



Illinois

# ENDANGERED & THREATENED SPECIES



## Franklin's ground squirrel *Poliocitellus franklinii* [state threatened]

Franklin's ground squirrel lives in areas with grasses that are short enough so that it may see over them when standing upright on its hind legs. It eats carrion, mammals, insects, birds, bird eggs and plants. Its burrow is dug under ground, and the entrance has some dirt piled around it. This animal may produce a whistle or chirp when disturbed. When above ground, Franklin's ground squirrel may climb trees. This animal hibernates for seven to eight months each year.

### Reasons for Concern

- loss of suitable habitat

