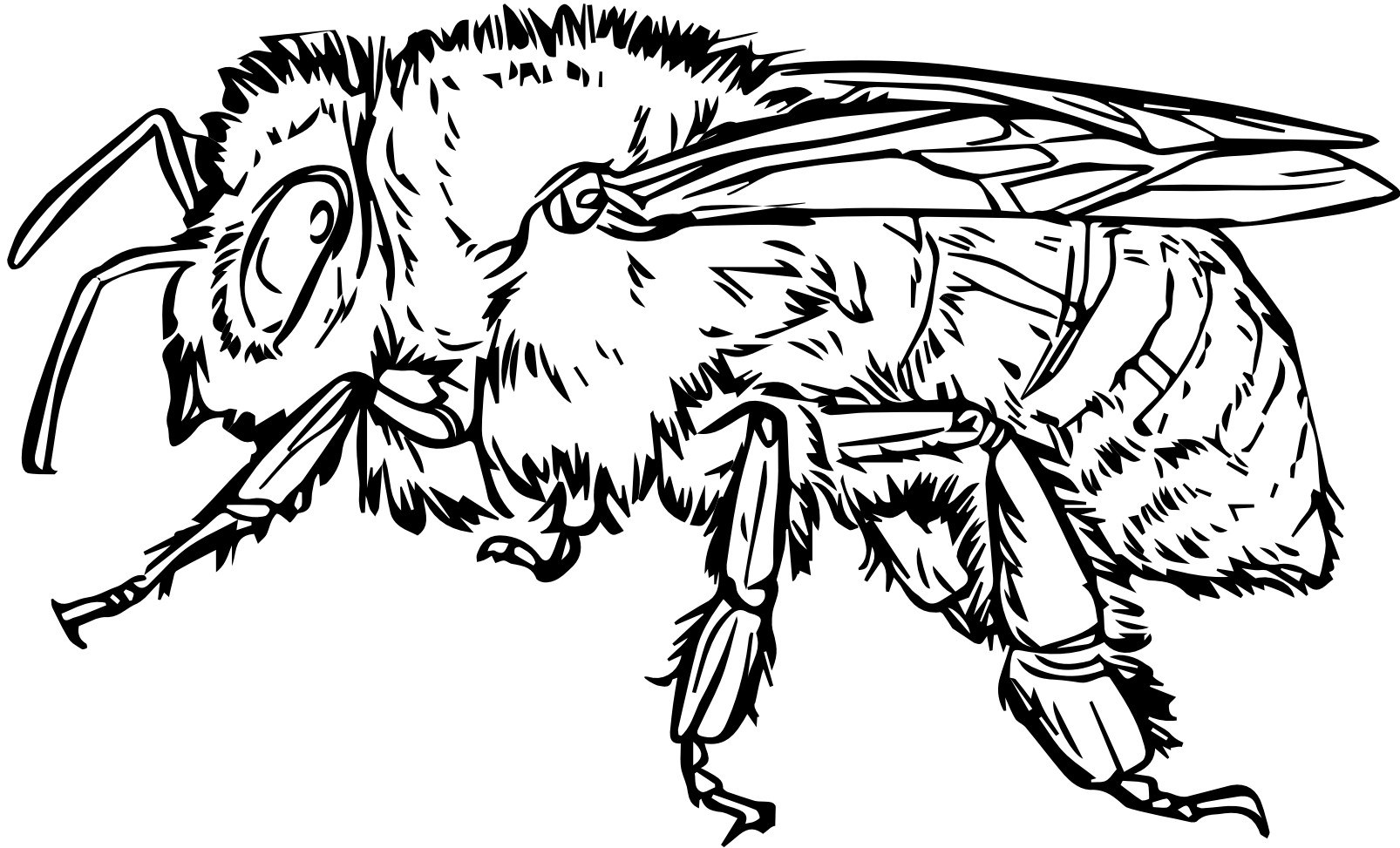


RUSTY PATCHED BUMBLE BEE - ENDANGERED

Rusty patched bumble bees are iconic and hard-working insects that live in small colonies underground.

Like all native bees, they're important pollinators for Minnesota's plants, but their grassland habitats are being fragmented by development into monoculture farms or roads and houses. They're also facing challenges caused by climate change— like more extreme temperatures, rainfall, and late frost events— that impact their environments and the flowers they depend on for food.



