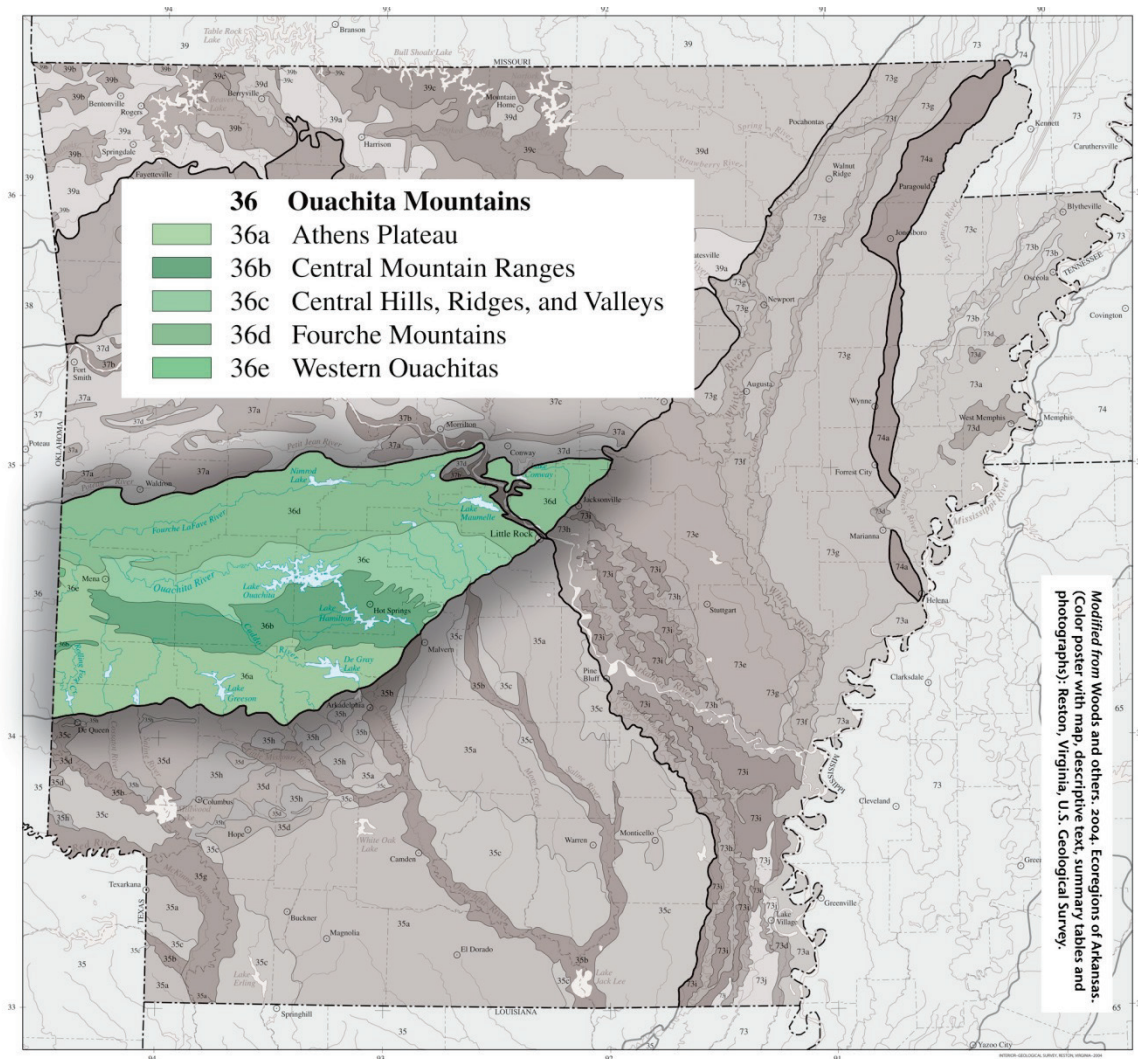


Ouachita Mountains (Ecoregion 36)

The Ouachitas are made up of ridges, hills and valleys formed by the erosion of folded and faulted Paleozoic sandstone, shale and chert, known locally as novaculite. They are a continuation of the Appalachians, formed during the late Paleozoic Era when an ocean closed and continents collided, causing marine sediments to be folded, faulted and thrust northward. The Ouachitas are structurally different from the Boston Mountains (38), more folded and rugged than the lithologically distinct Ozark Highlands (39) and physiographically unlike the Arkansas Valley (37), South Central Plains (35) and Mississippi Alluvial Plain (73).

