

# Glossary

<b>Abiotic</b>	Objects, substances, or processes that are non-living
<b>Accidental</b>	A species that has been recorded in Virginia, but for which Virginia is not within their usual breeding, migratory, or wintering range
<b>Alfisol</b>	Mineral soil with umbric or ochric epipedons, argillic horizons, and that hold water at <1.5 MPa tension during at least 90 days when the soil is warm enough for plants to grow; the mean annual soil temperature is <8° C or a base saturation in the lower part of the argillic horizon of 35% or more when measured at pH 8.2
<b>Anadromous</b>	Fish species that are spawned in freshwater and spend adult stages in saltwater, except to migrate back to freshwater to spawn
<b>Anthropogenic</b>	Relating to or resulting from the influence of human beings on nature
<b>Anurans</b>	General term referring to frogs and toads, which belong to the order Anura
<b>Aqualfs</b>	An alfisol (soil) saturated with water for long enough intervals to limit use for most crops, except pasture or woodland, unless artificially drained
<b>Aquifer</b>	A layer of permeable rock, sand, or gravel holding water and able to yield usable quantities of water to a well or spring
<b>Aquults</b>	An ultisol (soil) saturated with water for long enough intervals to limit use for most crops, besides pasture or woodland, unless they are artificially drained
<b>Argillaceous</b>	Describes soils that contain or consist of clay; clayey
<b>Backwater</b>	Along a channel's margin, an eddy that is separated from the main current by a gravel or sand bar or other small barrier
<b>Barrier islands</b>	Long, islands just off the coast that are parallel to the mainland and prone to shifting or other change; many are found along the Atlantic coastline of the U. S., including the seaside of the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland
<b>Beach armoring</b>	Actions intended to prevent erosion, such as placing seawalls and rock embankments along shores; these structures ultimately increase erosion the longer they stay in place and become barriers to sea turtles and other wildlife
<b>Beach nourishment</b>	The process of placing sand on a beach to replace sand that that has been lost through erosion, to provide a buffer from waves and flooding, or to enhance the recreational value of the beach
<b>Benthic</b>	Describes organisms or areas that occur at the bottom of water bodies
<b>Benthos</b>	Organisms that live on or along the bottom of a water body
<b>Best management practices (BMPs)</b>	Land management procedures that are designed to help homeowners, farmers, foresters, developers, and planners preserve the environment, protect areas from flood damage, erosion, and improve aesthetics
<b>Bias</b>	The logical difference between a biological attribute and the data-based estimate representing it, or the difference between the expected or average value of an estimated parameter and its actual value; most common in biology are 1) a mismatch between the sampled and target populations, or 2) a failure to report on detectability when assessing population status and vital rates.

<b>Bioaccumulation</b>	The concentration of a pollutant found in an organism that came from it's environment; due to the process by which the pollutant is accumulated and sequestered by the organism, the concentration of the pollutant in the organism is higher than the concentration in the environment
<b>Biocide</b>	General term for a substance that is applied to harm or kill living organisms (such as a pesticide, herbicide, fungicide, insecticide, etc.)
<b>Biodiversity</b>	The variety of life forms on earth or in a given area
<b>Biogeography</b>	The study of floral and faunal geographic distributions
<b>"Biological distinctiveness"</b>	This term refers to an assessment of an ecoregion's biological significance; classes include "globally outstanding", "continentally outstanding", "bioregionally outstanding", and "nationally important"
<b>Biota</b>	General term for living things/organisms
<b>Biota of Virginia (BOVA) database</b>	A database created through analyses of peer-reviewed literature and communication with taxonomic experts; records within this database include information on all native and naturalized fauna of Virginia, including taxonomy, status, distribution, life history, management practices, habitat associations, foods, and environmental associations; initial development of this database was supported by OSM, BLM, and VPI&SU; DGIF is currently the lead agency in developing this database with continued support from VPI&SU
<b>Bottomland</b>	Habitat within a floodplain that consists of low, flat, or depressed topography; soils of this habitat are usually loamy and slowly permeable
<b>Bradycytic</b>	Long-term brooder (mussels); females hold glochidia (larvae) in their gills over winter
<b>Bulkhead</b>	Man-made structure running parallel along a shoreline in order to protect it from eroding wave action, or to protect channels from sedimentation
<b>Candidate species</b>	Legal listing of a species for which there is sufficient data on status and threats to propose endangered or threatened status under ESA, but for which development of a listing regulation is precluded by higher priority listing activities
<b>Catadromous</b>	Fish species that migrate to the ocean to spawn and spend all other adult life stages in freshwater habitats
<b>Catchment area</b>	Sometimes referred to as a basin, this land is a low point or river that is bordered by natural topographic features such as hills or mountains, from which all run-off water flows
<b>Channelization</b>	The action of deepening and/or straightening a waterway in order to control water run-off or ease navigation
<b>Clearcut</b>	A timber management regime in which all, or nearly all, of the trees in the area are harvested at once
<b>Closed canopy</b>	Treetops are close and dense enough to prevent most sunlight from reaching the forest floor

