b>	Primarily eastern third of state - scattered and localized west						
<b><u>Habitat</u></b>	Marshes, wetland complexes that maintain wet habitat during drought						
<b><u>Threats</u></b>	Habitat loss and degradation, needs high quality marsh						
<b><u>Research/Inventory</u></b>	Inventory, determine specific habitat requirements						

**Landscapes** Rainwater Basin-East

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**Common Name** Lewis' Woodpecker      **Scientific Name** Melanerpes lewis  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S2      **Goal** 1      **Distribution** Peripheral  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, PIF watch list  
**Range in NE** Pine ridge in northern Sioux County  
**Habitat** Ponderosa pine forest and woodland, associated with burns and some live forest edges  
**Threats** Fire suppression, Kestral predation  
**Research/Inventory** Survey Fort Robinson and Pine Ridge area (recently burned areas)  
**Landscapes** Pine Ridge

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**Common Name** Long-Billed Curlew      **Scientific Name** Numenius americanus  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S3      **Goal** 4      **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in nearly all states in its range  
**Range in NE** North-central through panhandle  
**Habitat** Sandhills Dune Prairie, Sandhill Valley Prairie with mixed grass, prairie dog towns, mixedgrass and shortgrass prairie in the Panhandle  
**Threats** Habitat conversion, pivots, fragmentation  
**Research/Inventory** More inventory, determine nest success, habitat needs, and management impacts  
**Landscapes** Central Loess Hills, Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River Headwaters, Oglala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies, Platte Confluence, Sandhills Alkaline Lakes, Sandsage Prairie, Upper Loup River, Upper Niobrara River

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**Common Name** Mccown's Longspur      **Scientific Name** Calcarius mccownii  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S3      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, PIF watch list  
**Range in NE** Panhandle - primarily Sioux, Scotts Bluff, Banner and Kimball counties  
**Habitat** Shortgrass with mixed grass, short stature vegetation, prairie dog colonies  
**Threats** Habitat fragmentation and conversion, management that maintains higher vegetation structure, prairie dog control

**Research/Inventory** Identify habitat requirements, continue surveys

**Landscapes** Kimball Grasslands, Ogalala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies

**Common Name** Mountain Plover **Scientific Name** Charadrius montanus

**G-Rank** G2 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, G2

**Range in NE** Kimball and Cheyenne, possibly Sioux counties  
**Habitat** Shortgrass, fallow fields, prairie dog towns, very low stature vegetation, flat

**Threats** Agriculture practices, predation on range sites, grazing management that maintains higher vegetation structure, habitat conversion and fragmentation

**Research/Inventory** Native grassland surveys, determine productivity on field vs. native prairie, spatial requirements for prairie near fallow, habitats for brood rearing and migration, and effects of agriculture practices on foraging

**Landscapes** Kimball Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies

**Common Name** Piping Plover **Scientific Name** Charadrius melodus

**G-Rank** G3 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G3

**Range in NE** Platte River east of Lake McConaughy, lower reaches of major rivers north of Platte River

**Habitat** Bare sand bars and sandy shorelines of large rivers, lakes and sand pits

**Threats** Loss of natural river flows to maintain bare sandbar and shoreline habitat; flooding of nests; loss of nests to vehicles and human disturbance

**Research/Inventory** Nesting surveys throughout breeding range in state

**Landscapes** Calamus River, Central Platte, Lower Loup River, Lower Loup River Core, Lower Platte River, Lower Niobrara River, Middle Loup River, Missouri River, Niobrara River, Verdigre-Bazile Watershed, Ponca Bluffs

**Common Name** Short-Eared Owl **Scientific Name** Asio flammeus

**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, PIF watch list

**Range in NE** Scattered statewide

**Habitat** Open grasslands with standing cover and little disturbance

**Threats** Habitat loss and fragmentation, disturbance of nesting habitat

**Research/Inventory** Surveys to identify location and extent of breeding activity, determine specific nesting habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Central Loess Hills, Cherry County Wetlands, Sandhills Alkaline Lakes, Sandsage Prairie

**Common Name** Trumpeter Swan **Scientific Name** Cygnus buccinator

**G-Rank** G4 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in all states in its range  
**Range in NE** Primarily Cherry, Sheridan and Garden counties