Potential natural vegetation is oak–hickory–pine forest; it contrasts with the oak–hickory forest that dominates Ecoregion 39 and the northern part of Ecoregion 38. Today, loblolly pine and shortleaf pine grow in a distinctive mix of thermic Ultisols and Inceptisols.

Figure 3.13. Ouachita Mountains ecoregion.





Athens Plateau - Ouachita Mountains

Logging and recreation are major land uses and pastureland and hayland are found in broader valleys.

Regional water quality is influenced by lithology, soil composition and land use activities. In most reaches, water quality is exceptional; typically, total phosphorus, turbidity, total suspended solids and biological oxygen demand values are lower whereas dissolved oxygen levels are higher than in Ecoregions 35, 37 and 73. Water hardness varies by level IV ecoregion; Ecoregions 36d and 36e tend to have the lowest hardness values while progressively higher values occur in Ecoregions 36a, 36b and 36c. Stream substrates are made up of gravel, cobbles, boulders, or bedrock; they contrast with the fine-grained substrates of lower gradient streams in Ecoregions 35 and 73.

The fish community is dominated by sensitive species; minnows and sunfish along with darters and bass are common.

Athens Plateau

36a. The low ridges and hills of the Athens Plateau are widely underlain by shale in contrast to other parts of Ecoregion 36. Rocks are less resistant to erosion than in higher, more rugged Ecoregions 36b, 36d and 36e but are more resistant than the unconsolidated rocks of the coastal plain in Ecoregion 35.

Ouachita Mountains Ecoregion

Today, pine plantations are widespread; they are far more extensive than in the more rugged parts of Ecoregion 36 in Arkansas. Pastureland and hayland also occur. Cattle and broiler chickens are important farm products. Water quality values are distinct from Ecoregion 36c.

Central Mountain Ranges

36b. The Central Mountain Ranges are dominated by east-west trending ridges that are characteristically steep and rugged and underlain by resistant sandstone and novaculite (chert). Igneous intrusions occur along with associated hot springs. Rock outcrops and shallow, stony soils are widespread. Novaculite glades occur.

Potential natural vegetation is oak–hickory– pine forest. Perennial springs and seeps are common and support diverse vegetation. Constricted valleys between ridges have waterfalls and rapids. The surface waters of Ecoregion 36b have very low nutrient, mineral and biochemical water quality parameter concentrations and turbidity. Logging is not nearly as common as in the less rugged Athens Plateau (36a).

Central Hills, Ridges and Valleys

36c. The Central Hills, Ridges and Valleys ecoregion is lower, less rugged and more open than neighboring Ecoregions 36b and 36d. Ecoregion 36c is underlain by folded and faulted sandstone, shale and novaculite (chert); the lithologic mosaic is distinct from the Athens Plateau (36a).

Its forests are codominated by loblolly pine–shortleaf pine and upland oak–hickory–pine forest types. Pastureland is also common, much more so than in Ecoregions 36b and 36d.

Fourche Mountains

36d. The Fourche Mountains are the archetypal Ouachita Mountains. Ecoregion 36d is composed of long, east-west trending, forested ridges composed of sand- stone. Intervening valleys are cut into shale. Ridges are longer, habitat continuity is greater, the lithologic mosaic is different and the topographic orientation is more consistent than in other parts of the Ouachita Mountains (36).

Differences in moisture and temperature between north- and south-facing slopes significantly influence native plant communities; they are products of the prevailing topographic trend. Forests on steep, north-facing slopes are more mesic than on southern aspects; grassy woodlands are found on steepest, south-facing slopes.

Pastureland and hayland are restricted to a few broad valleys. Logging is not nearly as intensive as in the commercial pine plantations of the less rugged Athens Plateau.

Nutrient, mineral and biochemical water quality parameter concentrations are low in the surface waters of Ecoregion 36d but turbidity can be higher than in other mountainous parts of the Ouachitas.

Western Ouachitas

36e. The Western Ouachitas ecoregion is composed of mountains, hills and narrow valleys. In Arkansas, Ecoregion 36e is confined to Round Mountain in western Polk County, where it is underlain by sandstone and shale; novaculite (chert) is absent in contrast to the Central Mountain Ranges (36b). Ridgetop elevations exceed 2,300 feet in Arkansas; both elevation and precipitation decrease westward into Oklahoma. Ecoregion 36e in Arkansas is higher and more rugged than the lithologically distinct Athens Plateau (36a).