<b>Collections</b>	A database developed by DGIF in 1991 to store information reported annually by researchers under the Commonwealth's Scientific Collection Permit Program; it was expanded to include location data from technical reports, museum records, staff field activities, the agency's warm water stream survey and more detailed locations from a follow-up of the Breeding Bird Atlas project; and DGIF has also added records from other agency or individual's databases, such as DCR-NH, Dr. Robert Jenkins' JFISH fish collection and Dr. Joseph Mitchell's HERPS database
<b>Connectivity</b>	The course allowing movement of fish and other wildlife between streams and along stream corridors
<b>Conservation easement</b>	An agreement in which a landowner voluntarily limits the amount and/or type of development on their property as long as the property is in private ownership
<b>Conservation Land (DCR-NH)</b>	Parcels of land that have some conservation value and are recorded in a database maintained by DCR-NH; these lands may be owned by a federal, state, or local government, a non-profit organization, or a private citizen or entity; most of the privately-owned properties under conservation easement
<b>Conservation Site (DCR-NH)</b>	An area around one or more rare plant or animal, or significant natural community or geological feature; these areas have been entered into a dataset maintained by DCR-NH and are designed to include the species location (where possible), its associated habitat, and a buffer or other adjacent land deemed necessary for the element's conservation
<b>Cool season grass</b>	Grasses that grow in spring and fall and become dormant during hot summer months; in much of the U. S., these grasses are introduced for use as crops, forage, or ornamentals
<b>Creosote</b>	A mixture of many chemicals produced by high-temperature treatment of wood or coal, or from the resin of the creosote bush
<b>Cryogenic preservation or cryopreservation</b>	Preservation of cells, tissues, or organs by placing them in extremely low, sub-zero temperatures
<b>Detritus</b>	Undissolved material that results from decaying matter
<b>Dipterans</b>	The true flies, order Diptera; Diptera is derived from a Latin term meaning "two wings" because members of this order have only two functional wings
<b>Disjunct populations</b>	When two or more populations of the same species occur in extensively divided areas, but not between
<b>Disturbance regime</b>	All of the events that are not among ordinary environmental conditions of an area that cause some impact to or change in the area's environment
<b>Dolomite</b>	A globally widespread sedimentary rock-forming mineral found in immense beds several hundred feet thick
<b>Drain tiles</b>	Underground drainage, often through several perforated tubes about 0.5-1.5m below the ground's surface, eliminating excess water from the soil profile
<b>Drainage</b>	A set of streams that are interconnected, with a main channel that flows into an estuary, ocean, or the main reach of a basin (such as the James River Drainage or the New River Drainage)

