

# FLORIDA'S ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES



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FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION

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## CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>NUMERICAL SUMMARY OF SPECIES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>OFFICIAL LISTS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>VERTEBRATES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>FISH.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>AMPHIBIANS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>REPTILES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>BIRDS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>MAMMALS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>INVERTEBRATES .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>CORALS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>CRUSTACEANS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>INSECTS .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>MOLLUSKS.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTATIONS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>LISTING CHANGES SINCE 2010.....</b>	<b>11</b>

## PREFACE

This document provides a table and list of the State of Florida's imperiled species of wildlife. It includes species listed at the Federal level as Endangered, Threatened, Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance, or Non-Essential Experimental by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). It also includes species listed at the State level as State-designated Threatened and Species of Special Concern by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

FWC is a constitutional agency, and its authority to regulate and manage most wildlife comes from the Florida constitution. FWC was created by a 1998 amendment to the State of Florida constitution merging the former Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (GFC), a constitutional agency, the former Marine Fisheries Commission, and certain parts of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), both statutory agencies. At the time of the merger, there were several wildlife species, not under the constitutional authority of the GFC, for which the Florida Legislature had given some statutory authority to regulate and manage to FDEP. The authority for FWC to regulate and manage these species, listed in Rule 68A-27.0031, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), comes from this statutory authority, not constitutional authority. These species are included in this document for the convenience of the user, but they are not included in rules codifying the Florida Endangered and Threatened Species List (Rule 68A-27.003, F.A.C.) or the Species of Special Concern list (Rule 68A-27.005, F.A.C.). The Federal listing status of these species shown in Rule 68A-27.0031 is that of the species in 1998 and does not reflect any status changes since that time. However, the status of these species in *this document does* reflect their status as of the date of this document.

In November 2010, FWC established an imperiled species management system and revised its imperiled species rules (<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=68A-27>). All species listed by the USFWS and NMFS that occur in Florida are now included on Florida Endangered and Threatened Species List as Federally-designated Endangered, Federally-designated Threatened, Federally-designated Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance, or Federally-designated Non-Essential Experimental Population species. Species listed by the FWC are included on the Florida Endangered and Threatened Species List as State-designated Threatened species.

The revised imperiled species management system abolishes the species of special concern (SSC) category once all species on that list are reclassified as State-designated Threatened, found to not meet any of the State's listing criteria, or become Federally listed. Until then, the FWC will continue to maintain a separate Species of Special Concern list. These species are included in this document.

The State lists of plants, which are designated Endangered, Threatened, and Commercially Exploited, are administered and maintained by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DOACS) via Chapter 5B-40, F.A.C. This list of plants can be obtained at <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry/Bureaus-and-Services/Entomology-Nematology-Plant-Pathology/Botany/Florida-s-Endangered-Plants>.

The Federal list of Endangered and Threatened animals and plants is administered by the USFWS and is published in 50 CFR 17 (animals) and 50 CFR 23 (plants). Additional information regarding Federal listings can be located at the following websites; NMFS - <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa/listed.htm> and USFWS - <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/reports/ad-hoc-species-report-input>

**Common and scientific names listed first are as they appear in the Florida Administrative Code, Title 68A. Common and/or scientific names following this and located within parentheses ( ) are names as used by USFWS, or other commonly used names.**

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Cover Photos by FWC Staff: Key Largo Woodrat, Burrowing Owls, Okaloosa Darter, Schaus' swallowtail butterfly, Short-tailed Snake.

## NUMERICAL SUMMARY OF SPECIES

Listed by the State of Florida as Federally-designated Endangered (**FE**), Federally-designated Threatened (**FT**), Federally-designated Threatened due to Similarity of Appearance [**FT(S/A)**], Federal Non-Essential Experimental Population (**FXN**), State-designated Threatened (**ST**), or State Species of Special Concern (**SSC**).

