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## CHAPTER VIII.

### USE OF NEW INFORMATION TO ADAPT CONSERVATION ACTIONS DURING IMPLEMENTATION



Green Salamander, *Aneides aneus*

CONSERVATION ACTIONS FOR THE SWAP WILL BE ADAPTED WHEN NEW INFORMATION ARISES OR CONDITIONS CHANGE, WITH GUIDANCE FROM THE FIFTH ELEMENT.

*Using the best available communications technology, the DFW is sharing information with conservation partners and encouraging dialogue about the SWAP.*

Experts and conservation partners participated in the SWAP revision process by providing information about wildlife, including SGCN and habitats. In addition, the revision fostered collaboration and information sharing among the conservation community. The 2005 and 2015 plans established an extensive database of contact information for technical experts and conservation partners. This database allows for conservation partnership opportunities and serves as a tool to contact experts throughout Indiana.

The SWAP is intended to create more extensive collaboration and information sharing as new knowledge, tools, and concepts are developed. As new information, changing conditions, or emerging issues arise, the conservation actions will be adapted. The actions will be adapted based on the best science available on emerging threats and opportunities, such as invasive species, emerging diseases, climate change, market forces, and other threats or opportunities that will influence species and habitats in Indiana over the next decade.

The DFW elected to utilize the Roster of Indiana Animals, Insects, and Plants that Are Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened, or Rare (also described as Special Concern) as our list of SGCN for the SWAP. Inclusion of an animal or plant on the roster is determined based on the best current information available. This list is dynamic and adjustments to the list of SGCN may occur as additional data becomes available. This list is generated with the input of multiple species experts from within and outside of the DFW and DNR. These experts form TACs that review relevant information about the abundance and distribution of species of concern and potential concern and the TACs make recommendations to the NRC for inclusion on the Roster of Indiana Animals, Insects, and Plants that Are Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened, or Rare (also described as Special Concern).

Using the best available communications technology, the DFW is sharing information with conservation partners and encouraging dialogue about the SWAP. Through sharing of habitat and species monitoring efforts, participation in professional organizations, and implementation of the SWAP, the DFW will aid in the sharing of significant information to create adaptive management practices based on science. Communication between partners, as the implementation of the SWAP proceeds, will ensure that conservation actions respond appropriately to new information or changes in condition.