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b>Dredge spoil island</b>	Islands constructed of material that has been brought up from dredging the bottom surface of a waterway in order to construct or maintain navigation channels
<b>Ecoregion</b>	An area that is similar area-wide in terms of ecological components
<b>Ecotone</b>	The area between two or more different habitat communities where the different habitat or community types transition from one to the other
<b>Edge</b>	The area between two different habitats, plant communities, or successional stages
<b>Effluent</b>	Wastewater or other liquid waste that is discharged into a river or other waterway
<b>Elbrook formation</b>	A geologic formation, classified by Cambrian-aged carbonates and clastic rocks
<b>Element Occurrence (EO)</b>	Under DCR-NH, a single unit of a resource, or a precise location of a species' population or a natural community stand
<b>Endangered</b>	Legal status of a species that is in danger of becoming extinct, issued either by USFWS or as state regulation under DGIF or VDACS
<b>Endemic species</b>	A species that occurs naturally in a relatively limited geographic distribution
<b>Ephemeral stream</b>	A stream that only flows at times of and immediately following precipitation events, or a low area with a poorly-defined channel that receives flows during such times; such streams or areas are often referred to as stormwater channels, drains, swales, gullies, hollows, or saddles
<b>Escarpment</b>	A long cliff or steep incline resulting from erosion or faulting that separates two more gently sloping or more level surfaces
<b>Essential habitat</b>	Habitat features critical for a species' viability
<b>Estuarine/Marine</b>	Areas where salt water or other oceanic factors (sea spray or flooding) have the most impact on vegetative communities (this includes estuarine wetlands, marine tidal and non-tidal wetlands, beaches and overwash areas)
<b>Euryhaline</b>	Aquatic species that can occur in waters of greatly varying salinities
<b>Eutrophication</b>	A circumstance in which high nutrient concentrations that may stimulate algal blooms are present in a stream or other waterbody
<b>Exotic species</b>	A species that is not native to the Commonwealth of Virginia; sometimes refers to invasive species
<b>Extant population</b>	The existing or surviving population of a species
<b>Extinction</b>	When a species no longer exists in wild or natural conditions
<b>Extirpation</b>	When a species has been eliminated within a certain range; for instance, a species may be extirpated in Virginia but may still be found in North Carolina
<b>Eyrie</b>	The term for a raptor's nest; also may be spelled "aerie"

<b>Federal Species of Concern</b>	A federal designation that is assigned at the Virginia Field Office of USFWS and does not provide any legal status to the species; however this status does indicate that the species is restricted in distribution, uncommon, ecologically specialized, or threatened by other factors
<b>Felsic</b>	Rock with a relatively high amount of silica that crystallizes from silicate minerals at relatively low temperatures
<b>Fire regime</b>	Fire's role on the landscape, natural or anthropogenic
<b>Fish host</b>	A fish species that is parasitized by freshwater mussels to carry the glochidia until they are old enough to live on their own; the glochidia attach to the gills of the fish until they have developed enough for the next stage in their life cycle, when they simply drop off of the gills (Some mussels parasitize aquatic salamanders as well)
<b>Floodplain</b>	Low lying area of land that is adjacent to a waterway and has at least a 1% chance of flooding in a given year
<b>Forb</b>	An herbaceous plant (having little or no woody parts), excluding true grasses (family Gramineae), sedges (family Cyperaceae), and rushes (family Juncaceae)
<b>Ford</b>	In a shallow portion of a stream, a stream crossing that lacks a structure or a culvert; a streambed modification that hardens the bottom to provide support for vehicles with minimal stream bottom disturbance
<b>General standard (benthics)</b>	A type of DEQ/DCR stream impairment; the bottom-dwelling invertebrates in the stream are diminished in number, diversity, or species composition
<b>Genetic diversity</b>	The variety of populations that comprise a species; species reduced to a single population generally contain less genetic diversity than those consisting of many populations
<b>Glochidia</b>	Larvae of freshwater mussels that are parasitic for the first few weeks, attaching to gills of fish until they are developed enough to live independently; this aids in the dispersal of young mussels
<b>Geospatial layer</b>	Illustrated display of a geographic dataset on a digital map; a stratum of the geography of a specific area (i.e. roads, rivers, and boundaries are different layers on a map)
<b>Greenspace</b>	Areas of relatively natural features that include forests, shrubs, grasses, wetlands, ravines, parks, agriculture, pathways, and/or corridors
<b>Greenway</b>	Corridors of natural landscape that are protected and combine well with trail systems (natural and/or historic)
<b>Habitat</b>	The environment in which an organism naturally lives and grows
<b>Habitat conversion</b>	Land quality alteration, such as land use intensification; commonly habitat is converted by deforestation/reforestation, urbanization, transportation corridor development, desertification, and agricultural intensification
<b>Habitat diversity</b>	The variety of places where life exists in a given area
<b>Habitat fragmentation</b>	Division of a continuous habitat or ecosystem into smaller sections due to human activities (such as logging and development) or natural events (like fire)