Today, pine and upland oak–hickory–pine forest types codominate. Ecoregion 36e in Arkansas and Oklahoma contains, perhaps, the greatest concentration of critically-imperiled and imperiled species in mid-North America (adapted from Woods and others 2004).

Ouachita Mountains Ecoregion:

Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) in the Ouachita Mountains are presented by taxa association (Table 3.17). A higher priority score indicates a greater need for actions to conserve the species. A ranked list of all SGCN associated with the ecoregion is presented in Table 3.18.

Table 3.17. SGCN by taxa association in the Ouachita Mountains ecoregion.

Taxa Association	Common Name	Scientific Name	Priority Score
Amphibian	Ouachita Streambed Salamander	<i>Eurycea subfluvicola</i>	80
	Sequoyah Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon sequoyah</i>	50
	Fourche Mountain Salamander	<i>Plethodon fourchensis</i>	46
	Kiamichi Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon kiamichi</i>	46
	Caddo Mountain Salamander	<i>Plethodon caddoensis</i>	42

	Rich Mountain Salamander	<i>Plethodon ouachitae</i>	38
	Crawfish Frog	<i>Lithobates areolatus</i>	23
	Ringed Salamander	<i>Ambystoma annulatum</i>	19
	Four-toed Salamander	<i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i>	19
	Hurter's Spadefoot	<i>Scaphiopus hurterii</i>	19
	Mole Salamander	<i>Ambystoma talpoideum</i>	15
	Bird-voiced Treefrog	<i>Hyla avivoca</i>	15
Bird	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	43
	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	43
	Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	33
	Bachman's Sparrow	<i>Peucaea aestivalis</i>	33
	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	<i>Calidris subruficollis</i>	29
	Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	29
	Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	29
	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	24
	Smith's Longspur	<i>Calcarius pictus</i>	24
	Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	24
	Migrant Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus migrans</i>	24
	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	24
	American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	24
	Cerulean Warbler	<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>	24
	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	<i>Aimophila ruficeps</i>	23
	American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	23
	Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	23
	Le Conte's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>	21
	Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	21
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	19
	Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	19
	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	19
	Eastern Whip-poor-will	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	19
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	19
	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	19
	Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	19
	Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	19
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	19
	Northern Bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	19
	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	19
	Purple Finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>	19
	Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	19
	Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	19
	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	19
	Swainson's Warbler	<i>Limnithlypis swainsonii</i>	19
	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	19
	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	19
	Bell's Vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	19
	Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	17

	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	15
	American Golden-Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	15
Crayfish	Irons Fork Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Procambarus reimeri</i>	80
	Saline Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Fallicambarus strawni</i>	65
	Ouachita Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Fallicambarus harpi</i>	46
	Daisy Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Fallicambarus jeanae</i>	46
	Ouachita Mountain Crayfish	<i>Procambarus tenuis</i>	30
	Mena Crayfish	<i>Orconectes menae</i>	27
	Redspotted Stream Crayfish	<i>Orconectes acares</i>	19
	Little River Creek Crayfish	<i>Orconectes leptogonopodus</i>	19
	Bismark Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Procambarus parasimulans</i>	19
Fish	Caddo Madtom	<i>Noturus taylori</i>	80
	Leopard Darter	<i>Percina pantherina</i>	62
	Alabama Shad	<i>Alosa alabamae</i>	52
	Paleback Darter	<i>Etheostoma pallidiorsum</i>	46
	Ouachita Madtom	<i>Noturus lachneri</i>	46
	Ouachita Darter	<i>Percina brucethompsoni</i>	46
	Crystal Darter	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	38
	Stargazing Darter	<i>Percina uranidea</i>	38
	Kiamichi Shiner	<i>Notropis ortenburgeri</i>	33
	Peppered Shiner	<i>Notropis perpallidus</i>	33
	Ouachita Mountain Shiner	<i>Lythrurus snelsoni</i>	27
	Rocky Shiner	<i>Notropis suttkusi</i>	27
	Longnose Darter	<i>Percina nasuta</i>	27
	American Eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	24
	Paddlefish	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>	24
	Blue Sucker	<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>	23
	Lowland Topminnow	<i>Fundulus blairae</i>	23
	Suckermouth Minnow	<i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>	23
	Brown Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>	19
	Redspot Chub	<i>Nocomis asper</i>	19
	Beaded Darter	<i>Etheostoma clinton</i>	15
	Saddleback Darter	<i>Percina vigil</i>	15
Insect	beetle	<i>Rimulicola divalis</i>	80
	Ouachita Spiketail	<i>Cordulegaster talaria</i>	65
	Rattlesnake-Master Borer Moth	<i>Papaipema eryngii</i>	65
	Caddo Sallfly	<i>Alloperla caddo</i>	50
	Texas Frosted Elfin	<i>Callophrys irus hadros</i>	42
	American Burying Beetle	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	42
	Linda's Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes linda</i>	38
	Indiana Phlox Moth	<i>Schinia indiana</i>	38
	Ozark Emerald	<i>Somatochlora ozarkensis</i>	34
	Ozark Snaketail Dragonfly	<i>Ophiogomphus westfalli</i>	32
	Mottled Duskywing	<i>Erynnis martialis</i>	29
	Meske's Skipper	<i>Hesperia meskei</i>	29
	Lace-winged Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes aesculapius</i>	27

