

# PA'S THREATENED AND ENDANGERED TURTLES

Pennsylvania has several threatened and endangered turtles. Candidate species are those that could become threatened or endangered. Threatened species are those that may become endangered or extinct. Endangered species are those that are in danger of extinction. These turtle and other turtles in the state are protected by federal and state laws and regulations. If you see or find one of these turtles, you should respect the laws and leave it alone.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Check out these resources to learn more about Pennsylvania turtles, other reptiles and their habitats.

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Fish & Boat Commission

web site: [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us)

US Fish & Wildlife Service: [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

eNature: [www.enature.com](http://www.enature.com)

## FACT SHEETS, ARTICLES, AND BROCHURES

on the Commission's web site

[www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us)

PLAY – Introduction to Reptiles

Those Other Turtles

Native PA Species

Bog Turtle, Slipping Away

Portrait of a Painted Turtle

Eastern Box Turtle

## BLANDING'S TURTLE - CANDIDATE SPECIES

This turtle is named for Dr. William Blanding, who first observed the species. Its chin and throat are both bright yellow and the bottom shell is hinged. This turtle's range is exclusive to the northwestern part of the state.

## RED-BELLIED TURTLE - THREATENED SPECIES

This turtle is Pennsylvania's second-largest turtle, reaching lengths of 10.5 inches to 12 inches. The red-bellied turtle's colors are similar to those of the painted turtles that live in Pennsylvania. Red-bellied turtles have been located only in small areas in the south-east and southcentral areas of the state.

## BOG TURTLE - ENDANGERED SPECIES

Loss of habitat is the largest factor in the decline of the bog turtle. It is a very small turtle identified by its black head with a yellow, orange, or red blotch well behind the eye on both sides of the head. This turtle prefers wetlands, bogs, marshes, and swamps.



*The bog turtle is an endangered species. Loss of habitat is the main reason for the decline of this species.*