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b>Headwater</b>	The portion of a waterway where flow originates and often where a significant amount of groundwater recharge takes place
<b>Herpetofauna</b>	General term referring to all reptile and amphibian species
<b>Hibernaculum</b>	A frost-free shelter during winter months in which animals can hibernate; it may consist of an underground burrow, the inside of a hollow tree, a cave, a deep crevice between rocks, etc. (Plural = hibernacula)
<b>High Elevation</b>	Climatically cooler areas in Virginia above 1070m elevation, containing northern vegetation communities; these include spruce/fir, Appalachian shrub and balds, northern hardwoods, high elevation bolder fields, high-elevation cove forest, northern red oak, high elevation outcrop barrens
<b>Historical distribution</b>	Known range of a species from past location records
<b>Homogeneity</b>	Sameness or similarity between units of a group
<b>Imperilment</b>	State of endangerment
<b>Impoundment</b>	A body of water created by a barrier such as a dam or dike that is restricting water movement
<b>Inceptisol</b>	A young soil in which the development of soil horizons is in its earliest stages
<b>Incidental take</b>	Harassing, harming, pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting wildlife as a result of other activities that do not intend such actions; a person or group may apply for permits for such activities through state and federal wildlife agencies
<b>Insectivore</b>	An animal whose diet consists primarily of insects
<b>Intentional take</b>	Purposefully harassing, harming, pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting wildlife; Intentional take may be illegal (poaching, illegal trade or sale) or legal (angling, trapping, hunting)
<b>Interdunal</b>	Occurring between dune crests
<b>Interspecific competition</b>	When two or more species compete with one another for limited resources, such as food, territory, nesting sites, etc.
<b>Introduced species</b>	Non-native species of an area that arrived by unnatural means
<b>Invasive species</b>	Non-native species that outcompetes and replaces native species
<b>Kjeldahl nitrogen</b>	Reduced forms of nitrogen, mainly amino and ammonium forms of organic nitrogen, found in surface waters
<b>Lacustrine</b>	Of or associated with lakes
<b>Land cover type</b>	The vegetation community or other landscape of an area (such as forest, wetland, developed)
<b>Landform</b>	Features, or the topography, of the earth's surface, such as mountains, plains, and plateaus
<b>Lentic</b>	Waters with little or no flow, such as ponds and lakes (still or static water)

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b>Limestone</b>	Sedimentary rock that is formed from sediment and mineral calcite (calcium carbonate)
<b>Lithology</b>	Physical attributes of rock used in classification, such as texture, color, grain size, etc.
<b>Loam</b>	A soil that combines all the three types of soil particles (sand, silt, and clay) in relatively equal amounts; thus it holds plenty of moisture but also drains well
<b>Lotic</b>	Inhabiting or occurring in moving water
<b>Low-intensity development</b>	Typically, refers to suburban development, in which structures are built among open space
<b>Macroinvertebrates</b>	Invertebrates that can be seen with the naked eye, usually referring to those that are found along stream bottoms or among leaf litter and other organic debris on the bottom of a waterbody (aquatic insects, crayfish, snails, spiders, clams, etc.)
<b>Mafic</b>	Rock formed from silicate minerals at relatively high temperatures and are relatively high in heavier elements
<b>Mean high water mark</b>	Point along a shore or bank where water will reach its average highest level during normal ebb and flow or tidal fluctuations
<b>Mesic</b>	Areas or habitats that are moist
<b>Mesocarnivore</b>	Small- to medium-sized, furbearing, carnivorous mammals (such as foxes, raccoons, and skunks)
<b>Mesophytic</b>	An environment with a moderate moisture or water supply, or an organism that is adapted to such an environment
<b>Metamorphic rock</b>	Igneous or sedimentary rock that has transformed into another type of rock due to physical and chemical conditions (such as temperature or pressure) that differ from those under which the rock formed originally
<b>Microclimate</b>	Environmental conditions within a relatively small area
<b>Microhabitat</b>	A small, specific habitat within a larger, more general habitat type
<b>Molluscicide</b>	A chemical used for killing mollusks, often used for slug or snail control
<b>Montane</b>	Mountainous areas where altitude affects the local climate, such that zonation occurs among vegetation or soil, and the local climate is different from that of nearby lowlands; this may include vegetation near the base of the mountain if the community is different from that of adjacent lowlands
<b>Mycorrhizal fungi</b>	Fungi that have a symbiotic relationship with plant roots, helping the plant with absorption of nutrients and water by living inside the root cells and forming structures called arbuscules
<b>Natural succession</b>	The systematic progression of changes in vegetation types and other organism types within a specific area over time
<b>Nest parasitism</b>	The practice of one species lays its eggs in the nest of another
<b>Nocturnal</b>	Active primarily at night