	Appalachian Azure	<i>Celastrina neglectamajor</i>	27
	Ozark Clubtail Dragonfly	<i>Gomphus ozarkensis</i>	27
	Giant Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus elephus</i>	25
	Diana	<i>Speyeria diana</i>	25
	Copeland's Mold Beetle	<i>Arianops copelandi</i>	23
	Northern Metalmark	<i>Calephelis borealis</i>	23
	microcaddisfly	<i>Ochrotrichia robisoni</i>	23
	Ouachita Shore Bug	<i>Pentacora ouachita</i>	23
	Yehl Skipper	<i>Poanes yehl</i>	23
	Byssus Skipper	<i>Problema byssus</i>	23
	Ouachita Pseudactium	<i>Pseudactium magazinensis</i>	23
	Bell's Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes belli</i>	21
	Golden-banded Skipper	<i>Autochton cellus</i>	21
	Six-banded Longhorn Beetle	<i>Dryobius sexnotatus</i>	19
	Dion Skipper	<i>Euphyes dion</i>	19
	Leonard's Skipper	<i>Hesperia leonardus</i>	19
	Cobweb Skipper	<i>Hesperia metea</i>	19
	Ouachita Diving Beetle	<i>Hydroporus ouachitus</i>	19
	Gray Comma	<i>Polygonia progne</i>	19
	Oak Hairstreak	<i>Satyrium favonius ontario</i>	19
	Sandy Stream Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela macra</i>	17
	Gorgone Checkerspot	<i>Chlosyne gorgone</i>	15
	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	15
	Broad-winged Skipper	<i>Poanes viator</i>	15
	Twelve-spotted Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela duodecimguttata</i>	13
	Arkansas agapetus caddisfly	<i>Agapetus medicus</i>	8
Invertebrate - other	Mountain Cave Amphipod	<i>Stygobromus montanus</i>	65
	Ouachita Needlefly	<i>Zealeuctra wachita</i>	50
	Rich Mountain Slitmouth	<i>Stenotrema pilsbryi</i>	46
	Ouachita Slitmouth	<i>Stenotrema unciferum</i>	34
	isopod	<i>Lirceus bicuspidatus</i>	27
	millipede	<i>Abacion wilhelminae</i>	23
	isopod	<i>Caecidotea fonticulus</i>	23
	earthworm	<i>Diplocardia meansi</i>	17
Mammal	Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	63
	Eastern Small-Footed Bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	34
	Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	33
	Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	29
	Southeastern Bat	<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>	24
	Eastern Spotted Skunk	<i>Spilogale putorius</i>	21
	Crawford's Gray Shrew	<i>Notiosorex crawfordi</i>	19
	Southeastern Shrew	<i>Sorex longirostris</i>	19
	Long-tailed Weasel	<i>Mustela frenata</i>	15
Mussel	Scaleshell	<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>	95
	Arkansas Fatmucket	<i>Lampsilis powellii</i>	76
	"Ouachita" Fanshell	<i>Cyprogenia sp. Cf aberti</i>	52