<b>STATUS DESIGNATION</b>	<b>FISH</b>	<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>	<b>REPTILES</b>	<b>BIRDS</b>	<b>MAMMALS</b>	<b>INVERTEBRATES</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>FE</b>	3(1) <sup>1</sup>	1	3(3)	8	22(5) <sup>2</sup>	13	50(9)
<b>FT</b>	4(1)	1	7(2)	7	2(1)	17	38(4)
<b>FT(S/A)</b>	0	0	1	0	0	3	4
<b>FXN</b>	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
<b>ST</b>	6	2	9	16	4	2	39
<b>SSC</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13(2)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20(5)</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28 (6)</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>133(13)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Numbers in the parentheses are the number of species for which the FWC does not have constitutional authority. The status in Rule 68A-27.0031 is the Federal status these species had when the FWC was created by amendment to the Florida Constitution, adopted in 1998. The status of these species listed in here is their current Federal status as of June 2021.

<sup>2</sup> There is one additional species included in Rule 68A-27.0031 as a species for which the FWC does not have constitutional authority. This species is not included here because it has been determined to be extinct.

# FLORIDA'S ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES LIST

## VERTEBRATES

### FISH

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Atlantic sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus</i>	FE
Blackmouth shiner	<i>Notropis melanostomus</i>	ST
Bluenose shiner	<i>Pteronotropis welaka</i>	ST
Crystal darter	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	ST
Giant manta ray	<i>Manta birostris</i>	FT
Gulf sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus [=oxyrhynchus] desotoi</i>	FT <sup>1</sup>
Key silverside	<i>Menidia conchorum</i>	ST
Nassau grouper	<i>Epinephelus striatus</i>	FT
Okaloosa darter	<i>Etheostoma okalossae</i>	FT
Saltmarsh topminnow	<i>Fundulus jenkinsi</i>	ST
Shortnose sturgeon	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Smalltooth sawfish	<i>Pristis pectinate</i>	FE
Southern tessellated darter	<i>Etheostoma olmstedii maculatiiceps</i>	ST

### AMPHIBIANS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Florida bog frog	<i>Lithobates okaloosae</i>	ST
Frosted flatwoods salamander	<i>Ambystoma cingulatum</i>	FT
Georgia blind salamander	<i>Eurycea wallacei</i>	ST
Reticulated flatwoods salamander	<i>Ambystoma bishopi</i>	FE

### REPTILES

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
American alligator	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	FT(S/A)
American crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	FT
Atlantic salt marsh snake	<i>Nerodia clarkii taeniata</i>	FT
Barbour's map turtle	<i>Graptemys barbouri</i>	ST
Bluetail mole skink	<i>Plestiodon egregius lividus</i>	FT
Eastern indigo snake	<i>Drymarchon corais couperi</i>	FT
Florida brown snake	<i>Storeria victa</i>	ST <sup>3</sup>

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
Florida Keys mole skink	<i>Plestiodon egregius egregius</i>	ST
Florida pine snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus mugitus</i>	ST
Gopher tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	ST
Green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	FT <sup>1</sup>
Hawksbill sea turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Key ringneck snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus acricus</i>	ST
Leatherback sea turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Loggerhead sea turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	FT <sup>1</sup>
Rim rock crowned snake	<i>Tantilla oolitica</i>	ST
Sand skink	<i>Plestiodon reynoldsi</i>	FT
Short-tailed snake	<i>Lampropeltis extenuata</i>	ST
Suwannee alligator snapping turtle	<i>Macrochelys suwanniensis</i>	ST

## **BIRDS**

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
American oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	ST
Audubon's crested caracara	<i>Polyborus plancus audubonii</i>	FT
Bachman's wood warbler	<i>Vermivora bachmanii</i>	FE
Black skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	ST
Cape Sable seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus mirabilis</i>	FE
Eastern black rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis</i>	FT
Eskimo curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	FE
Everglade snail kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis plumbeus</i>	FE
Florida burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia floridana</i>	ST
Florida grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum floridanus</i>	FE
Florida sandhill crane	<i>Antigone canadensis pratensis</i>	ST
Florida scrub-jay	<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>	FT
Ivory-billed woodpecker	<i>Campephilus principalis</i>	FE
Kirtland's warbler (Kirtland's wood warbler)	<i>Setophaga kirtlandii (Dendroica kirtlandii)</i>	FE
Least tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>	ST
Little blue heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	ST
Marian's marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris marianae</i>	ST
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	FT



Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	FE
Reddish egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	ST
Roseate spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	ST
Roseate tern	<i>Sterna dougallii dougallii</i>	FT
Rufa red knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	FT
Scott's seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus peninsulae</i>	ST
Snowy plover	<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>	ST
Southeastern American kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>	ST
Tricolored heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	ST
Wakulla seaside sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus juncicola</i>	ST
White-crowned pigeon	<i>Patagioenas leucocephala</i>	ST
Whooping crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	FXN
Worthington's marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris griseus</i>	ST
Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	FT

## MAMMALS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status
Anastasia Island beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus phasma</i>	FE
Big Cypress fox squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger avicennia</i>	ST
Choctawhatchee beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus allophrys</i>	FE
Everglades mink	<i>Neovison vison evergladensis</i>	ST
Finback whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Florida bonneted bat	<i>Eumops floridanus</i>	FE
Florida panther	<i>Puma [=Felis] concolor coryi</i>	FE
Florida salt marsh vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus dukecampbelli</i>	FE
Gray bat	<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	FE
Gray wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	FE <sup>2</sup>
Bryde's Whale (Gulf of Mexico subspecies)	<i>Balaenoptera edeni [unnamed subspecies]</i>	FE
Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	FE <sup>4</sup>
Indiana bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	FE
Key deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus clavium</i>	FE
Key Largo cotton mouse	<i>Peromyscus gossypinus allapaticola</i>	FE
Key Largo woodrat	<i>Neotoma floridana smalli</i>	FE
Lower Keys rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus palustris hefneri</i>	FE

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
North Atlantic right whale	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Perdido Key beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus trissyllepsis</i>	FE
Red wolf	<i>Canis rufus</i>	FE
Rice rat	<i>Oryzomys palustris natator</i>	FE <sup>3</sup>
Sanibel Island rice rat	<i>Oryzomys palustris sanibeli</i>	ST
Sei whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
Sherman's short-tailed shrew	<i>Blarina shermani</i>	ST
Southeastern beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus niveiventris</i>	FT
Sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	FE <sup>1</sup>
St. Andrew beach mouse	<i>Peromyscus polionotus peninsularis</i>	FE
West Indian manatee (Florida manatee)	<i>Trichechus manatus</i> ( <i>Trichechus manatus latirostris</i> )	FT <sup>1</sup>

## **INVERTEBRATES**

### **CORALS**

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
Boulder star coral	<i>Orbicella franksi</i>	FT
Elkhorn coral	<i>Acropora palmata</i>	FT
Lobed star coral	<i>Orbicella annularis</i>	FT
Mountainous star coral	<i>Orbicella faveolata</i>	FT
Pillar coral	<i>Dendrogyra cylindricus</i>	FT
Rough cactus coral	<i>Mycetophyllia ferox</i>	FT
Staghorn coral	<i>Acropora cervicornis</i>	FT

### **CRUSTACEANS**

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
Black Creek crayfish	<i>Procambarus pictus</i>	ST
Panama City crayfish	<i>Procambarus econfinae</i>	SSC
Santa Fe cave crayfish	<i>Procambarus erythrops</i>	ST
Squirrel Chimney Cave shrimp	<i>Palaemonetes cummingi</i>	FT

## INSECTS

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
American burying beetle	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	FT
Bartram's scrub-hairstreak	<i>Strymon acis bartrami</i>	FE
Cassius blue butterfly	<i>Leptotes cassius theonus</i>	FT(S/A)
Ceraunus blue butterfly	<i>Hemiargus ceraunus antibubastus</i>	FT(S/A)
Florida leafwing	<i>Anaea troglodyta floridalis</i>	FE
Miami blue butterfly	<i>Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri</i>	FE
Miami tiger beetle	<i>Cicindelidia floridana</i>	FE
Nickerbean blue butterfly	<i>Cyclargus ammon</i>	FT(S/A)
Schaus swallowtail butterfly	<i>Heraclides aristodemus ponceanus</i>	FE