<b>Non-point source pollution</b>	Pollution that originates from many locations, rather than a specific identifiable place; includes stormwater, when pollutants are washed from farms, streets, construction areas, lawns, buildings, and driveways into waterways; effects of this pollution are difficult to control, since effects are not immediately noticeable
<b>Nymph</b>	Part of the incomplete metamorphic life cycle of many insects; insect nymphs may resemble adults but are smaller and lack wings; sometimes called a naiad
<b>Oak scrub</b>	A well-drained open area of pines with oak understory
<b>Occurrence viability</b>	The probability of persistence of a species or population (the occurrence) dependent upon parameters such as condition, size, and landscape context
<b>Oligohaline</b>	Waters or wetlands of low salinity; brackish
<b>Omnivorous</b>	Feeds on both animal and vegetative matter
<b>Ontogenetic</b>	Of the development of an organism; different life stages and traits of an organism
<b>Open canopy</b>	Condition occurring when treetops are small and/or spread far apart so that the canopy is thin and allows ample sunlight to reach the forest floor
<b>Order (of streams)</b>	A measure of the relative size of streams and the position of a stream in the hierarchy of tributaries
<b>Ornithology</b>	The study of birds
<b>Overstory</b>	The tallest level of forest trees, which makes up the forest canopy
<b>Palustrine</b>	Inland, nontidal wetlands that lack flowing water, are dominated by trees, shrubs, or persistent emergent vegetation, with salinity due to ocean-derived salts < 0.5 ppt
<b>Pelagic</b>	A species that is at sea or in/over open water during most of its life
<b>Perennial stream</b>	A stream with flowing water in its channel throughout the year, except during some periods of extreme drought
<b>Perturbance</b>	A disturbance that causes change
<b>Phenology</b>	The study of cycles of natural processes that recur, particularly with respect to seasons and climate
<b>Phreatic</b>	Related to groundwater, or layers of rock or soil below the water table that consists of cavities saturated with water
<b>Phreatobite</b>	A subterranean organism that lives in pore spaces of rock
<b>Physiographic</b>	Broad-scale subdivisions of land types, based on terrain texture, rock type, and geologic structure and history
<b>Pine savannah</b>	A pine forest with open canopy (trees are generally far apart) with little to no understory and a ground layer that is dominated by grasses and forbs; this habitat was historically maintained by fire
<b>Point source pollution</b>	Pollution that originates from a single source, such as a discharge pipe from a factory or a hazardous material spill

