

1994

## Non-Game and Endangered Wildlife Program, Annual Report - Recovery Plan Development

R. Reynolds

K. Terwilliger

D. S. Bradshaw

*The Center for Conservation Biology*

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### Recommended Citation

Reynolds, R., K. Terwilliger, and D. Bradshaw. 1994. Recovery Plan Development. CCBTR-94-16. Non-Game and Endangered Wildlife Program, Annual Report. Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration. Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. 3 pp.

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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF GAME & INLAND FISHERIES  
PERFORMANCE REPORT (July 1, 1993 - June 30, 1994)

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PROJECT TITLE:	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION	PROJ. NO:	WE99R-3
STUDY TITLE:	RARE, THREATENED & ENDANGERED WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PLANNING & STATUS REVIEW	STUDY NO:	VII
JOB TITLE:	RECOVERY PLAN DEVELOPMENT	JOB NO:	III
PERSONNEL:	RICK REYNOLDS, KAREN TERWILLIGER, DANA BRADSHAW	COSTS:	
		Total:	\$12,600
		Federal:	\$9,450
		State:	\$3,150

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SUMMARY:

The five state endangered bird and mammal species which were listed by VDGIF's Board are now in the process of having recovery plans completed. Due to lack of funding, only a modest amount of expense reimbursement could be provided for each team leader. As a result, all plans are not yet completed, but significant progress has been made through this voluntary system. Three of these plans have now been officially approved by the Director. The other two are in draft form and have been sent back to the teams for revision.

This year, VDGIF staff began the development of conservation plan outlines to identify and prioritize the survey, monitoring, research, and conservation needs of the state endangered and threatened species. Plan outlines have been completed for over half of the state and federal endangered and threatened bird and mammal species and are being reviewed and revised with experts and cooperators.

OBJECTIVE A: To develop and implement recovery plans for each of the state listed endangered species

PROCEDURE:

Experts were solicited to draft recovery plans for three state endangered birds and two mammals. They assembled recovery teams with the assistance of VDGIF staff and have all begun compiling literature and researching. Plans were drafted and reviewed by the research team, then VDGIF staff, and sent back for revision. After final editing, the plans were sent to VDGIF where implementation schedules were completed and then the plans were sent to the Director for approval.

Nongame staff developed conservation plan outlines by reviewing the literature, federal or other recovery plans and identifying steps needed to conserve them specifically in Virginia. These outlines are now being reviewed by experts and will help direct future efforts.

FINDINGS:

The Eastern big-eared bat recovery plan called for a distribution survey which was conducted this year through a contract with the North Carolina Natural History Museum. This survey turned up several new sites for which protection is now being pursued thru landowner contact and site protection. Additional surveys

were recommended and these original sites are being monitored.

Table 1 summarizes the recovery plan status of the six recovery plans. Only one plan has not yet been drafted due to the existing proposal to down-list the Fisher as "status undetermined"

Table 1. RECOVERY PLANS STATUS REPORT

Species	Team Members	Draft Rec'd	Completed
Eastern Big-eared Bat ( <i>P. r. macrotis</i> )	Don Schwab Mary Kay Clark Thomas Padgett Robert Rose	2/90	7/90
Appalachian Water Shrew ( <i>Sorex palustris</i> )	John Pagels Mike Fies Robert Glasgow Scott Klinger	2/90	2/91
Wilson's Plover ( <i>Charadrius wilsonia</i> )	Peter Bergstrom Ruth Beck Bob Cross Carol McNulty Barry Truitt Jerry Via Bill Williams	3/90	5/91
Loggerhead Shrike ( <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> )	Dave Luukkonen Jim Fraser Arlene Blumpton Carola Haas	8/91 sent out for revision	meetings & revision in progress
Bewick's Wren ( <i>Thryomanes bewickii</i> )	Curtis Adkisson Dan Boone Rodney Bartigs H. LeGrand	8/90 (sent back for major revision)	meetings and revision in progress
Fisher ( <i>Martes pennanti pennanti</i> )	Denny Martin C. H. Handley Mike Fies John Pagels Jim Pack Ed Fisher	Determined extirpated (on hold)	NA

The three completed plans have been implemented in the form of distribution and population surveys. The

Wilson's plover plan has been further implemented in the form of experimental nest exclosures and management actions as reported in the shorebird report. Excellent cooperation with landowners has resulted from these efforts.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been a most cooperative partner as the water shrew plan continues to be implemented. USFWS staff have been forthcoming, but no funds to date have been provided.

Table 2. Conservation Plan Outlines.

Outline Completed	Draft Outline Completed
Northern Flying Squirrel	Bald Eagle
Snowshoe Hare	Peregrine Falcon
Water Shrew	Bachman's Sparrow
Rubble Coil	Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Shaggy Coil	Piping Plover
Spirit Supercoil	
Brown Supercoil	
Gray Bat	
Indiana Bat	
Eastern Big-eared Bat	
Virginia Big-eared Bat	
Lee County Cave Isopod	
Madison Cave Amphipod	
Madison Cave Isopod	
Ellett Valley Pseudotremia	
Laurel Creek Xystodesmid	

These will be reviewed and revised annually to maintain the most effective and current efforts possible