	Purple Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma lividum</i>	52
	Spectaclecase	<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>	48
	Rabbitsfoot	<i>Quadrula cylindrica</i>	33
	Ouachita Kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranthus occidentalis</i>	23
	Pondhorn	<i>Uniomerus tetralasmus</i>	23
	Elktoe	<i>Alasmidonta marginata</i>	19
	Southern Pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis ornata</i>	19
	Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma parvum</i>	19
	Texas Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma texasiense</i>	19
	Round Pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i>	17
	Little Spectaclecase group	<i>Villosa sp. Cf lienosa</i>	17
	Fatmucket	<i>Lampsilis siliquoidea</i>	15
	"Arkoma" Fatmucket	<i>Lampsilis sp. A</i>	15
	Fawnsfoot	<i>Truncilla donaciformis</i>	15
Reptile	Collared Lizard	<i>Crotaphytus collaris</i>	24
	Great Plains Skink	<i>Plestiodon obsoletus</i>	23
	Western Chicken Turtle	<i>Deirochelys reticularia miaria</i>	19
	Southern Prairie Skink	<i>Plestiodon obtusirostris</i>	19
	Western Diamondback	<i>Crotalus atrox</i>	17
	Slender Glass Lizard	<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>	15

Table 3.18. Species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) in the Ouachita Mountains ranked by priority score. A higher priority score indicates a greater need for actions to conserve the species. Of the 377 SGCN, 163 occur in this ecoregion.

Priority Score	Common Name	Scientific Name	Taxa Association
95	Scaleshell	<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>	Mussel
80	Ouachita Streambed Salamander	<i>Eurycea subfluvicola</i>	Amphibian
80	Caddo Madtom	<i>Noturus taylori</i>	Fish
80	Irons Fork Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Procambarus reimeri</i>	Crayfish
80	beetle	<i>Rimulincola divalis</i>	Insect
76	Arkansas Fatmucket	<i>Lampsilis powellii</i>	Mussel
65	Ouachita Spiketail	<i>Corduleaaster talaria</i>	Insect
65	Saline Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Fallicambarus strawni</i>	Crayfish
65	Rattlesnake-Master Borer Moth	<i>Papaipema ervynii</i>	Insect
65	Mountain Cave Amphipod	<i>Stvaobromus montanus</i>	Invertebrate - other
63	Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Mammal
62	Leopard Darter	<i>Percina pantherina</i>	Fish
52	Alabama Shad	<i>Alosa alabamiae</i>	Fish
52	"Ouachita" Fanshell	<i>Cyproaenia sp. Cf aberti</i>	Mussel
52	Purple Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma lividum</i>	Mussel
50	Caddo Sallfly	<i>Alloperla caddo</i>	Insect
50	Seauovah Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon seauovah</i>	Amphibian
50	Ouachita Needlefly	<i>Zealeuctra wachita</i>	Invertebrate - other
48	Spectaclecase	<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>	Mussel
46	Paleback Darter	<i>Etheostoma pallididorsum</i>	Fish

46	Ouachita Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Fallicambarus harpi</i>	Crayfish
46	Daisy Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Fallicambarus jeanae</i>	Crayfish
46	Ouachita Madtom	<i>Noturus lachneri</i>	Fish
46	Ouachita Darter	<i>Percina brucethompsoni</i>	Fish
46	Fourche Mountain Salamander	<i>Plethodon fourchensis</i>	Amphibian
46	Kiamichi Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon kiamichi</i>	Amphibian
46	Rich Mountain Slitmouth	<i>Stenotrema pilsbryi</i>	Invertebrate - other
43	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Bird
43	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Bird
42	Texas Frosted Elfin	<i>Callophrys irus hadros</i>	Insect
42	American Burying Beetle	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	Insect
42	Caddo Mountain Salamander	<i>Plethodon caddoensis</i>	Amphibian
38	Linda's Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes linda</i>	Insect
38	Crystal Darter	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	Fish
38	Stargazing Darter	<i>Percina uranidea</i>	Fish
38	Rich Mountain Salamander	<i>Plethodon ouachitae</i>	Amphibian
38	Indiana Phlox Moth	<i>Schinia indiana</i>	Insect
34	Eastern Small-Footed Bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	Mammal
34	Ozark Emerald	<i>Somatochlora ozarkensis</i>	Insect
34	Ouachita Slitmouth	<i>Stenotrema unciferum</i>	Invertebrate - other
33	Sprague's Pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	Bird
33	Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Mammal
33	Kiamichi Shiner	<i>Notropis ortenburgeri</i>	Fish
33	Peppered Shiner	<i>Notropis perpallidus</i>	Fish
33	Bachman's Sparrow	<i>Peucaea aestivalis</i>	Bird
33	Rabbitsfoot	<i>Quadrula cylindrica</i>	Mussel
32	Ozark Snaketail Dragonfly	<i>Ophiogomphus westfalli</i>	Insect
30	Ouachita Mountain Crayfish	<i>Procambarus tenuis</i>	Crayfish
29	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	<i>Calidris subruficollis</i>	Bird
29	Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Mammal
29	Mottled Duskywing	<i>Erynnis martialis</i>	Insect
29	Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Bird
29	Meske's Skipper	<i>Hesperia meskei</i>	Insect
29	Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bird
27	Lace-winged Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes aesculapius</i>	Insect
27	Appalachian Azure	<i>Celastrina neglectamajor</i>	Insect
27	Ozark Clubtail Dragonfly	<i>Gomphus ozarkensis</i>	Insect
27	isopod	<i>Lirceus bicuspidatus</i>	Invertebrate - other
27	Ouachita Mountain Shiner	<i>Lythrurus snelsoni</i>	Fish
27	Rocky Shiner	<i>Notropis suttkusi</i>	Fish
27	Mena Crayfish	<i>Orconectes menae</i>	Crayfish
27	Longnose Darter	<i>Percina nasuta</i>	Fish
25	Giant Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus elephus</i>	Insect
25	Diana	<i>Speyeria diana</i>	Insect
24	American Eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	Fish
24	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Bird
24	Smith's Longspur	<i>Calcarius pictus</i>	Bird
24	Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Bird
24	Collared Lizard	<i>Crotaphytus collaris</i>	Reptile
24	Migrant Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus migrans</i>	Bird
24	Southeastern Bat	<i>Myotis austroriparius</i>	Mammal

