Glossary

Bog: standing water, acidic.

Calcareous: Soil containing calcium carbonate, calcium or limestone; chalky.

Community Type: A group of associated plantsa, animals and the related geoclimatic characteristics.

Comprehensive Conservation: A term used to describe how fish and wildlife and their related habitats are interconnected and how conservation concerns common to all of these can be addressed on a broad-scale giving equal importance to all components.

Conservation Concern: Description of the critical threats that have, are or could adversely affect the populations of fish and wildife and their related habitats.

Conservation Strategies: Strategic guidance that address conservation concerns.

Critical Habitat (As defined by the Endangered Species Act): (i)The specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of this Act, on which are found those physical or biological features (I) essential to the conservation of the species and (II) which may require special management considerations or protection; and (ii) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of this Act, upon a determination by the Secretary that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species.

Critical Habitat (As used not in relation to the Endangered Species Act): A habitat deemed essential to support healthy fish and wildlife communities.

Cryic: Very cold soils

Ecotype: Georgraphic reference to broad-scale areas of Montana that have similar landscape, geoclimatic and vegetation characteristics.

Essentially Associated: An association between geographic area, vegetation, or fish and wildlife species that is critical to the existence of a population of fish or wildlife.

Fen: continuous groundwater, alkaline

Focus Area: A terrestrial or aquatic area based on geographic features or the drainage of water that are used to frame locations where comprehensive conservation will occur.

Generally Associated: An association between geographic area, vegetation, or fish and wildlife species that is important to the existence of a population of fish or wildlife

Greatest Conservation Need: Focus areas, community types and species that are low or declining, federally listed species as either "threatened" or "endangered" or individual/groups of species that lack distribution and occurance information to asses their status or trends

Mass Wasting: the downslope movement of rock, regolith, and soil, under the influence of gravity. Also called mass movement.

Mesic: Shrubs, grasslands or combination of both that are adapted to a moderately moist habitat.

Oligotrophic: Low in nutrients and in primary production.

Tier: Three levels of Conservation need assigned to focus areas, community types, species, and Inventory Needs. (a fourth Tier was used for just the species component that identifies non-native or peripheral species)

Udic: Moist soils most of the year.

Ustic: A soil moisture regime that occurs with a limited amount of water available for plants but occurs at times when the soil temperature is optimum for plant growth.

Xeric: Shrubs, grasslands or combination of both that are adapted to an extremely dry habitat.