

THE ENDANGERED PRAIRIE

The Ojibway Prairie Complex is the largest protected savanna and prairie habitat in Ontario, and one of the easternmost locations in North America with these habitats.

Within the Ojibway Prairie Complex, over 160 species of provincially rare plants and animals have been recorded, more than any other site in Ontario.

The Complex boasts extremely high insect diversity, with over 2000 species recorded! The Complex is also home to more Species at Risk than any other park in Ontario, including those highlighted in this brochure.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Don't encroach or damage natural habitat. Our prairies, ditches, and grassy areas are home to Species at Risk.
- Provide safe habitat for wildlife in your backyard.
- Practice safe mowing (for example, raise the mower height, look before you mow).
- Learn more by visiting Ojibway Nature Centre.



FOUND A SPECIES AT RISK? REPORT IT!

Species at Risk are plants and animals threatened with extinction. Species at risk and their habitat are protected under the Endangered Species Act, 2007.

Plants and animals can become at risk from a number of human-induced causes, including changes in land use, loss of habitat, pollution, and the spread of invasive species.

Please report all sightings of Species at Risk to staff at Ojibway Nature Centre:

1. The location of the sighting
2. What the animal was doing (behaviour)
3. If possible, please take a photo
4. Your contact info so we can follow up if necessary

Ojibway Nature Centre

5200 Matchette Rd.

Windsor, ON N9C 4E8

519.966.5852 www.ojibway.ca



SPECIES AT RISK

in the Ojibway Prairie Complex



SPECIES AT RISK IN ONTARIO

Endangered Species Act, 2007

Section 9: Species Protection

◦No person shall kill, harm, harass, capture, take, possess, transport, collect, buy, sell, lease, trade, or offer to buy, sell, lease or trade species that are listed as threatened, endangered or extirpated. Current Protection: Approximately 160 species.

Section 10: Habitat Protection

◦Prohibits damaging or destroying habitat of endangered or threatened species
◦When a species is listed, their general habitat (an area on which a species depends, directly or indirectly, to carry out its life processes) is protected.

Butler's Gartersnake



Small (25-50 cm long) with tiny head, three bright yellow stripes on a dark brown-black body. Prefers moist habitats such as wetlands, prairies, and grassy areas. NOT venomous. ON Status: Endangered

Eastern Foxsnake

Second-largest snake in Ontario, reaching almost 2m in length. Orange head, large brown/black blotches along body. Various habitats including prairie, marsh, and shoreline. NOT venomous. ON Status: Endangered



Eastern Prairie Fringedorchid

Long, thin leaves with a spike of white flowers. Grows in wet prairies and flowers in July. ON Status: Endangered



Slender Bush-clover



Long stems with small purple flowers. Found in Canada only in the Ojibway Complex. ON Status: Endangered.

Willowleaf Aster

Waxy stems with purple flower clusters. The last flower available to pollinators in the fall. ON Status: Threatened



Dense Blazing Star



Grows up to 1.5 m, with purple flower sprays. A favourite of butterflies and other nectar lovers. ON Status: Threatened

Climbing Prairie Rose

Climbing branches with bright pink flowers. In Canada, only occurs in the proximity of Lake Erie. ON Status: Special Concern



Barn Swallow



Aerial insectivore (eats insects while in flight). Significant decline since the mid-1980s. ON Status: Threatened

Blanding's Turtle



Easily identified by its bright yellow throat. Upper shell is domed and smooth. Federally Endangered. ON Status: Threatened

Common Nighthawk



Well-camouflaged during the day. Aerial insectivore. Most active at dawn and dusk. Federally Threatened. ON Status: Special Concern

Monarch



Monarch caterpillars feed exclusively on Milkweed plants. Federally Endangered. ON Status: Special Concern

Eastern Meadowlark



Medium-sized songbird with bright yellow throat and belly. Ground-nesting in grasslands. Insectivore. ON Status: Threatened