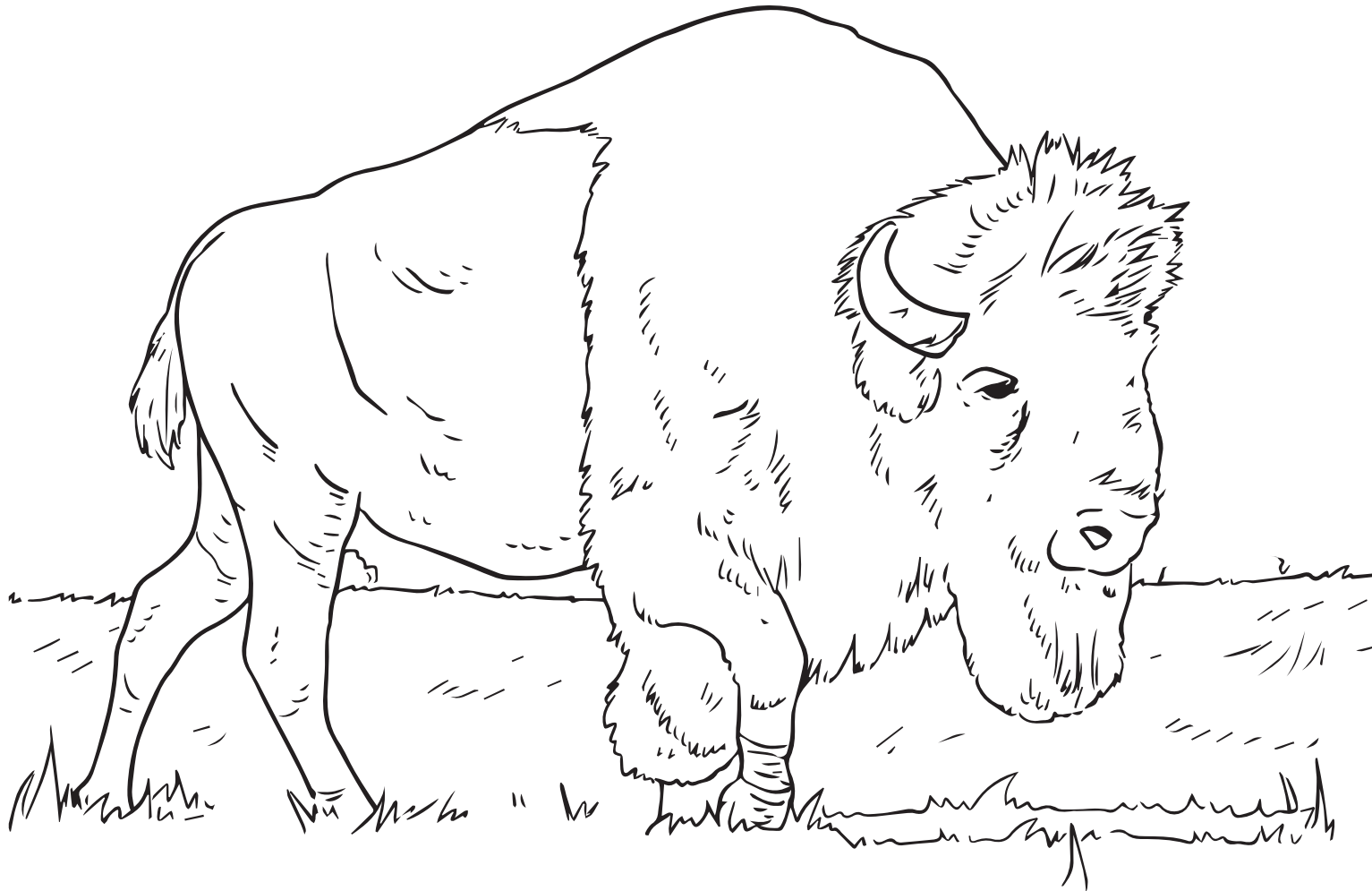
HOW YOU CAN HELP

Add pollinator-friendly plants to your garden or flower box!
Even small floral sources can help bumble bees.

BISON ANTIQUUS - EXTINCT

Sometimes when we think of extinct animals, we imagine giant dinosaurs from millions of years ago.

