



## **2014 WILDLIFE OBJECTIVES**

### *2014 Regional Stewardship Challenge*

#### **Key Point 1      *Illinois Wildlife Species: Amphibians, Birds, Mammals & Reptiles***

- a. Identify wildlife species using mounted specimens, skins/pelts, pictures, skulls, silhouettes, wings, feathers, eggs, calls, scats, tracks, or other common signs
- b. Familiarity with the natural history of wildlife species including food habits, habitat preference, reproduction and behavior

#### **Key Point 2      *Wildlife Ecology***

- a. Know the meaning of "habitat"
- b. Be able to recognize basic habitat types as well as the natural divisions in Illinois and associated plants and animals
- c. Comprehend basic ecological concepts and associated terminology (i.e. limiting factor, ecosystem, community, population, biome, niche, succession)
- d. Describe and be able to model food chains, food webs, trophic levels and be able to site Illinois examples of each
- e. Be aware of wildlife population dynamics such as birth, mortality, age-structure, sex ratio, mating systems, limiting factors and carrying capacity
- f. Understand the impact of limiting and decimating factors of common wildlife species on wildlife management
- g. Understand biodiversity and why it is important to people and wildlife
- h. Identify, describe and explain the advantages of specific anatomical, physiological and/or behavioral adaptations of wildlife that enable them to survive in their native environment (i.e. crepuscular, diurnal, torpor, estivation, nocturnal, omnivore, insectivore)

#### **Key Point 3      *Conservation and Management of Wildlife***

- a. Identify and describe both methods that can be used to evaluate habitat health and to determine the abundance and distribution of wildlife
- b. Describe methods used to manage and conserve wildlife and wildlife habitat
- c. Familiarity with the evolution of the conservation movement in the United States including its leaders, resulting, laws and the role of state and federal agencies in management
- d. Know the difference between game and non-game species and be able to answer questions concerning Illinois hunting, trapping or limit regulations

#### **Key Point 4      *Issues Involving Wildlife and Society***

- a. Understand how non-native (exotic), invasive species impact native wildlife and be aware of the role humans play in their spread
- b. Identify amphibians, birds, mammals, and reptiles that are listed as endangered, threatened, or extirpated
- c. Describe the causes that lead to their listing and the measures being taken to aid their recovery
- d. Know that wildlife species are subject to diseases resulting from exposure to microbes, parasites, toxins, and other biological and physical agents and explain how their impacts may affect humans