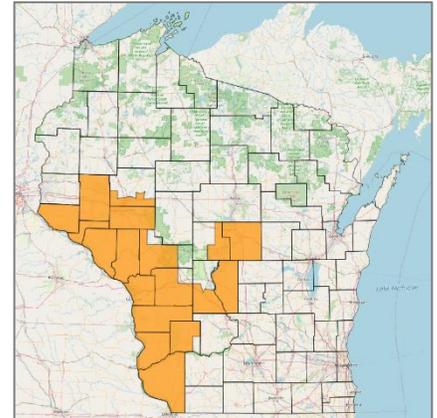


STATE WILDLIFE GRANTS AT WORK

Rep. Ron Kind, 3rd District

Federal **State Wildlife Grants** are the only nationwide program to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered. These grants have been critical for Wisconsin, yet despite many conservation successes, the state has more than 400 Species of Greatest Conservation Need - and more than 100 are endangered or threatened. Once species become endangered, especially at the federal level, they often require costly “emergency room” conservation and regulatory measures which are not sustainable in the long-term.

The **Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (HR 2773)** is designed to keep species off endangered and threatened lists. It would provide the most important boost for conservation in decades and would fund the highest priorities in our state using an existing blueprint: Wisconsin’s Wildlife Action Plan. Agencies, organizations, and individuals across the state already do critically important work to conserve fish, wildlife, and our natural areas, and RAWA would help them do more.



Examples of on-the-ground conservation work in 2019-20.

- Restored 568 acres of oak savanna, oak, and other forest communities and 1,522 acres of prairie and grassland habitats using prescribed burning
- Controlled invasive plant species across 2,239 acres of public lands within the district.
- Established a 62-acre conservation grazing project partnership with local farmers at Hogback Prairie State Natural Area in Crawford County to meet restoration objectives while protecting rare species.
- Completed property management and maintenance activities for 21 State Natural Areas to promote public access and enjoyment of these properties
- Provided rare species consultation for timber management on over 3,000 acres of public land.
- Completed 81 field visits to follow up on rare species avoidance and habitat management guidance requests
- Reviewed and provided consultation or data that facilitated the completion of 337 different projects within the district, including waterways, wetlands, timber management, road construction, and utility projects

Project Highlight: Helping private landowners protect rare plants and animals in the Driftless Area



Since 2006, the Landowner Incentive Program has helped interested private landowners create and manage habitat for species that are rare or declining on their land. The program provides management advice, assistance with management plan development, and cost-share funding for management practices. The program has been largely funded through a competitive portion of the State Wildlife Grants with matching funds from the Wisconsin DNR’s Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation, including private donations. The program has funded 40 projects, 300 landowner contacts, and supported improvement of hundreds of acres of habitat for rare species in the 3rd district.