**Habitat** Deep water wetlands and marsh lakes with dense emergent vegetation; spring fed streams

**Threats** Wetland drainage/loss, disturbance, pollution

**Research/Inventory** Continue inventory

**Landscapes** Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River Headwaters, Elkhorn Headwaters, Middle Loup River, Sandhills Alkaline Lakes, Snake River

**Common Name** Whooping Crane **Scientific Name** Grus americana

**G-Rank** G1 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G1

**Range in NE** Platte River from Scottsbluff to Chapman, wetlands and major rivers in central flyway

**Habitat** Wetlands, wet meadows, sandbars and shallow water in rivers

**Threats** Loss of natural river flows to maintain wet meadows, bare sandbar and shallow water habitat, loss of wetland habitat

**Research/Inventory** Continue migration surveys, increased surveys of sandhill wetlands

**Landscapes** Calamus River, Central Platte River, Cherry County Wetlands, Elkhorn Headwaters, Lower Loup River Core, Middle Loup River, Niobrara River, North Loup River, North Platte River Wetlands, Panhandle Prairies, Rainwater Basin-East, Rainwater Basin-West, Verdigre-Bazile Watershed

## Fish

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	Blacknose Shiner	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	Notropis heterolepis	
<b><u>G-Rank</u></b>	G4	<b><u>S-Rank</u></b>	S1	<b><u>Goal</u></b> 10
				<b><u>Distribution</u></b> Disjunct
<b><u>Criteria for selection as Tier I</u></b>	State listed, disjunct			
<b><u>Range in NE</u></b>	North-central portion of state			
<b><u>Habitat</u></b>	Headwater streams, spring fed, clear water, pools, quiet waters			
<b><u>Threats</u></b>	De-watering, siltation, interruption of stream movement, channelization, exotic species, culverts, water control structures			
<b><u>Research/Inventory</u></b>	Determine age structure, recruitment, population dynamics, seasonal movement, habitat use			
<b><u>Landscapes</u></b>	Cherry County Wetlands, Keya Paha Watershed, North Loup River, Upper Niobrara River			

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<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	Blue Sucker	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	Cycleptus elongatus	
<b><u>G-Rank</u></b>	G3G4	<b><u>S-Rank</u></b>	S3	<b><u>Goal</u></b> 7
				<b><u>Distribution</u></b> Limited
<b><u>Criteria for selection as Tier I</u></b>	G3			
<b><u>Range in NE</u></b>	Lower Platte and Missouri River - Boyd through Richardson counties			
<b><u>Habitat</u></b>	Large turbid rivers			
<b><u>Threats</u></b>	Channelization, alteration of flow, lack of sedimentation in some areas of Missouri River, interruption of movement, water quality			
<b><u>Research/Inventory</u></b>	Determine specific habitat requirements, population dynamics, seasonal movement			
<b><u>Landscapes</u></b>	Lower Platte River, Missouri River			

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<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	Finescale Dace	<b><u>Scientific Name</u></b>	Phoxinus neogaeus	
<b><u>G-Rank</u></b>	G5	<b><u>S-Rank</u></b>	S2	<b><u>Goal</u></b> 10
				<b><u>Distribution</u></b> Disjunct
<b><u>Criteria for selection as Tier I</u></b>	State listed, disjunct			
<b><u>Range in NE</u></b>	Sandhills of central portion of state			
<b><u>Habitat</u></b>	Headwater streams, spring fed, clear water, sandhill streams, beaver ponds, undercut banks, meandering streams, small pools			

**Threats** Channel modification, de-watering, exotics, culverts, water control structures

**Research/Inventory** Determine age structure, recruitment, population dynamics, seasonal movements, habitat use

**Landscapes** Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River Headwaters, Keya Paha Watershed, North Loup River, Panhandle Prairies, Platte Confluence, Snake River, Upper Niobrara River

**Common Name** Lake Sturgeon **Scientific Name** Acipenser fulvescens

**G-Rank** G3G4 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Peripheral

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, G3

**Range in NE** Lower Platte and Missouri River - Boyd through Richardson counties

**Habitat** Shallow water, gravel/rocky substrate – for spawning, large rivers, lakes in other states

**Threats** Pollution, lack of spawning habitat, fragmentation of habitat (dams), interruption of movement, decreasing water levels in Platte River

