

## ODFW Wildlife Priority Strategy Species List

### **Background and Purpose**

The [Oregon Conservation Strategy](#) (OCS) identifies 294 Strategy Species, or species of greatest conservation need, that have small or declining populations, or are otherwise at-risk. In order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of internal Strategy Species conservation efforts, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) developed a Wildlife Priority Strategy Species List for each ecoregion (excluding the Nearshore ecoregion).

The purpose of the ODFW Wildlife Priority Strategy Species List is to:

- Improve internal implementation of the Oregon Conservation Strategy (OCS)
- Focus ODFW conservation efforts, making them more strategic to improve their probability of success
- Help develop more specific measures of success for the OCS
- Respond to recommendations from the OCS Stakeholder Advisory Committee and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The ODFW Wildlife Priority Strategy Species List may be used to focus:

- Available agency funds
- External grant applications
- Field biologist research and monitoring efforts
- Involvement or leadership in regional partnerships
- Data centralization efforts
- Pacific Flyway or multi-state prioritization efforts

The intent of this list is to help direct and inform internal species conservation efforts. It is not intended to restrict staff workload, but to guide future conservation efforts at the district, ecoregional, and statewide scale. In addition, the list does not represent the priorities of all partners that helped to develop the OCS; therefore, it should not be considered a priority list for the OCS, but rather a priority list for ODFW.

### **Prioritization Criteria**

For each ecoregion, vertebrate wildlife Strategy Species were scored and weighted by Conservation Program staff using the following criteria:

1. Level of conservation concern (40% of total score)
2. Level of work being done on the species (20% of total score)
  - Species receiving minimal attention, where ODFW leadership would provide a strong benefit to the species, scored higher than those that are currently the focus of a large effort or coalition
3. Ease of monitoring (20% of total score)
  - Degree of difficulty in monitoring the species, or major barriers to implementing a monitoring program

4. Conservation management potential (20% of total score)

- Ability to effectively manage the species and contribute to its recovery

For each ecoregion, the species with the top five highest scores were selected to be on the ODFW Wildlife Priority Strategy Species List. If the total scores were similar among the top-ranked species, a second filter was used to narrow down the final five species per ecoregion. Species were given priority if they were: a surrogate species, dependent on a habitat that is imperiled, significantly impacted by immigrating threats (e.g., development, climate change), or from an underrepresented taxon/habitat.

The list will be reviewed and updated by ODFW every five years.

**ODFW Wildlife Priority Strategy Species List by Ecoregion**

<b>Ecoregion</b>	<b>Top 5 Priority Species</b>
Blue Mountains	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Columbia Spotted Frog</li> <li>2. Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog</li> <li>3. Trumpeter Swan</li> <li>4. White-headed Woodpecker</li> <li>5. Townsend's Big-eared Bat</li> </ol>
Coast Range	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. American Marten</li> <li>2. Coastal Tailed Frog</li> <li>3. Western Pond Turtle</li> <li>4. Olive-sided Flycatcher</li> <li>5. Fringed Myotis</li> </ol>
Columbia Plateau	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lewis's Woodpecker</li> <li>2. Ferruginous Hawk</li> <li>3. Sagebrush Sparrow</li> <li>4. Townsend's Big-eared Bat</li> <li>5. Western Painted Turtle</li> </ol>
East Cascades	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lewis's Woodpecker</li> <li>2. Oregon Spotted Frog</li> <li>3. Olive-sided Flycatcher</li> <li>4. Townsend's Big-eared Bat</li> <li>5. Western Pond Turtle</li> </ol>
Klamath Mountains	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fisher</li> <li>2. Foothill Yellow-legged Frog</li> <li>3. Western Pond Turtle</li> <li>4. White-headed Woodpecker</li> <li>5. California Mountain Kingsnake</li> </ol>
Northern Basin and Range	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Columbia Spotted Frog</li> <li>2. Franklin's Gull</li> <li>3. Trumpeter Swan</li> <li>4. Pygmy Rabbit</li> <li>5. Townsend's Big-eared Bat</li> </ol>

West Cascades	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Great Gray Owl</li><li>2. Western Pond Turtle</li><li>3. Fisher</li><li>4. Foothill Yellow-legged Frog</li><li>5. Fringed Myotis</li></ol>
Willamette Valley	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Northern Red-legged Frog</li><li>2. Oregon Vesper Sparrow</li><li>3. Fringed Myotis</li><li>4. Acorn Woodpecker</li><li>5. Western Pond Turtle</li></ol>