



NORTHERN DUSKY SALAMANDER

Species at Risk

The Northern Dusky salamander is found in three provinces throughout Canada: Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. In Ontario*, the Northern Dusky salamander occurs in one population and is an endangered species.*

The Northern Dusky salamander varies in colour from brown to gray. However, this salamander has a somewhat transparent underside that has tiny gray spots. The tail is flat across the top. This species is often confused with the Allegheny Mountain Dusky salamander. *See reverse.

The Northern Dusky salamander is found in permanent and intermittent springs, brooks, streams or ground water seeps within forested habitat. This salamander requires woody debris, rocks and moss for protection from predators and to deposit eggs.

This salamander eats aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates. Some natural predators include water snakes, small mammals and some birds.

Major threats to this species include loss of forests, contamination or loss of ground waterflow, barriers affecting movement patterns and loss of vegetative cover. Such threats occur through farming practices, residential, industrial and commercial development and other human practices.

*The Ontario Dusky Salamander Recovery Team is coordinating specific recovery actions for dusky salamander populations found in Ontario. It is illegal to search for, harass, or capture an endangered species or destroy their habitat.

