

About the Endangered Species Law

Wisconsin's Endangered Species Law (s. 29.604, Wis. Stats.) requires the protection of our state's endangered and threatened species. **To be in compliance with the state Endangered Species Law, all projects should be reviewed for potential impacts to rare species.**

What is an ER Review?

An ER Review is a formal letter detailing the rare species, high-quality natural communities and other endangered resources likely to be impacted by a specific proposed project.

Reviews allow the project proponent to identify, address and develop solutions for endangered resources concerns. The letter includes required and/or recommended actions to help projects comply with endangered species laws. The state endangered species law applies on both public and private land. Landowners are responsible for avoiding take of listed species and an ER Review is the best mechanism for determining if take of a species will occur.



Blanchard's Cricket Frog, photo © Rori Paloski

ER Reviews are completed for any activity the Department conducts, funds or approves. A review may be completed in one of three ways: Department permitting staff may conduct a review as part of their permit process; a project proponent may request a review for their project directly from the Endangered Resources Review Program; or they may utilize the ER Certification Program to complete the review.



When to request a review

Requesting an ER Review well in advance of when the project is scheduled to begin allows identification and planning for potential seasonal limitations. This may be necessary in order to avoid impacts to rare species and to allow time for any field surveys that may need to be conducted during a specific time of year (e.g., breeding season).

How long will a review take?

Standard ER Review turnaround times and costs vary depending on workload, staffing and the complexity of the proposed project. A typical ER Review has an average turnaround time of 10 days and a cost of \$75 to \$150.

If you have a short time constraint, consider an expedited review which is an ER Review completed in a guaranteed turnaround time of 7 business days for a higher cost.

More information

For more information please visit: dnr.wi.gov and use keyword search "ER Review" or contact us at DNRERReview@wisconsin.gov