**Research/Inventory** Increase surveys, determine specific spawning habitat, population dynamics

**Landscapes** Lower Platte River, Missouri River

**Common Name** Northern Redbelly Dace **Scientific Name** Phoxinus eos

**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S3 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Disjunct

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, disjunct

**Range in NE** Sandhills of central portion of state

**Habitat** Spring-fed, clear, headwater streams, pools

**Threats** De-watering, siltation, interruption of stream movement, exotic species

**Research/Inventory** Determine age structure, recruitment, population dynamics, seasonal movement, specific habitat use

**Landscapes** Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River Headwaters, Keya Paha Watershed, North Loup River, Panhandle Prairies, Platte Confluence, Snake River

**Common Name** Pallid Sturgeon **Scientific Name** Scaphirhynchus albus

**G-Rank** G1 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G1

**Range in NE** Lower Platte and Missouri River - Boyd through Richardson counties

**Habitat** Large turbid rivers, steep drop-offs at the edge of sandbars, sandy areas



**G-Rank** G3      **S-Rank** S2      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**      G3

**Range in NE**      Missouri River - Boyd through Richardson counties

**Habitat**      Large turbid rivers - Missouri River

**Threats**      Reduction of turbidity, channelization, modified water flows

**Research/Inventory**      Determine specific habitat requirements, population dynamics, seasonal movement

**Landscapes**      Missouri River

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**Common Name**      Sturgeon Chub      **Scientific Name**      *Macrhybopsis gelida*

**G-Rank** G3      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**      State listed, G3

**Range in NE**      Lower Platte and Missouri River - Boyd through Richardson counties

**Habitat**      Large turbid rivers with gravel, turbidity

**Threats**      Reduction of turbidity, channelization, modified water flows, loss of spawning habitat, de-watering, sediment transport

**Research/Inventory**      Determine specific habitat requirements, population dynamics, seasonal movement

**Landscapes**      Lower Platter River, Missouri River

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**Common Name**      Topeka Shiner      **Scientific Name**      *Notropis topeka*

**G-Rank** G3      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**      State and federally listed, G3

**Range in NE**      Very localized: Cherry and Madison counties

**Habitat**      Cold/cool clear water streams with gravel, low gradient

**Threats**      Sedimentation, exotics, channelization, stocking of sport fish, row crop agriculture, flow modification, de-watering, decrease in water quality

**Research/Inventory**      Determine age structure, recruitment, population dynamics, seasonal movements

**Landscapes**      Cherry County Wetlands, North Loup River

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## Insects

**Common Name** American Burying Beetle      **Scientific Name** Nicrophorus americanus  
**G-Rank** G2G3      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G2  
**Range in NE** North-central and southwest-central portion of the state  
**Habitat** Wet meadows in sandhills, open woodlands, loess prairie, Platte River riparian woodlands  
**Threats** Woody encroachment, drought, agriculture and land development, light pollution  
**Research/Inventory** Determine specific habitat use, effects of land management practices, population sizes  
**Landscapes** Calamus River, Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River, Elkhorn Headwaters, Keya Paha Watershed, Middle Loup River, North Loup River, Loess Canyons

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**Common Name** Bucholz Black Dash      **Scientific Name** Euphyes conspicua bucholzi  
**G-Rank** G4T1      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Endemic  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G1, endemic  
**Range in NE** North-eastern portion of state  
**Habitat** Eastern Sedge Wet Meadow - larvae feed on wide leaf sedge, adults in boggy areas  
**Threats** Habitat conversion and fragmentation, exotics, drying up of "wet" areas  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine population size and dynamics, best management practices  
**Landscapes** Calamus River, Elkhorn Confluence

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**Common Name** Iowa Skipper      **Scientific Name** Atrytone arogos iowa  
**G-Rank** G3G4      **S-Rank** S?      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3  
**Range in NE** Eastern half of state  
**Habitat** Tallgrass Prairie, Mixed-grass Prairie along the Niobrara - bluestems likely host plant, requires native prairie with standing grass stems

**Threats** Management practices that remove all standing grass stems, litter and nectar sources, burning of entire grassland site can be detrimental, habitat fragmentation