But *Bison antiquus* went extinct just 10,000 years ago and is the ancestor of bison living on Minnesota's plains today. At the Science Museum, you can see a skeleton of a similar majestic mammal (*Bison occidentalis*) in *We Move and We Stay*. In the exhibit, you'll find out that Indigenous people have relied on bison as an essential source of food, clothing, and goods for thousands of years. These bison were enormous—some stood over 8 feet tall!



HOW TO LEARN MORE

Visit *We Move and We Stay* to meet our *Bison occidentalis* skeleton and learn about the cultures who respected and coexisted with this massive mammal.

EASTERN SPOTTED SKUNK - THREATENED

This skunk sports a bushy tail and unique patterns.

These patterns are helpful in getaways—when spotted, this nocturnal critter will scurry up a tree and freeze in place, using its black and white fur to blend in with moonlit landscapes. Since 1996, the eastern spotted skunk has been classified as threatened. While scientists aren't exactly sure why, their decline may be due to a long history of over-trapping, pesticide use, and changing farming techniques.



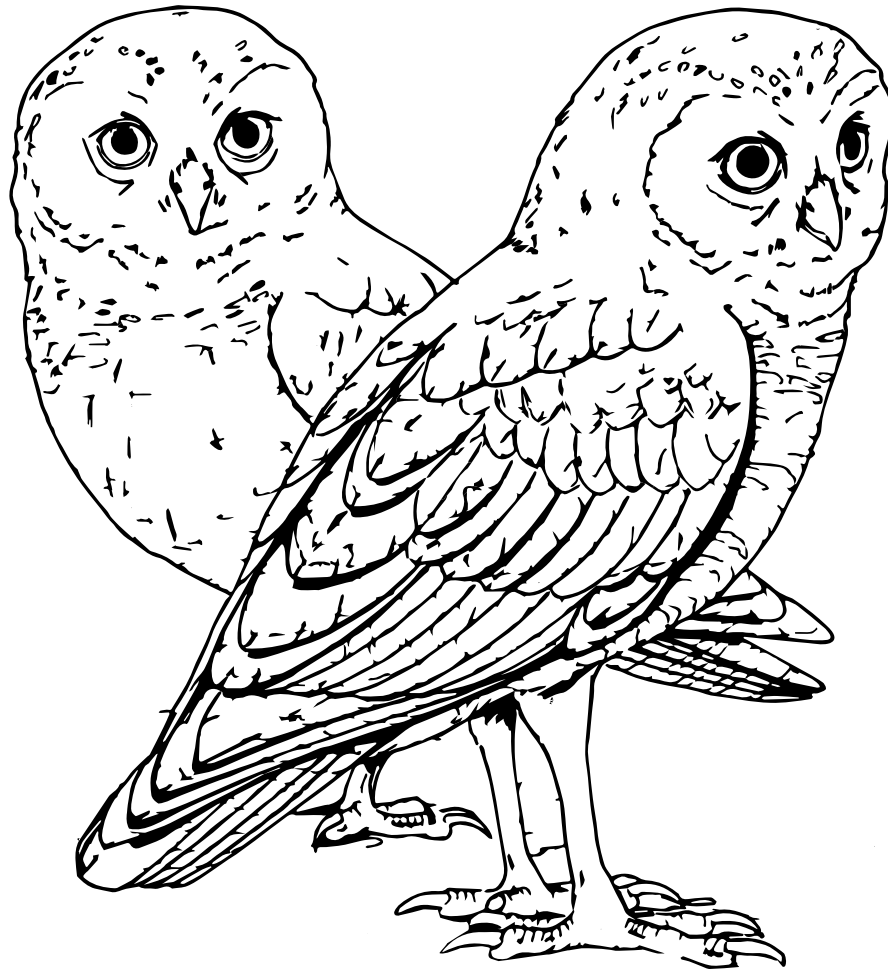
HOW YOU CAN HELP

Get involved in your city or town's environmental meetings to make sure land is preserved for these cute but smelly skunks to live in! If you see an eastern spotted skunk, take a photo and upload it to iNaturalist to let scientists know there might be a population nearby.

BURROWING OWL - THREATENED

These small feathered friends are unlike other owls in that they're active during the day.

In Minnesota, they're found in prairies and open grasslands, where they establish homes in burrows built by badgers, ground squirrels, and other burrowing mammals. These owls are on the decline due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and roads intersecting their environments.



