

---

## Latest News

---

August 25, 2008

### W.Va. squirrel removed from endangered species list

By **Staff reports**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- The West Virginia northern flying squirrel is being removed from the endangered species list, federal wildlife officials announced this morning.

Interior Secretary Dick Kempthorne issued a news release about the move, which was to be formally announced in a Federal Register notice on Tuesday.

Kempthorne said that the squirrel has recovered from the brink of extinction. He attributed the rebound to conservation efforts and regeneration of the squirrel's forest habitat.

"Based on data from more than 20 years of monitoring the squirrel's presence in the forest, as well as the completion of extensive habitat analysis, our scientists are confident that the squirrel has recovered to the point where it no longer requires federal protection," Kempthorne said.

*Check wvgazette.com later today for updated information.*