**Research/Inventory** Inventory survey, determine best management practices

**Landscapes** Keya Paha Watershed

**Common Name** Ottoe Skipper **Scientific Name** Hesperia ottoe

**G-Rank** G3G4 **S-Rank** S3 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Eastern half of state

**Habitat** Tallgrass Prairie, rolling/hilly prairie, Mixed-grass Prairie - feed on bluestems

**Threats** Loss of native grasslands, management practices that remove all standing grass stems, litter and nectar sources, burning of entire grassland site can be detrimental, exotics, habitat fragmentation

**Research/Inventory** Inventory survey, determine best management practices

**Landscapes** Lower Loup River, Niobrara River, Sandstone Prairies

**Common Name** Platte River Caddisfly **Scientific Name**

**G-Rank** G!? **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Endemic

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G1, endemic

**Range in NE** Central Platte River: Kearney, Hall, and Merrick counties

**Habitat** Sloughs, backwaters, wet meadows

**Threats** Loss of natural river flows to maintain sloughs, backwater, and wet meadow habitat, use of insecticides, habitat conversion

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine population dynamics, specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Central Platte

**Common Name** Regal Fritillary **Scientific Name** Speyeria idalia

**G-Rank** G3 **S-Rank** S3 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Western three-fourths of state (primarily the eastern half of this area)

**Habitat** Tallgrass and midgrass prairie with violets

**Threats** Habitat loss and fragmentation, exotics, drought, overgrazing or herbicide use that eliminates violets

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, monitor population trends

**Landscapes** Central Loess Hills, Central Platte, Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River, Keya Paha Watershed, Lower Loup River, Lower Loup River Core, Lower Platte River, Middle Loup River, Niobrara River, North Platte River Wetlands, Panhandle Prairies, Southeast Prairies, Upper Niobrara River, Willow Creek Prairies

**Common Name** Salt Creek Tiger Beetle      **Scientific Name** Cicindela nevadica lincolniana

**G-Rank** G5T3      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Endemic

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, federal candidate, endemic

**Range in NE** Lancaster county

**Habitat** Eastern Nebraska saline wetlands and their associated streams

**Threats** Habitat loss and degradation, urban development, impacts to natural hydrology, wetland drainage due to stream channelization and headcutting, light pollution

**Research/Inventory** Identify specific reproductive habitat parameters, determine best habitat restoration methods

**Landscapes** Saline Wetlands

**Common Name** Tawny Crescent      **Scientific Name** Phyciodes batesii

**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S2      **Goal** 4      **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, ranked as possibly extirpated, imperiled or vulnerable in most states in its range

**Range in NE** Pine ridge- Sioux county

**Habitat** Canyon type habitat - close to water, between stream and dry, pine wooded areas with grassland openings

**Threats** Limited by host plant availability - Aster laevis, over grazing

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine life cycle and specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Pine Ridge

## Mammals

**Common Name** Fringe-Tailed Myotis      **Scientific Name** Myotis thysanodes pahasapensis  
**G-Rank** G4G5T2    **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G2  
**Range in NE** Pine forests in panhandle  
**Habitat** Ponderosa Pine Forest and Woodland, Green Ash-Elm Bottom Woodland  
**Threats** Loss of mature pine forests (logging); large scale, stand removing fires  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, identify maternal roost habitat requirements and winter hibernacula  
**Landscapes** Pine Ridge, Wildcat Hills

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**Common Name** Long-legged Myotis      **Scientific Name** Myotis volans  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S2      **Goal** 1      **Distribution** Peripheral  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining  
**Range in NE** Extreme northwest panhandle  
**Habitat** Ponderosa Pine Forest and Woodland, Green Ash-Elm Bottom Woodland, Canyon Bottom Woodland, Badlands  
**Threats** Logging and large scale, stand removing fires, loss of mature forests and woodlands  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, identify maternal roost habitat requirements and winter hibernacula  
**Landscapes** Oglala Grasslands, Pine Ridge

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**Common Name** Northern River Otter      **Scientific Name** Lontra canadensis  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S2      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed  
**Range in NE** Statewide  
**Habitat** Along rivers and streams with sloughs and backwater areas, marshes, will frequent lakes and ponds  
**Threats** Accidental trapping, habitat loss, pesticides and pollution