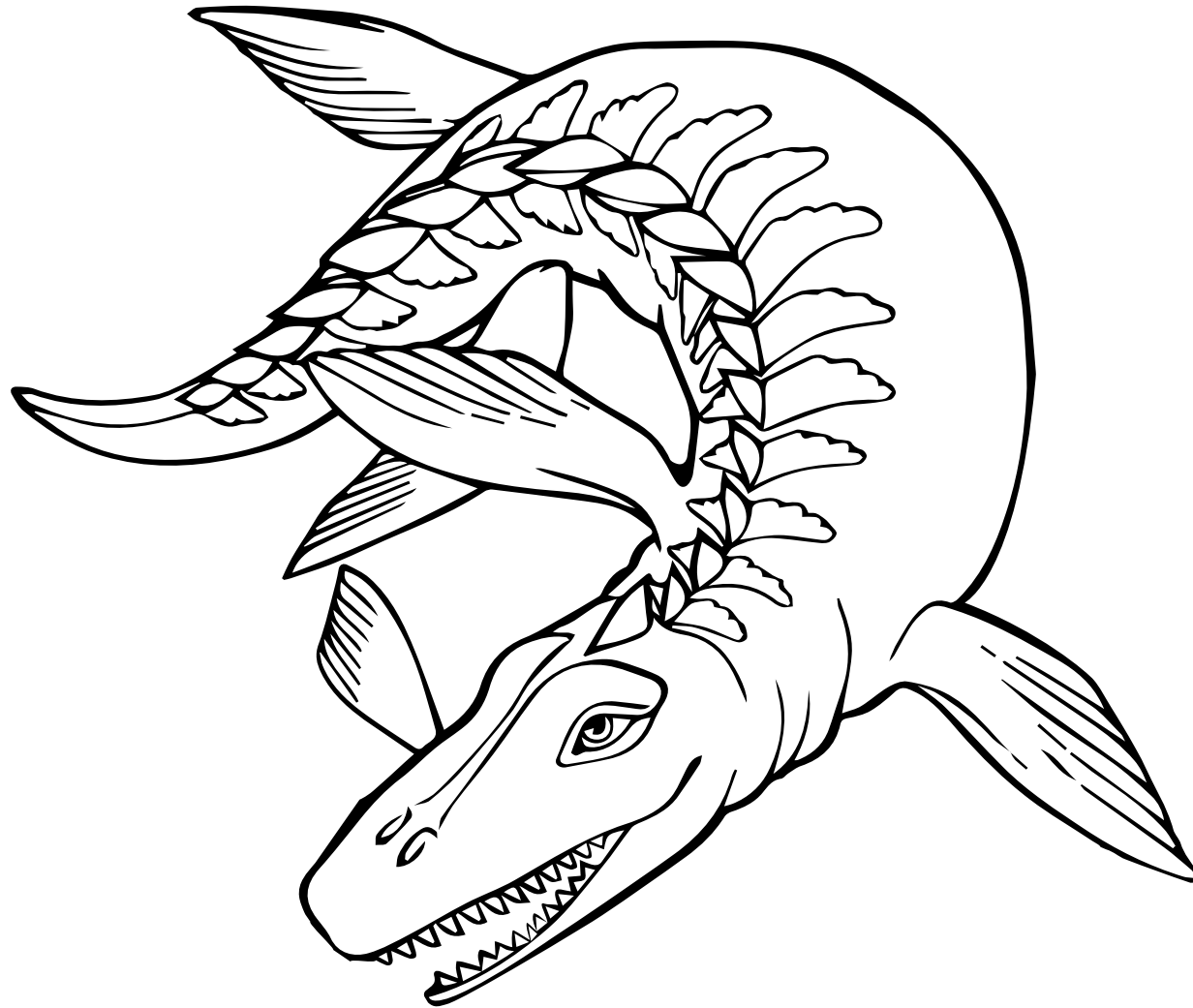
HOW YOU CAN HELP

Advocate for policies that protect habitats and nature spaces that burrowing owls need to survive and tell others about these sunshine-loving avians.

MOSASAUR - EXTINCT

About 70 million years ago, the middle part of North America was covered in water.

All sorts of creatures swam in this shallow sea including sharks, fish, and *Mosasaurus*. These large marine reptiles were powerful swimmers and dominant predators of other animals living in these warm waters. They went extinct 66 million years ago at the end of the Cretaceous period.