## MOLLUSKS

<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Status</b>
Chipola slabshell (mussel)	<i>Elliptio chiplolaensis</i>	FT
Choctaw bean	<i>Villosa choctawensis</i>	FE
Fat threeridge (mussel)	<i>Amblema neislerii</i>	FE
Fuzzy pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>	FT
Gulf moccasinshell (mussel)	<i>Medionidus penicillatus</i>	FE
Narrow pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia escambia</i>	FT
Ochlockonee moccasinshell (mussel)	<i>Medionidus simpsonianus</i>	FE
Oval pigtoe (mussel)	<i>Pleurobema pyriforme</i>	FE
Purple bankclimber (mussel)	<i>Elliptoideus sloatianus</i>	FT
Round ebonyshell	<i>Fusconaia rotulata</i>	FE
Shinyrayed pocketbook (mussel)	<i>Lampsilis subangulata</i>	FE
Southern kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranthus jonesi</i>	FE
Southern sandshell	<i>Hamiota australis</i>	FT
Stock Island tree snail	<i>Orthalicus reses [not incl. nesodryas]</i>	FT
Suwannee moccasinshell	<i>Medionidus walkeri</i>	FT
Tapered pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia burki</i>	FT

## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTATIONS

### List Abbreviations

FWC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
FE	Federally-designated Endangered
FT	Federally-designated Threatened
FXN	Federally-designated Threatened Nonessential Experimental Population
FT(S/A)	Federally-designated Threatened species due to similarity of appearance
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
ST	State-designated Threatened
SSC	State Species of Special Concern
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

### List Notations

- 1 A species for which the FWC does not have constitutional authority.
- 2 Not documented in Florida.
- 3 Lower Keys population only.
- 4 A species for which FWC does not have constitutional authority; see <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species-directory/threatened-endangered> for federal status.

## LISTING CHANGES SINCE 2010

The Florida black bear was removed from Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List on August 23, 2012 after approval by the Commission at the June 2012 Commission meeting. A new [Florida Black Bear Management Plan](#) was also approved at this meeting.

The Miami blue butterfly was emergency listed as Endangered by the USFWS on August 10, 2011. On April 6, 2012, the Miami blue was officially listed as Endangered by the USFWS. Effective September 19, 2012 the FWC listed the Miami blue butterfly as Federally-designated Endangered on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List.

The Cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly were emergency listed as Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance to the Miami blue by the USFWS on August 10, 2011. On April 6, 2012, these three species were officially listed as Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance to the Miami blue by the USFWS. These three species were listed on Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List as Federally Threatened by Similarity of Appearance to the Miami blue butterfly effective September 19, 2012, and as such only the following prohibitions apply to these three species:

- a. Incidental take, that is, take that results from, but is not a purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity will not apply to cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly.
- b. Collection of the cassius blue butterfly, ceraunus blue butterfly, and nickerbean blue butterfly is prohibited in coastal counties south of Interstate 4 and extending to the boundaries of the State of Florida at the endpoints of Interstate 4 at Tampa and Daytona Beach. Specifically, such activities are prohibited in the following counties: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, De Soto, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, Sarasota, St. Lucie, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, and Volusia

The Okaloosa darter was reclassified by the USFWS effective May 2, 2011 from Endangered to Threatened. A special rule under Section 4d of the Endangered Species Act was also adopted that allows Eglin Air Force Base to continue activities with a reduced regulatory burden and will provide a net benefit to the Okaloosa darter. FWC reclassified the darter from Federally Endangered to Federally Threatened on September 19, 2012.

The Atlantic sturgeon was listed as Endangered by the NMFS on April 6, 2012. FWC reclassified the fish from Species of Special Concern to Federally Endangered on September 19, 2012.

On October 10, 2012, the USFWS listed the round ebonyshell, southern kidneyshell, and Choctaw bean as Endangered. All three mussels were listed as Federally Endangered by the FWC on June 10, 2015.

The USFWS listed the tapered pigtoe, narrow pigtoe, southern sandshell, and fuzzy pigtoe as Threatened on October 12, 2012. All four mussels were listed as Federally Threatened by the FWC on June 10, 2015.