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b>Pole timber</b>	Trees > 13cm but < 23cm in diameter at breast height
<b>Pool</b>	Stream section with relatively deep, slow-flowing water
<b>Population</b>	Aggregation of individuals of a single species within a given area at one time
<b>Population connectivity</b>	The ability of sub-populations to exchange individuals and/or genes
<b>Population dynamics</b>	Manner in which the number of individuals in a population increases or decreases over time, involving two inputs (birth and immigration) and two outputs (death and emigration)
<b>Population regulation</b>	The control of a population's size; the tendency of a population to either increase when its density is low or decrease when its density is high
<b>Population viability</b>	The extent to which a population is at risk of becoming extinct within a certain time period
<b>ProbMon</b>	Part of DEQ's biological monitoring program (DEQ & DCR 2004), this is a probabilistic monitoring program that statistically assesses conditions of all non-tidal permanent streams in Virginia
<b>Propensity</b>	Strong natural preference
<b>Protectedness</b>	Proportion of habitat within a DCR-NH Conservation Land
<b>Quiescent</b>	Of inactivity, at rest
<b>Relict</b>	A species or population that remains viable in an area where similar ones have become extinct; it may have had a larger historic range than its current range, or it may have survived nearly unchanged over long periods of time
<b>Remote sensing</b>	Aquiring data about the Earth's surface through recording energy that is reflected or emitted instead of by visiting the resource or collecting physical material (aerial photography, satellite imagery, etc.)
<b>Reproductive isolation</b>	Separation of populations of a species by one or more barriers, thus prohibiting gene flow between them
<b>Riffle</b>	Section of a stream of comparatively shallow, turbulent, fast-flowing water
<b>Riparian</b>	Referring to areas adjacent to a waterway or waterbody, or to areas of transition between aquatic and upland ecosystems
<b>Safe Harbor</b>	An agreement between USFWS and a non-government property owner, in which the landowner implements conservation actions for a threatened or endangered species, with the assurance that no further restrictions will apply in the future if the given species' population increases as a result of said actions
<b>Saltpetre</b>	Naturally-deposited potassium nitrate that is mined for and used in producing explosives
<b>Sandstone</b>	Sedimentary rock formed by tiny grains of quartz, feldspar, or mica, held together by clay silica, carbonate, or iron oxide; often forms in visible layers

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b><i>Sargassum</i> sp.</b>	Marine plant that often forms free-floating mats, in which many marine organisms, such as young loggerhead sea turtles, find protection from predation and other hazards; <i>Sargassum</i> thrives in temperate to tropical waters
<b>Sawtimber</b>	Trees with a diameter at breast height of at least 23cm, harvested for lumber
<b>Secchi depth</b>	Measure of water turbidity; the depth at which a Secchi disk (a circular plate that consists of alternating black and white quarters) is no longer visible; high depth indicates clearer water, and low depth indicates higher turbidity
<b>Sediment load</b>	Amount of sediment transported in the flow of a waterway during a time period
<b>Sedimentary rock</b>	Rock that is formed when loose sediment consolidates
<b>Sedimentation</b>	The process of rock or mineral fragments and biological materials (sediments) depositing in layers on a surface through water or air
<b>Seep</b>	Area where the water table meets the Earth's surface, often on the sides of small drainages in sandy soils
<b>Shale</b>	Fine-grained sedimentary rock, made up of clay and silt compacted together
<b>Shale barren</b>	A habitat of thin woodlands, shrublands, and open vegetated rock outcrops over a shale substrate that usually occur on steep, xeric, south- or west-facing slopes
<b>Shelterwood cuts</b>	A timber management regime in which 30% of the basal area of overstory trees are removed, allowing more sunlight to reach subcanopy and understory trees
<b>Shoal</b>	Portion of a waterway that consists of shallow water
<b>Siliceous</b>	Containing large amounts of (or exclusively) silicon dioxide
<b>Siltation</b>	When silt, sediment, and mud fill and clog reservoirs or channels of waterways, often caused by soil erosion
<b>Sinkhole</b>	A depression in the landscape that is created by the collapse of loose materials or soils into cavities that form from underlying soluble bedrock
<b>Smart growth</b>	Community growth and development that minimizes impact to the environment and creates sustainable, livable communities; type of development that maintains the economy, community, and environment
<b>Snag</b>	Remnant of a dead and decaying tree that is still standing
<b>Spawn</b>	Egg production or deposition, particularly when referring to fish reproduction
<b>Species richness</b>	The number of species that occur within a given habitat or community
<b>Speleothems</b>	Features (such as stalagmites and stalactites) formed in caves by deposits of dissolved and recrystallized minerals
<b>Spring viremia</b>	A communicable, potentially fatal viral disease in fish; once only known in Europe and the Middle East, this disease was first reported in 2002 in the U. S. from cultivated ornamental and wild common carp; it is not known if any North American species are susceptible

