

Figure 1. ACE-II Biological Index Model Flow Chart.

The **Biological Index** is based on four indices relevant to conservation value, native species richness, rare species richness, irreplaceability, and the presence of sensitive habitats, summed in a weighted-additive model framework. Data were normalized to give each taxonomic group and each of the four indices equal weight in the analysis. The analysis was done by ecoregion, to identify areas of high biological richness within each ecoregion of the state. The analysis unit used was 2.5 square mile hexagons.

