

Habitat Model for Species: Eastern Spotted Skunk

Spilogale putorius

[Distribution Map](#) [Habitat Map](#)

Landcover Category

0 - Comments

Choate and Fleharty, 1975

Walker, 1978

Polder, 1968

Kinlaw, 1995

[#Reviewer]

Habitat Restrictions

Comments

spotted skunk inhabits farmyards with nearby cultivated fields (wheat or sorghum) and feedlots; authors suggest reduction in numbers may be due to reversal in human activities (ie., reduction in numbers of small farms and amount of commensal habitat

spotted skunk usually inhabits old buildings on farmsteads

spotted skunk uses wood piles, junk piles, and hollow trees as stopovers when traveling to farm buildings

in man-made environments, species dens in haystacks, woodpiles, in and under farm buildings; expansion of geographic range in Great Plains may be correlated with increase in agricultural land; provides outbuildings for shelter and house mice for prey

Busby : Add Anderson, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Douglas, Gray, Haskell, Labette, Lyon, McPherson, Montgomery, Neosho, Russell, Sedgwick, Woodson
Kaufman : Add Russell Co.

02 - Oak-Hickory Forest

Fitch and Rainey, 1956

McCullough and Fritzell, 1984

06 - Cottonwood Floodplain Forest

Polder, 1968

McCullough and Fritzell, 1984

MARGINAL habitat

08 - Bur Oak Floodplain Woodland

Polder, 1968

11 - Cottonwood Floodplain Woodland

Choate et al., 1973

17 - Tallgrass Prairie

Polder, 1968

22 - Mixed Prairie

Choate et al., 1973

40 - Non-native Grassland

Polder, 1968

44 - Cultivated Land

Choate and Fleharty, 1975

spotted skunk inhabits farmyards with nearby cultivated fields (wheat or sorghum) and feedlots; authors suggest reduction in numbers may be due to reversal in human activities (ie., reduction in numbers of small farms and amount of commensal habitat)

Choate et al., 1973

spotted skunks collected in fields of wheat and a haystack

Polder, 1968

55 - Deciduous Woodland

Choate et al., 1973

spotted skunks collected in this habitat, which was a windbreak composed of red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) on a farmyard)

Fitch and Rainey, 1956

91 - Ozark Sandstone Glade / Prairie - not mapped

McCullough and Fritzell, 1984

SUBOPTIMAL habitat

Reference List

1. Choate, J. R. and E. D. Fleharty. 1975. Synopsis of native, recent mammals of Ellis County, Kansas. Occasional Papers, The Museum, Texas Tech University 37:1-80.
2. Choate, J. R., E. D. Fleharty, and R. J. Little. 1973. Status of the spotted skunk, *Spilogale putorius*, in Kansas. Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science 76:226-233.
3. Fitch, H. S. and D. G. Rainey. 1956. Ecological observations on the woodrat (*Neotoma floridana*). University of Kansas Publications, Museum of Natural History 8:499-533.
4. Kinlaw, A. 1995. *Spilogale putorius*. Mammalian Species 511:1-7.
5. McCullough, C. R. and E. K. Fritzell. 1984. Ecological observations of eastern spotted skunks on the Ozark Plateau. Transactions, Missouri Academy of Science 18:25-32.
6. Polder, E. 1968. Spotted skunk and weasel populations den and cover usage by northeast Iowa. Iowa Academy of Science 75:142-146.
7. Walker, J. R. 1978. The mammals (exclusive of the bats) of Cheyenne County, Kansas. Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science 81:185-229.

Eastern Spotted Skunk

