

## Threatened & Endangered Species Summary

### APPENZELL #1 & #2 138 kV LINE TRANSMISSION LINE SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN STATUS REPORT

To: **Doug Haupt**  
From: **Richard Mellon, Senior Scientist**  
Subject: **Appenzell Transmission Line Species of Special Concern Status Report**  
Date: **January 18, 2010**

#### **Background:**

Agency responses to PNDI requests regarding Species of Special Concern listed the following species:

- Bog Turtle (*Glyptemmys mulhenbergii*) - federally threatened
- Fall Dropseed Muhly (*Muhlenbergia uniflora*) – state endangered
- Persius Duskywing (Butterfly) *Erynnis persius persius* – state critically imperiled
- Frosted Elfin (Butterfly) *Callophrys irus* – state critically imperiled

#### **Current Status:**

Field studies have been completed and the final reports will be completed shortly. There is one area of potential Bog Turtle habitat in wetlands adjacent to Fall Creek. A phase two Bog Turtle study (presence-absence) will be completed between April 15 and June 15, 2010.

Field studies for the Fall Dropseed Muhly were completed and no plants were found. The report is being prepared.

The two butterflies are typically found in barrens and other open, non-agricultural habitats. DCNR describes the habitat for *Callophrys irus* as, “open woods and forest edges, fields and scrub; larval host – members of Pea family (Fabaceae) and *Baptisia tinctoria*”. DCNR does not list a habitat for *Erynnis persius persius*, but based on a literature search, the habitat and food requirements are similar. This type of habitat was not found in the proposed right-of-way, but may develop under the new right-of-way in the future.