

# Introducing Nature's Smelliest Defender



SCAN ME

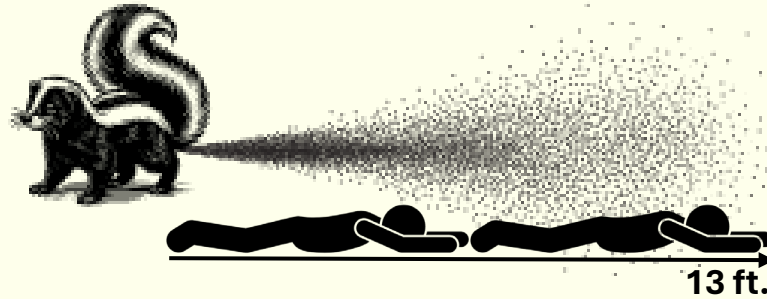
## How you can help:

Report any spotted skunks out in the wild to the Eastern Spotted Skunk project at [inaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/eastern-spotted-skunk) by mobile device.

## Eastern Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale putorius*)

### Avoid a Skunk's Spray

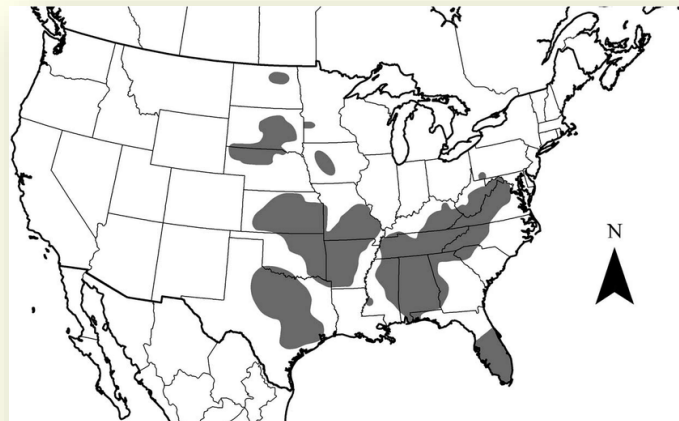
**Warning Signs:** Stomping or in a handstand position



### Population: Unknown

~ 99% of population lost since the 1940's

~ 233 reported sightings on iNaturalist since 2015



### Geographic Location

## Skunk Facts



**Size:** 9"–13.5" in.



**Weight:** 0.8–2.2 lbs.



**Diet:** Omnivore -  
Insects, small  
rodents, eggs, and  
honey



**Lifespan:** ~2–6 years  
in the wild, ~10 years  
in captivity



**Habitat:** Forest,  
shrubland,  
grassland, and rocky  
mountains



**Threats:** Habitat  
loss, historical fur  
harvesting, avian  
predation, invasive  
species, and disease

**Conservation States**  
Vulnerable

## Bi 319 - Informational Artifact (IA)

Audience: The target audience is for children and adults who visit zoos. I used a photo of the eastern spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius*) in a handstand position for its display to instill humor and curiosity. As zoos can become overcrowded with groups, it's crucial to quickly grab the spectator's attention as they may not get to see a skunk in its display do a handstand.

Purpose: To provide educational information to people who may otherwise have no previous experience or knowledge about eastern spotted skunks (*Spilogale putorius*). My exhibition display calls attention to its conservation status as vulnerable in bright red. This leads spectators to be more curious as to why and how can they help, so we include a way they can help by reporting any sighted spotted skunks at inaturalist and include the skunks' current threats in the wild. My exhibition labels offer a good mix for someone who wants to learn a bit about history, fun facts, and how they can do their part to help outside from visiting zoos.

### Bibliography:

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