24	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Bird
24	Paddlefish	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>	Fish
24	American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	Bird
24	Cerulean Warbler	<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>	Bird
23	millipede	<i>Abacion wilhelminae</i>	Invertebrate - other
23	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	<i>Aimophila ruficeps</i>	Bird
23	Copeland's Mold Beetle	<i>Arianops copelandi</i>	Insect
23	American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	Bird
23	isopod	<i>Caecidotea fonticulus</i>	Invertebrate - other
23	Northern Metalmark	<i>Calephelis borealis</i>	Insect
23	Blue Sucker	<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>	Fish
23	Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Bird
23	Lowland Topminnow	<i>Fundulus blairae</i>	Fish
23	Crawfish Frog	<i>Lithobates areolatus</i>	Amphibian
23	microcaddisfly	<i>Ochrotrichia robisoni</i>	Insect
23	Ouachita Shore Bug	<i>Pentacora ouachita</i>	Insect
23	Suckermouth Minnow	<i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>	Fish
23	Great Plains Skink	<i>Plestiodon obsoletus</i>	Reptile
23	Yehl Skipper	<i>Poanes yehl</i>	Insect
23	Byssus Skipper	<i>Problema byssus</i>	Insect
23	Ouachita Pseudactium	<i>Pseudactium magazinensis</i>	Insect
23	Ouachita Kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranhus occidentalis</i>	Mussel
23	Pondhorn	<i>Uniomerus tetralasmus</i>	Mussel
21	Le Conte's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>	Bird
21	Bell's Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes belli</i>	Insect
21	Golden-banded Skipper	<i>Autochton cellus</i>	Insect
21	Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	Bird
21	Eastern Spotted Skunk	<i>Spilogale putorius</i>	Mammal
19	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Bird
19	Elktoe	<i>Alasmidonta marginata</i>	Mussel
19	Ringed Salamander	<i>Ambystoma annulatum</i>	Amphibian
19	Brown Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>	Fish
19	Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Bird
19	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Bird
19	Eastern Whip-poor-will	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	Bird
19	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Bird
19	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Bird
19	Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	Bird
19	Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Bird
19	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Bird
19	Northern Bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Bird
19	Western Chicken Turtle	<i>Deirochelys reticularia miaria</i>	Reptile
19	Six-banded Longhorn Beetle	<i>Dryobius sexnotatus</i>	Insect
19	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	Bird
19	Dion Skipper	<i>Euphyes dion</i>	Insect
19	Purple Finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>	Bird
19	Four-toed Salamander	<i>Hemidactylum scutatum</i>	Amphibian
19	Leonard's Skipper	<i>Hesperia leonardus</i>	Insect
19	Cobweb Skipper	<i>Hesperia metea</i>	Insect