**Research/Inventory** Inventory and monitoring surveys

**Landscapes** Calamus River, Central Platte River, Elkhorn Headwaters, Lower Platte River, North Loup River, North Platte River Wetlands, Upper Loup River, Upper Niobrara River

**Common Name** Plains Harvest Mouse      **Scientific Name** Reithrodontomys montanus griseus

**G-Rank** G5TNR    **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, declining?

**Range in NE** Southeast portion of state

**Habitat** Tallgrass Prairie - heavily grazed

**Threats** Loss of Tallgrass Prairie habitat, lack of heavy grazing/management issues

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Sandstone Prairies, Southeast Prairies

**Common Name** Plains Pocket Mouse      **Scientific Name** Perognathus flavescens perniger

**G-Rank** G5TNR    **S-Rank** SU?      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, declining?

**Range in NE** Northeast portion of state-potentially southeast portion of state

**Habitat** Tallgrass Prairie, sandy-loose soil prairies, Loess Bluff Prairie, Loess Mixed-grass Prairie, Northern Sand/Gravel Prairie

**Threats** Loss of Tallgrass Prairie habitat

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Sandstone Prairies, Southeast Prairies

**Common Name** Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep      **Scientific Name** Ovis canadensis canadensis

**G-Rank** G4T4    **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 1      **Distribution** Disjunct

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Disjunct

**Range in NE** Buttes in Scottsbluff and Sioux counties

**Habitat** Rocky buttes of Pine Ridge and Wildcat Hills

**Threats** Parasites, hoof deformations, potential disease

**Research/Inventory** Monitor for parasites and disease, determine source of hoof deformities

**Landscapes** Pine Ridge, Wildcat Hills

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**Common Name** Southern Flying Squirrel      **Scientific Name** Glaucomys volans  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 5      **Distribution** Peripheral  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed  
**Range in NE** Missouri River bluffs-Washington to Richardson counties  
**Habitat** Red Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest  
**Threats** Loss of mature forest with old growth trees with nest holes  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory and monitoring surveys  
**Landscapes** Missouri River, Indian Cave Bluffs, Rulo Bluffs

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**Common Name** Swift Fox      **Scientific Name** Vulpes velox  
**G-Rank** G3      **S-Rank** S2      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, G3  
**Range in NE** Panhandle  
**Habitat** Shortgrass Prairie, Western Mixed-grass Prairie  
**Threats** Predator control, conversion to cropland, fragmentation of habitat, loss of prairie dog colonies  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory and monitoring surveys  
**Landscapes** Kimball Grasslands, Oglala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies, Pine Ridge, Upper Niobrara River, Wildcat Hills

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**Common Name** Townsend's Big-Eared Bat      **Scientific Name** Corynorhinus townsendii  
**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 1      **Distribution** Peripheral  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in all states in its range  
**Range in NE** Sheridan and Sioux counties  
**Habitat** Ponderosa Pine Forest and Woodland, Dry Cliff or Rock Outcrop - requires caves, crevasses  
**Threats** Lack of maternal roost sites and winter hibernacula  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, identify maternal roost habitat requirements and winter hibernacula

**Landscapes** Pine Ridge

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## Mollusks

**Common Name** Fatmucket **Scientific Name** *Lampsilis siliquoidea*  
**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining  
**Range in NE** Streams in eastern third of state  
**Habitat** Lakes and small to medium sized streams and large rivers in mud, sand, or gravel  
**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements  
**Landscapes** Missouri River, Elkhorn Confluence, Saline Wetlands

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**Common Name** Flat Floater **Scientific Name** *Anodonta suborbiculata*  
**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in nearly all states in its range  
**Range in NE** Missouri River- Boyd through Richardson counties  
**Habitat** Quiet water of sloughs, oxbows, and backwaters of Missouri River  
**Threats** Drainage, filling and siltation of sloughs, oxbows, and backwaters, stream channelization, degradation of water quality  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements  
**Landscapes** Missouri River

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**Common Name** Higgins eye **Scientific Name** *Lampsilis higginsii*  
**G-Rank** G1 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G1  
**Range in NE** Upper reach of Missouri River

**Habitat** Large to medium rivers in mud and sand  
**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements  
**Landscapes** Missouri River