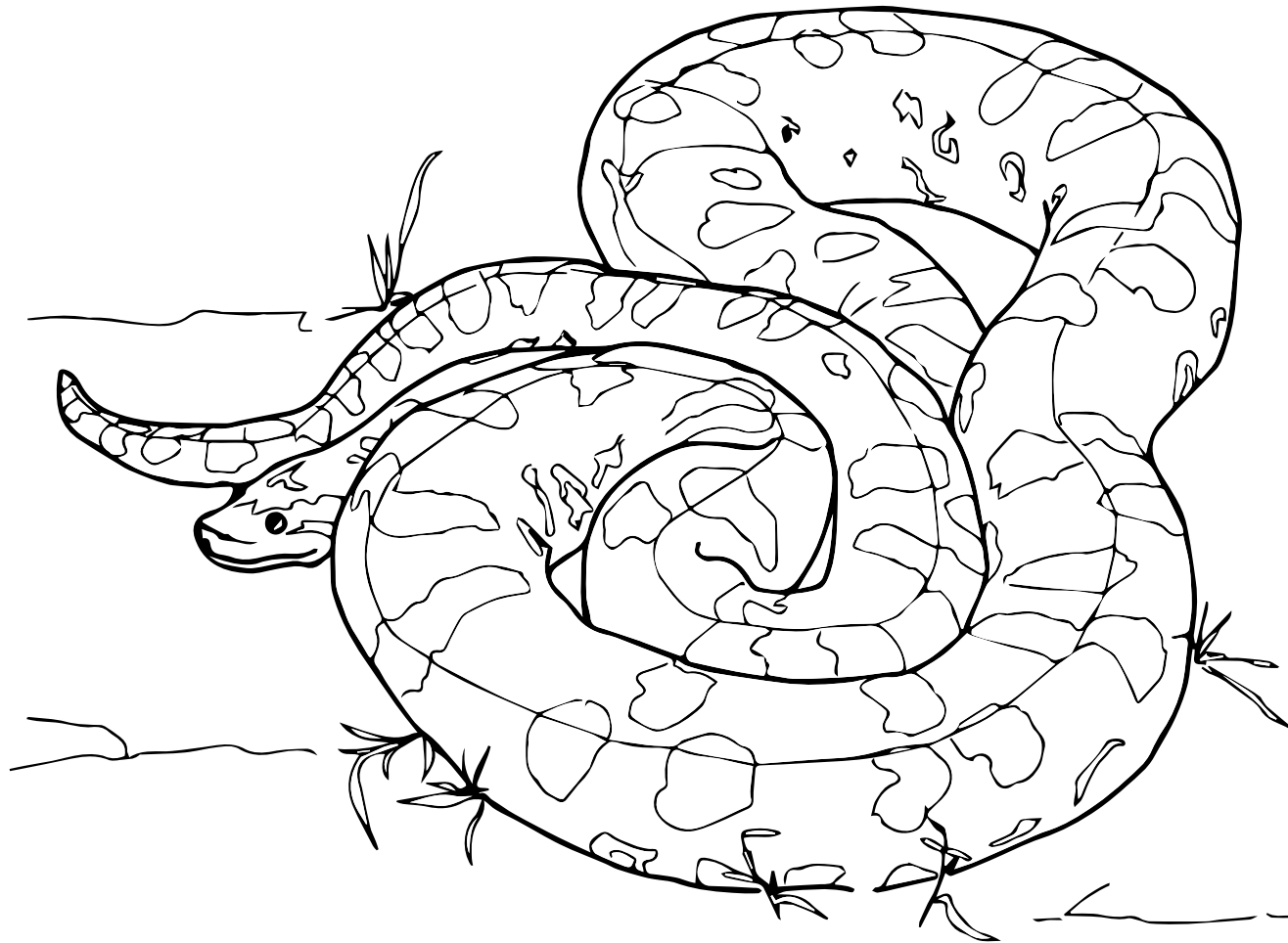


HOW TO LEARN MORE

The next time you're at the Science Museum, make sure to look up in the Dinosaurs & Fossils gallery to catch a glimpse of this swimming giant.

TITANOBOA - EXTINCT

Titanoboa is an extinct species of snake that lived in a tropical forest environment in what is now Colombia in South America. Related to today's boas and anacondas, *Titanoboa* could grow over 40 feet long and weigh more than a ton.



HOW TO LEARN MORE

See a life-sized model of a *Titanoboa* and learn more about its discovery and what it might suggest about Earth's changing climate in the *Science Superheroes* exhibit.

smm.org/superheroes