19	Ouachita Diving Beetle	<i>Hydroporus ouachitus</i>	Insect
19	Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Bird
19	Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Bird
19	Southern Pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis ornata</i>	Mussel
19	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Bird
19	Swainson's Warbler	<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	Bird
19	Redspot Chub	<i>Nocomis asper</i>	Fish
19	Crawford's Gray Shrew	<i>Notiosorex crawfordi</i>	Mammal
19	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Bird
19	Redspotted Stream Crayfish	<i>Orconectes acares</i>	Crayfish
19	Little River Creek Crayfish	<i>Orconectes leptogonopodus</i>	Crayfish
19	Southern Prairie Skink	<i>Plestiodon obtusirostris</i>	Reptile
19	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Bird
19	Gray Comma	<i>Polygonia progne</i>	Insect
19	Bismark Burrowing Crayfish	<i>Procambarus parasimulans</i>	Crayfish
19	Oak Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium favonius ontario</i>	Insect
19	Hurter's Spadefoot	<i>Scaphiopus hurterii</i>	Amphibian
19	Southeastern Shrew	<i>Sorex longirostris</i>	Mammal
19	Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma parvum</i>	Mussel
19	Texas Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma texasiense</i>	Mussel
19	Bell's Vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Bird
17	Sandy Stream Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela macra</i>	Insect
17	Western Diamondback Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus atrox</i>	Reptile
17	Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>	Bird
17	earthworm	<i>Diplocardia meansi</i>	Invertebrate - other
17	Round Pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i>	Mussel
17	Little Spectaclecase group	<i>Villosa sp. Cf lienosa</i>	Mussel
15	Mole Salamander	<i>Ambystoma talpoideum</i>	Amphibian
15	Gorgone Checkerspot	<i>Chlosyne gorgone</i>	Insect
15	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Insect
15	Beaded Darter	<i>Etheostoma clinton</i>	Fish
15	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Bird
15	Bird-voiced Treefrog	<i>Hyla avivoca</i>	Amphibian
15	Fatmucket	<i>Lampsilis siliquoidea</i>	Mussel
15	"Arkoma" Fatmucket	<i>Lampsilis sp. A</i>	Mussel
15	Long-tailed Weasel	<i>Mustela frenata</i>	Mammal
15	Slender Glass Lizard	<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>	Reptile
15	Saddleback Darter	<i>Percina vigil</i>	Fish
15	American Golden-Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Bird
15	Broad-winged Skipper	<i>Poanes viator</i>	Insect
15	Fawnsfoot	<i>Truncilla donaciformis</i>	Mussel
13	Twelve-spotted Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela duodecimguttata</i>	Insect
8	Arkansas agapetus caddisfly	<i>Agapetus medicus</i>	Insect

Habitats that occur in the Ouachita Mountains

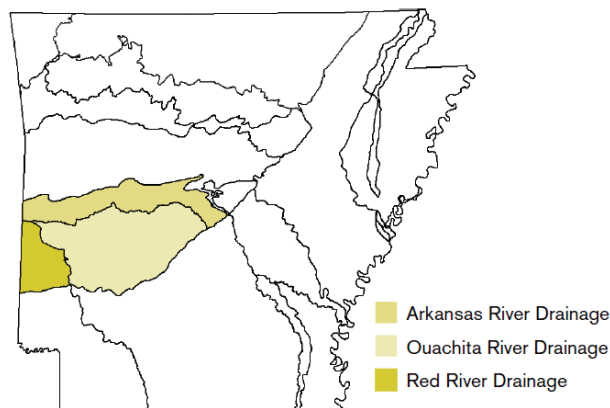
Of the 37 terrestrial habitats in Arkansas, 20 occur in the Ouachita Mountains ecoregion (Table 3.19). Of 18 ecobasins in Arkansas, three occur in the Ouachita Mountains ecoregion (Figure 3.14). These associations are described in the Section 4. Terrestrial Habitats Section 5. Aquatic Habitats.

Table 3.19. Terrestrial Habitats in the Ouachita Mountains.

Habitat Name

Caves, Mines, Sinkholes, and other Karst Habitat
Crop Land
Cultivated Forest
Herbaceous Wetland
Interior Highlands Calcareous Glade and Barrens
Interior Highlands Dry Acidic Glade and Barrens
Mud Flats
Ouachita Montane Oak Forest
Ozark-Ouachita Cliff and Talus
Ozark-Ouachita Dry Oak and Pine Woodland
Ozark-Ouachita Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
Ozark-Ouachita Forested Seep
Ozark-Ouachita Large Floodplain
Ozark-Ouachita Mesic Hardwood Forest
Ozark-Ouachita Pine/Bluestem Woodland
Ozark-Ouachita Pine-Oak Forest/ Woodland
Ozark-Ouachita Riparian
Pasture Land
Ponds, Lakes, and Water Holes
Urban/Suburban

Figure 3.14. Ecobasin Distribution in the Ouachita Mountains.



