

10-2A-01.

(b) (1) “Conserve” means to use all methods and procedures for the purpose of increasing the number of individuals within species or populations up to the optimum carrying capacity of their habitat and maintaining these levels.

(2) [These methods and procedures include] “CONSERVE” INCLUDES all activities associated with scientific resources management such as research, census, law enforcement, habitat acquisition and maintenance, propagation, live trapping, and transplantation, including the periodic or total protection of species or populations as well as regulated taking.

(3) With respect to endangered and threatened species, [the term] “CONSERVE” means to use all methods and procedures including those described [above] IN THIS SUBSECTION which are necessary to bring any endangered or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided for these species pursuant to this subtitle are no longer necessary, except that regulated taking as a method and procedure shall be limited to the extraordinary case where population pressures within a given ecosystem cannot be otherwise relieved.

(d) (1) “Endangered species” means any species whose continued existence as a viable component of the State’s wildlife or plants is determined to be in jeopardy.

(2) [including] “ENDANGERED SPECIES” INCLUDES any species of wildlife or plant determined to be an “endangered species” pursuant to the Endangered Species Act.

(f) “Nongame species” means any wildlife species not legally classified as game birds or mammals, threatened species, or an endangered species by statute or [rule or] regulation of the State.

(h) (1) “Plant” means any member of the plant kingdom[.].

(2) [including] “PLANT” INCLUDES seeds, roots, and other parts of the plant.

(j) “Take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in [any such] THIS conduct.

10-2A-02.

(A) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) It is the policy of [this] THE State to conserve species of wildlife for human enjoyment, for scientific purposes, and to insure their perpetuation as viable components of their ecosystems;

(2) [species] SPECIES of wildlife and plants normally occurring within the State which may be found to be threatened or endangered within the State should be accorded the protection necessary to maintain and enhance their numbers; AND

(3) [the] THE State should assist in the protection of species of wildlife