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**Common Name** Pimpleback **Scientific Name** *Quadrula pustulosa*  
**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining  
**Range in NE** Streams in eastern quarter of state  
**Habitat** Large streams to medium rivers in mud, sand, or gravel  
**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements  
**Landscapes** Elkhorn Confluence, Southeast Prairies

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**Common Name** Pistolgrip Mussell **Scientific Name** *Tritogonia verrucosa*  
**G-Rank** G4 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining  
**Range in NE** Missouri River and streams in southeast portion of state  
**Habitat** Large streams to medium rivers in mud, sand, or gravel  
**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements  
**Landscapes** Missouri River, Southeast Prairies

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**Common Name** Plain pocketbook **Scientific Name** *Lampsilis cardim*  
**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining  
**Range in NE** Streams in eastern third of state  
**Habitat** Small creeks to medium rivers in mud, sand, or gravel

**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Elkhorn Headwaters, Elkhorn Confluence, Southeast Prairies

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**Common Name** Pondmussel **Scientific Name** Ligumia subrostrata

**G-Rank** G4G5 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining

**Range in NE** Streams in eastern third of state-especially in the southeast portion

**Habitat** Small to medium streams, possibly ponds, in mud or sand

**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Elkhorn Headwaters, Elkhorn Confluence, Southeast Prairies

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**Common Name** Scaleshell **Scientific Name** Leptodea leptodon

**G-Rank** G1 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G1

**Range in NE** Upper reach of Missouri River

**Habitat** Large rivers in mud and sand

**Threats** Stream channelization, degradation of water quality

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Missouri River

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**Common Name** Slough Sandshell **Scientific Name** Lampsilis teres teres

**G-Rank** G5T1Q **S-Rank** S? **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Disjunct/Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G1

**Range in NE** Streams in southeast portion of state

**Habitat** Medium streams to medium rivers, muddy sloughs and pond-like areas of rivers where water is slow moving

**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Lower Platte River, Southeast Prairies

**Common Name** Threeridge **Scientific Name** Amblema plicata

**G-Rank** G5 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining

**Range in NE** Streams in eastern quarter of state

**Habitat** Small to large rivers and impoundments in mud, sand, or gravel

**Threats** Stream channelization, siltation, degradation of water quality, agriculture and urban effluent

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine specific habitat requirements

**Landscapes** Missouri River

## Reptiles

**Common Name** Blanding's Turtle **Scientific Name** Emydoidea blandingii

**G-Rank** G4 **S-Rank** S4 **Goal** 4 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in all but one state in its range

**Range in NE** Primarily sandhills marshes, very locally in eastern portion of state

**Habitat** Sandhills fens, proximity to water, Sandhills Freshwater Marsh, Northern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, small tributaries, sandhills prairies (upland habitat), marshes and oxbows in eastern portion of state

**Threats** Pet industry, road kill, loss of wetlands in east

**Research/Inventory** Inventory along Elkhorn, telemetry work on Two Rivers population

**Landscapes** Lower Platte River, Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal River Headwaters, Elkhorn River Headwaters, Sandhill Alkaline

**Common Name** Massasauga **Scientific Name** Sistrurus catenatus

**G-Rank** G3G4 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, G3

**Range in NE** Very southeast portion of state

**Habitat** Wet Mesic Tallgrass Prairie, wet meadow/marsh/wet prairie, lower-middle Tallgrass Prairie, Cordgrass Wet Prairie, crayfish burrows

**Threats** Loss/degradation of Tallgrass Prairie habitat, woody invasion, drying of prairies, road kill

**Research/Inventory** Life history dynamics, determine size/extent of Colfax population, distributional investigation, best management practices

**Landscapes** Lower Platte River, Sandstone Prairies, Southeast Prairies

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**Common Name** Timber Rattlesnake      **Scientific Name** Crotalus horridus

**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 4      **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Declining, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in nearly all states in its range

**Range in NE** Very southeast portion of state

**Habitat** Deciduous woodland, riparian woodland - both in conjunction with rock outcrops

**Threats** Cedar encroachment, malicious killing, limestone quarrying

**Research/Inventory** Inventory surveys, determine life history dynamics, best management practices

**Landscapes** Missouri River, Sandstone Prairies, Southeast Prairies, Indian Cave Bluffs

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## Plants

**Common Name** American Ginseng      **Scientific Name** Panax quinquefolium

**G-Rank** G3G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Peripheral

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, G3

**Range in NE** Missouri River bluff woodlands

**Habitat** Oak-Hickory-Ironwood Forest, Bur Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest, Red Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest

**Threats** Over collecting, grazing of woodlands, logging, housing development, invasive species.

**Research/Inventory** Detail inventory and population monitoring

**Landscapes** Missouri River, Ponca Bluffs, Rulo Bluffs

**Common Name** Barr's Orophaca **Scientific Name** Astragalus barrii

**G-Rank** G3 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Dawes County

**Habitat** Badland, Rock Outcrop

**Threats** Unknown

**Research/Inventory** Detail inventory and population monitoring

**Landscapes** Oglala Grasslands

**Common Name** Blowout Penstemon **Scientific Name** Penstemon haydenii

**G-Rank** G1 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Endemic

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G1

**Range in NE** Sandhills Ecoregion

**Habitat** Sandhills Dune Prairie (blowouts)

**Threats** Loss of blowouts due to range management practices and lack of fire

**Research/Inventory** Research on how to create and maintain blowout habitat

**Landscapes** Cherry County Wetlands, Dismal Headwaters, Dismal River, North Loup River, Panhandle Prairies, Sandhills Alkali Lakes, Upper Niobrara River

**Common Name** Colorado Butterfly Plant **Scientific Name** Gaura neomexicana ssp coloradensis

**G-Rank** G3T2 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 5 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G2

**Range in NE** Kimball County

**Habitat** Western Floodplain Terrace Grassland

**Threats** Canada thistle invasion of habitat, herbicide spraying, groundwater level decline, haying and overgrazing of habitat

**Research/Inventory** Population monitoring, research on best management practices

**Landscapes** Kimball Grasslands

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**Common Name** Dog-Parsley **Scientific Name** Lomatium nuttallii

**G-Rank** G3 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Scottsbluff and Morrill counties

**Habitat** Rock Outcrops

**Threats** Unknown

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Wildcat Hills

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**Common Name** Gordon's Wild Buckwheat **Scientific Name** Eriogonum gordonii

**G-Rank** G4 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, ranked imperiled or vulnerable in most states in its range

**Range in NE** Sioux County

**Habitat** Rocky prairies (most likely Western Mixedgrass Prairie)

**Threats** Unknown

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Oglala Grasslands, Panhandle Prairies

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**Common Name** Hall's Bulrush **Scientific Name** Schoenoplectus hallii

**G-Rank** G2 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G2

**Range in NE** Eastern Sandhills Ecoregion

**Habitat** Northern Sedge Wet Meadow, Northern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, Sandhills Freshwater Marsh

**Threats** Wetland drainage, invasive species

**Research/Inventory** Research on best management practices

**Landscapes** Calamus River, Elkhorn Headwaters

**Common Name** Iowa Moonwort **Scientific Name** Botrychium campestre

**G-Rank** G3G4 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 7 **Distribution**

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Brown County

**Habitat** Bur Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest

**Threats** Unknown

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Middle Niobrara River Valley

**Common Name** Large-Spike Prairie-Clover **Scientific Name** Dalea cylindriceps

**G-Rank** G3G4 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Shortgrass Prairie Ecoregion

**Habitat** Gravelly terrace prairies

**Threats** Overgrazing

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Sandsage South

**Common Name** Matted Prickly-phlox **Scientific Name** Linanthus caespitosus

**G-Rank** G4 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in most states in its range

**Range in NE** Scottsbluff County

**Habitat** Rock Outcrop

**Threats** Unknown

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Wildcat Hills

**Common Name** Meadow Lousewort      **Scientific Name** Pedicularis crenulata  
**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in most states in its range  
**Range in NE** Sioux County  
**Habitat** Western Streamside Wet Meadow  
**Threats** Annual haying, overgrazing, exotic plant invasion, conversion of meadows to cropland  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution  
**Landscapes** Panhandle Prairies, Upper Niobrara River

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**Common Name** Missouri Sedge      **Scientific Name** Carex missouriensis  
**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in most states in its range  
**Range in NE** Johnson County  
**Habitat** Eastern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, Eastern Sedge Wet Meadow, Wet-mesic Tallgrass Prairies  
**Threats** Conversion of prairie to cropland, herbicide spraying, invasive species, overgrazing  
**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution  
**Landscapes**