Problems faced by Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Taxa association teams listed problems faced by SGCN individually in the Species Reports, pages 45-1082. A summary of the problems faced by SGCN in the Ouachita Mountains is presented below. Each problem has a score which is a sum of all Species Priority Scores associated with species for which this problem was assigned. A higher score implies a higher quantity of SGCN and/or more greatly imperiled species associated with problems listed here.

Table 3.20. Problems faced by SGCN.

Problem faced	Score
Forestry activities	2914
Dam	1652
Road construction	1589
Agricultural practices	1544
Grazing/Browsing	1343
Resource extraction	1341
Urban development	937
Fire suppression	702
Conversion of riparian forest	572
Confined animal operations	558
Water diversion	515
Municipal/Industrial point source	511
Channel alteration	410
Channel maintenance	311
Recreation	290
Parasites/pathogens	258
Predation	247
Commercial/industrial development	240
Exotic species	234
Non-point source pollution	192
Management of/for certain species	168
unknown	52
Excessive non-commercial harvest or collection	50
Commercial harvest	43
Excessive groundwater withdrawal	40

Conservation actions needed in the Ouachita Mountains

Descriptions of conservation actions linked to individual species on the list of SGCN are presented in the Species Reports, pages 44-1113. Below are categories of conservation actions recommended by the taxa association teams (Figure 3.15). An explanation of the categories follows in Table 3.21.

The score associated with the conservation action category is the sum of all priority scores associated with species for which a conservation action has been assigned, weighted by the importance of the conservation action category to the species. A higher score implies a higher quantity of SGCN and/or more greatly imperiled species would be affected by actions within this conservation action category.

These scores may be used as guides to directing the apportionment of funding toward conservation actions benefiting habitats and species of greatest conservation need.

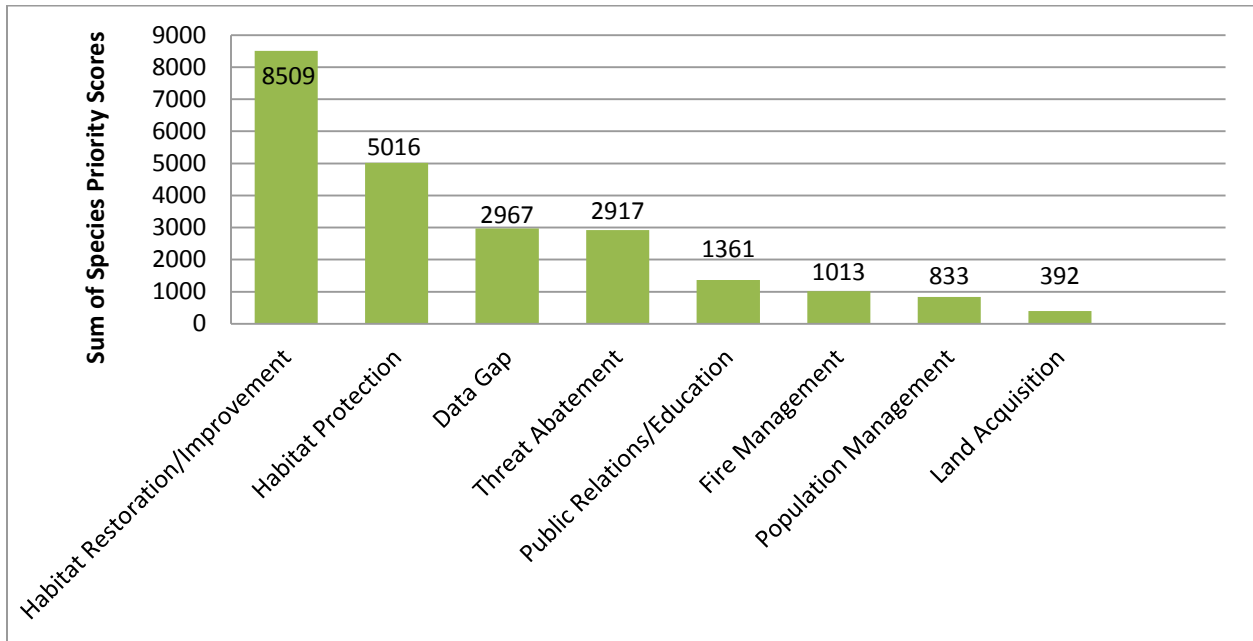


Figure 3.15. Conservation action categories recommended for the Ouachita Mountains.