

Texas Conservation Action Plan 2011: Status and Rank Key for use with SGCN and Rare Communities List

Note: Table is formatted 8-1/2" x 11", landscape orientation

RANK	DEFINITION
STATE or FEDERAL LISTING STATUS	
LE	Federally endangered species or population.
LT	Federally threatened species or population.
C	Federal Candidate
SAT	Treated as threatened due to similarity of appearance to a species which is federally listed such that enforcement personnel have difficulty in attempting to differentiate between the listed and unlisted species.
PT	Proposed Threatened
PDL	Proposed DOWlisting/Proposed Delisting
E	State endangered species or population.
T	State threatened species or population.
CONSERVATION (Vulnerability or Rarity) RANKING	
(G) GLOBAL Conservation Status Rank	
GX	Presumed Extinct (species) — Not located despite intensive searches and virtually no likelihood of rediscovery.
	Eliminated (ecological communities) — Eliminated throughout its range, with no restoration potential due to extinction of dominant or characteristic species.
GH	Possibly Extinct (species) — Missing; known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery.
	Presumed Eliminated — (Historic, ecological communities)-Presumed eliminated throughout its range, with no or virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered, but with the potential for restoration, for example, American Chestnut Forest.
G1	Critically Imperiled — At very high risk of extinction due to extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer populations), very steep declines, or other factors.
G2	Imperiled — At high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors.
G3	Vulnerable — At moderate risk of extinction due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors.
G4	Apparently Secure — Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
G5	Secure — Common; widespread and abundant.
(S) Subnational or STATE Conservation Status Rank	
SX	Presumed Extirpated — Species or community is believed to be extirpated from the nation or state/province. Not located despite intensive searches of historical sites and other appropriate habitat, and virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered.
SH	Possibly Extirpated (Historical) — Species or community occurred historically in the nation or state/province, and there is some possibility that it may be rediscovered. Its presence may not have been verified in the past 20-40 years. A species or community could become NH or SH without such a 20-40 year delay if the only known occurrences in a nation or state/province were destroyed or if it had been extensively and unsuccessfully looked for. The NH or SH rank is reserved for species or communities for which some effort has been made to relocate occurrences, rather than simply using this status for all elements not known from verified extant occurrences.
S1	Critically Imperiled — Critically imperiled in the nation or state/province because of extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state/province.
S2	Imperiled — Imperiled in the nation or state/province because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the nation or state/province.

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S3	Vulnerable — Vulnerable in the nation or state/province due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.
S4	Apparently Secure — Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
S5	Secure — Common, widespread, and abundant in the nation or state/province.
SNR	Unranked — Nation or state/province conservation status not yet assessed.
SU	Unrankable — Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
SNA	Secure — Common, widespread, and abundant in the nation or state/province.
Rank Qualifiers	
?	Inexact Numeric Rank—Denotes inexact numeric rank (e.g., G2?)
Q	Questionable taxonomy—Taxonomic distinctiveness of this entity at the current level is questionable; resolution of this uncertainty may result in change from a species to a subspecies or hybrid, or the inclusion of this taxon in another taxon, with the resulting taxon having a lower-priority conservation priority.
Intraspecific Taxon Conservation Status Ranks	
<i>Intraspecific taxa refer to subspecies, varieties and other designations below the level of the species. Intraspecific taxon status ranks (T-ranks) apply to plants and animal species only; these T-ranks do not apply to ecological communities.</i>	
T#	Intraspecific Taxon (trinomial)—The status of intraspecific taxa (subspecies or varieties) are indicated by a "T-rank" following the species' global rank. Rules for assigning T-ranks follow the same principles outlined above for global conservation status ranks. For example, the global rank of a critically imperiled subspecies of an otherwise widespread and common species would be G5T1. A T-rank cannot imply the subspecies or variety is more abundant than the species as a whole—for example, a G1T2 cannot occur. A vertebrate animal population, such as those listed as distinct population segments under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, may be considered an intraspecific taxon and assigned a T-rank; in such cases a Q is used after the T-rank to denote the taxon's informal taxonomic status. At this time, the T rank is not used for ecological communities.
Variant Ranks	
G#G# or S#S#	Range Rank—A numeric range rank (e.g., G2G3 or S2S3) is used to indicate the range of uncertainty in the status of a species or community. Ranges cannot skip more than one rank (e.g., GU should be used rather than G1G4).
GU	Unrankable—Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends. Whenever possible, the most likely rank is assigned and the question mark qualifier is added (e.g., G2?) to express uncertainty, or a range rank (e.g., G2G3) is used to delineate the limits (range) of uncertainty.
GNR	Unranked—Global rank not yet assessed.
Not Provided	Species is known to occur in this nation or state/province. Contact the relevant natural heritage program for assigned conservation status.
Breeding Status Qualifiers	
B	Breeding—Conservation status refers to the breeding population of the species in the nation or state/province.
N	Nonbreeding—Conservation status refers to the non-breeding population of the species in the nation or state/province.