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**Common Name** Saltwort      **Scientific Name** Salicornia rubra  
**G-Rank** G5      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Disjunct  
**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed, disjunct  
**Range in NE** Lancaster and southern Saunders counties  
**Habitat** Eastern Saline Meadow  
**Threats** Wetland drainage, development, reduced groundwater levels, loss of salinity in wetlands, invasive plants  
**Research/Inventory** Research needed on how to restore and manage saline wetlands  
**Landscapes** Central Platte, Saline Wetlands

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**Common Name** Sandhill Goosefoot      **Scientific Name** Chenopodium cycloides

**G-Rank** G3      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** G3

**Range in NE** Chase and Dundy counties

**Habitat** Sandsage Prairie

**Threats** Overgrazing, herbicide spraying, conversion of prairie to cropland

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Sandsage South

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**Common Name** Short's Milkvetch      **Scientific Name** Astragalus shortianus

**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 7      **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Regional endemic, ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in most states in its range

**Range in NE** Kimball and Banner counties

**Habitat** Rocky and gravelly Western Mixedgrass Prairie

**Threats** Unknown

**Research/Inventory** Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes** Kimball Grasslands

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**Common Name** Small White Lady's-Slipper      **Scientific Name** Cypripedium candidum

**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1S2      **Goal** 10      **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State listed

**Range in NE** Loup River valleys in the Mixedgrass Prairie Ecoregion and eastern Sandhills Ecoregion

**Habitat** Northern Sedge Wet Meadow, Northern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, Wet-mesic Tallgrass Prairie

**Threats** Conversion of meadows to cropland and development, invasive species, reduced groundwater levels, annual mid-summer haying, herbicide spraying

**Research/Inventory** Research to determine best management practices

**Landscapes** Elkhorn Headwaters, Lower Loup River Core, Lower Platte River

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**Common Name** Snow trillium      **Scientific Name** Trillium nivale

**G-Rank** G4      **S-Rank** S1      **Goal** 1      **Distribution** Peripheral

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** Ranked as imperiled or vulnerable in nearly all states in its range

**Range in NE** Cass County

**Habitat** Oak-Hickory-Ironwood Forest, Bur Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest, Red Oak-Basswood-Ironwood Forest

**Threats** Invasive species, logging, overgrazing

**Research/Inventory** Unknown

**Landscapes**

**Common Name** Ute Ladies' Tresses **Scientific Name** *Spiranthes diluvialis*

**G-Rank** G2 **S-Rank** S1 **Goal** 2 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G2

**Range in NE** Sioux County

**Habitat** Western Alkaline Meadow

**Threats** Reduced groundwater levels, invasive species, conversion of meadows to cropland, annual haying of meadows

**Research/Inventory** Research to determine management needs

**Landscapes** Panhandle Prairies, Upper Niobrara River

**Common Name** Western Prairie White-Fringed Orchid **Scientific Name** *Platanthera praeclara*

**G-Rank** G2 **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 10 **Distribution** Limited

**Criteria for selection as Tier I** State and federally listed, G2

**Range in NE** Tallgrass Prairie and Sandhills Ecorgions

**Habitat** Eastern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, Northern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, Wet-mesic Tallgrass Prairie, Tallgrass Prairie

**Threats** Invasive species, herbicide spraying, conversion of prairie to cropland and development, annual mid-summer haying, overgrazing, reduced gene flow among isolated populations

**Research/Inventory** Research on best management practices

**Landscapes** Central Platte, Cherry County Wetlands, Elkhorn Headwaters, Lower Platte River, North Loup River, Willow Creek Prairies

**Common Name** Wolf's Spikerush **Scientific Name** *Eleocharis wolfii*

**G-Rank** G3? **S-Rank** S2 **Goal** 7 **Distribution** Widespread

**Criteria for selection as Tier I**     G3

**Range in NE**             Sandhills Ecoregion

**Habitat**                 Northern Cordgrass Wet Prairie, Northern Sedge Wet Prairie

**Threats**                 Wetland drainage, invasive species

**Research/Inventory**     Inventory of distribution

**Landscapes**             Cherry County Wetlands, Elkhorn Headwaters, Middle Loup River

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