

## Amendment

The changes to pages 8 and 14 will provide the Department with authority to adopt management protocols for designated essential habitats / allow the Department to define essential habitat in regulation. (see changes below in red)

On page 8:

(a) (1) The Secretary [shall]:

(I) **Shall** establish programs, including acquisition of land or aquatic habitat or interests therein, necessary for the conservation of threatened or endangered species of fish;

**(II) May designate areas as essential habitats for endangered and threatened species;**  
**and**

**(III) May adopt management protocols for designated essential habitats.**

On page 14:

(a) (1) The Secretary [shall]:

(I) **Shall** establish programs, including acquisition of land or aquatic habitat or interests therein, necessary for the conservation of nongame, threatened, or endangered species of wildlife or plants;

**(II) May designate areas as essential habitats for endangered and threatened species;**  
**and**

**(III) May adopt management protocols for designated essential habitats.**