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b>Stakeholders</b>	People or organizations that may affect or be affected by the CWCS, including the public, conservation organizations, government agencies, developers, land managers, and others
<b>State Special Concern</b>	A designation by DGIF that does not assign any legal status to a species, but does indicate that the species is restricted in distribution, uncommon, ecologically specialized, or threatened by other factors
<b>Stenothermic</b>	Found within a narrow temperature range
<b>Straight pipe</b>	A device used to drain raw sewage directly from a residence into a waterbody
<b>Stream Conservation Units (SCUs)</b>	DCR-NH Conservation Sites data that represent rare aquatic species by identifying stream reaches containing them and including upstream and downstream buffers, as well as tributaries associated with the given reach
<b>Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)</b>	Sometimes called underwater bay grasses, these plants thrive in shallow water where they grow toward the surface of the water but not above it
<b>Submontane</b>	Areas where altitude does not affect the local climate, such that the local climate is not different from that of nearby lowlands
<b>Subterranean</b>	Beneath the soil surface, beneath the earth's surface, or located within the earth
<b>Sustainable development</b>	Development of communities and workplaces that plans for and incorporates ecological stewardship, economic development, and overall human wellness for the distant, as well as the immediate, future
<b>Tachytictic</b>	Short-term brooder (mussels); females hold glochidia (larvae) in their gills over the summer
<b>Tailwater</b>	The portion of a waterway that lies downstream of a dam or other impediment
<b>Talus</b>	Accumulation of rock that forms a slope at the base of a steep mountain or cliff; sometimes refers simply to rocky debris
<b>Thermoregulation</b>	An animal's maintenance of body temperature
<b>Threatened</b>	Legal status of a species that is in danger of becoming endangered, issued either by USFWS or as state regulation under DGIF or VDACS
<b>Threats</b>	Actions or conditions that may damage to wildlife populations or their habitat
<b>Torpor</b>	Deep sleep in which an animal is able to greatly reduce its body temperature and its metabolism and respiration rates; some animals are able to enter this state during times of temperature extremes or food and/or water scarcity; differs from hibernation in that an animal in torpor can be easily awakened
<b>Tributary</b>	A waterway that feeds into a larger waterway or waterbody
<b>Troglobitic</b>	Refers to species that occur in caves
<b>Turbidity</b>	Amount of cloudiness in the water due to small suspended particles that have resulted from events such as erosion, run-off, or pollution discharge
<b>Turtle exclusion device (TED)</b>	An apparatus that is fitted to a shrimp trawl that allows large animals, such as sea turtles and sharks, to exit before becoming trapped in the trawl

VIRGINIA'S COMPREHENSIVE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STRATEGY  
Glossary

<b>Udults</b>	Older soils that tend to be moist
<b>Ultisol</b>	Mineral soil with an argillic horizon and base saturation of < 35% when measured at pH 8.2 and a mean annual soil temperature of 8°C or higher.
<b>Umbrella species</b>	A species whose range and habitat is so vast that when they are protected, many other species within this range and habitat will be protected as well
<b>Understory</b>	A low level of the forest made up of small trees, shrubs, and grasses, which grow in the shade of the canopy
<b>Uneven-aged stand</b>	Forest or wooded area containing trees that vary greatly in age
<b>Vagrant species</b>	A species that has been recorded in Virginia and for which is not part of its normal range, or that occurs in Virginia during a different season than that in which it was recorded
<b>Viability</b>	The ability of a population or habitat to survive and to thrive
<b>“Vulnerable”</b>	A conservation status between the “endangered” and “relatively stable,” distinguished by favorable odds of persistence of the remaining habitat as well as by loss of some (at-risk) species
<b>Warm season grass</b>	A grass that grows in the warmer summer months and becomes dormant and brown during spring and fall; these grasses tend to grow in clumps, which are easier for wildlife to move through to avoid predation and forage than cool season grasses; most native grasses are warm season
<b>Whirling disease</b>	An infection of trout and salmon caused by a water-borne parasite, the amoeba <i>Myxobolus cerebralis</i> ; infected fish may not be directly killed, but can become deformed and display an erratic tail-chasing behavior
<b>Xeric</b>	Areas or habitats that are dry
<b>Zoogeography</b>	The study of the geographical distribution of animals