The Florida bonneted bat was listed as Endangered by the USFWS on October 2, 2013 after receiving a petition for emergency listing in January 2010. FWC reclassified this bat species from State Threatened to Federally Endangered on June 10, 2015.

The wood stork was reclassified by the USFWS on June 30, 2014, from Endangered to Threatened. FWC reclassified the wood stork to Federally Threatened on June 10, 2015.

The Florida leafwing and Bartram's scrub-hairstreak butterfly were listed as Endangered by the USFWS on September 11, 2014. Both species were listed by the FWC as Federally Endangered on June 10, 2015.

The pillar coral was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on November 13, 2014. FWC reclassified the coral from State Threatened to Federally Threatened on June 10, 2015.

The rufa red knot was listed as Threatened by USFWS on January 12, 2015 and listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on June 10, 2015.

The Miami tiger beetle was listed as Endangered by the USFWS on November 4, 2016 and listed by FWC as Federally Endangered on or about June 12, 2017.

The Suwannee moccasinshell was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on November 7, 2016 and listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on or about June 12, 2017.

On January 11, 2017, the State listing status changes that were proposed in 2011 as part of the newly implemented imperiled species management system became official after the approval of Florida's Imperiled Species Management Plan by FWC Commissioners.

- 15 species were removed from Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List: Eastern chipmunk, Florida mouse, brown pelican, limpkin, snowy egret, white ibis, peninsula ribbon snake (Lower Keys population), red rat snake Lower Keys population), striped mud turtle (Lower Keys population), Suwannee cooter, gopher frog, Pine Barrens tree frog, Lake Eustis pupfish, mangrove rivulus, and Florida tree snail.
- 23 species changed from State-designated Species of Special Concern to State-designated Threatened species: Sherman's short-tailed shrew, Sanibel rice rat, little blue heron, tricolored heron, reddish egret, roseate spoonbill, American oystercatcher, black skimmer, Florida burrowing owl, Marian's marsh wren, Worthington's Marsh wren, Scott's seaside sparrow, Wakulla seaside sparrow, Barbour's map turtle, Florida Keys mole skink, Florida pine snake, Georgia blind salamander, Florida bog frog, bluenose shiner, saltmarsh top minnow, Southern tessellated darter, Santa Fe crayfish, and Black Creek crayfish.
- 14 species maintain their State-designated Threatened status: Everglades mink, Big Cypress fox squirrel, Florida sandhill crane, snowy plover, least tern, white-crowned pigeon, Southeastern American kestrel, Florida brown snake (Lower Keys population), Key ringneck snake, short-tailed snake, rim rock crowned snake, Key silverside, blackmouth shiner, and crystal darter. Six species remain listed as State-designated Species of Special Concern: (list species): Homosassa shrew, Sherman's fox squirrel,

osprey (Monroe County population), alligator snapping turtle, Panama City crayfish, and harlequin darter.

On December 23, 2018, the State listing status changes that were proposed in 2011 as part of the newly implemented imperiled species management system became official after the approval of Florida's Imperiled Species Management Plan by FWC Commissioners.

- Four species were removed from Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species List as State Species of Special Concern: Harlequin darter, Osprey (Monroe County population), Homosassa shrew, and Sherman's fox squirrel.
- The Alligator snapping turtle was taxonomically reclassified into three subspecies. The Suwannee alligator snapping turtle was listed as a State-designated Threatened species.
- Two species were listed as Federally-designated Threatened species: Giant manta ray and Nassau grouper.
- Four species had changes in their scientific names: Short tailed snake, Bluetail mole skink, Florida Keys mole skink, and Sand skink.

The Bryde's whale (Gulf of Mexico subspecies) was listed as Endangered by NMFS on May 15, 2019 and listed by FWC as Federally Endangered on February 9, 2021.

The Eastern black rail was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on November 9, 2020 with an additional rule under Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act. The Eastern black rail was listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on May 27, 2021.

The American burying beetle was reclassified from Endangered to Threatened by the USFWS on November 16, 2020 and listed by FWC as Federally Threatened on May 27, 2021.