

# Periodic Status Review

## Columbian White-Tailed Deer

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# Periodic Status Review Process and Timeline

## Listing Process Guided by WAC 220-610-110

- Periodic review of status every 5 years – last Columbian White-tailed Deer PSR 2016
- February 2020 - solicit data and information from the public
- August 2022 - 90 day public comment period on draft
- November 2022 – SEPA public comment period
- Listing “...solely on the basis of the biological status of the species being considered, based on the preponderance of scientific data available.”
- Listed species: currently more than 75% are classified as Endangered (36 of 47 listed species)

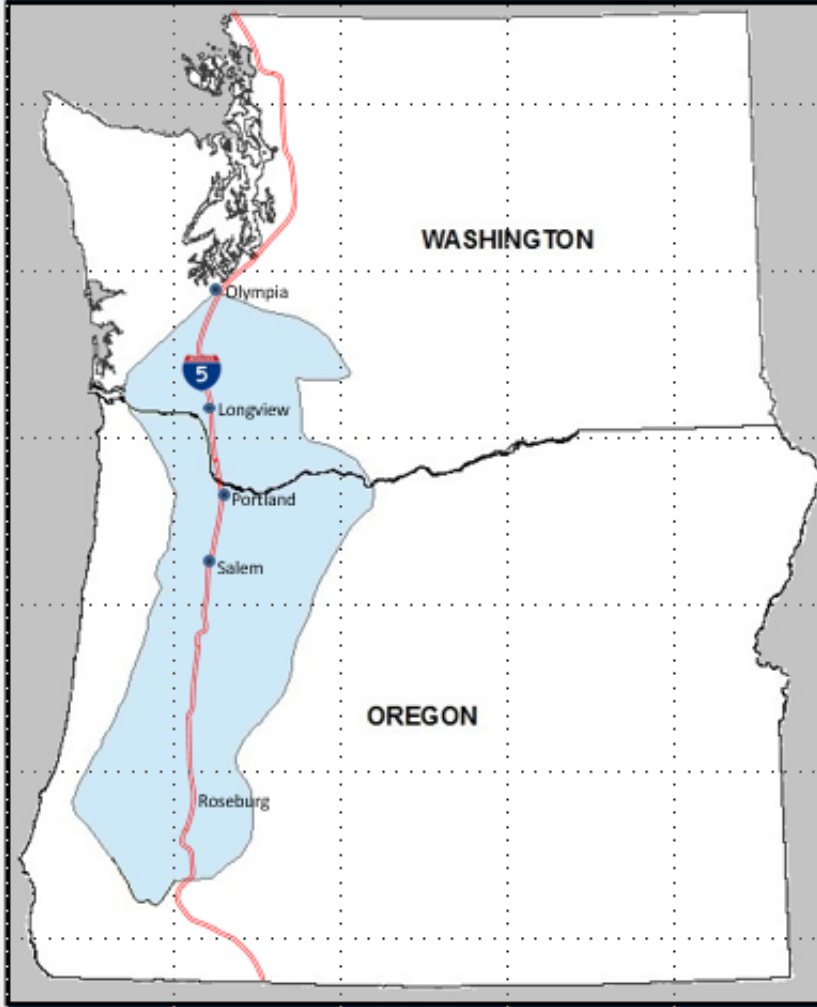


# Natural History

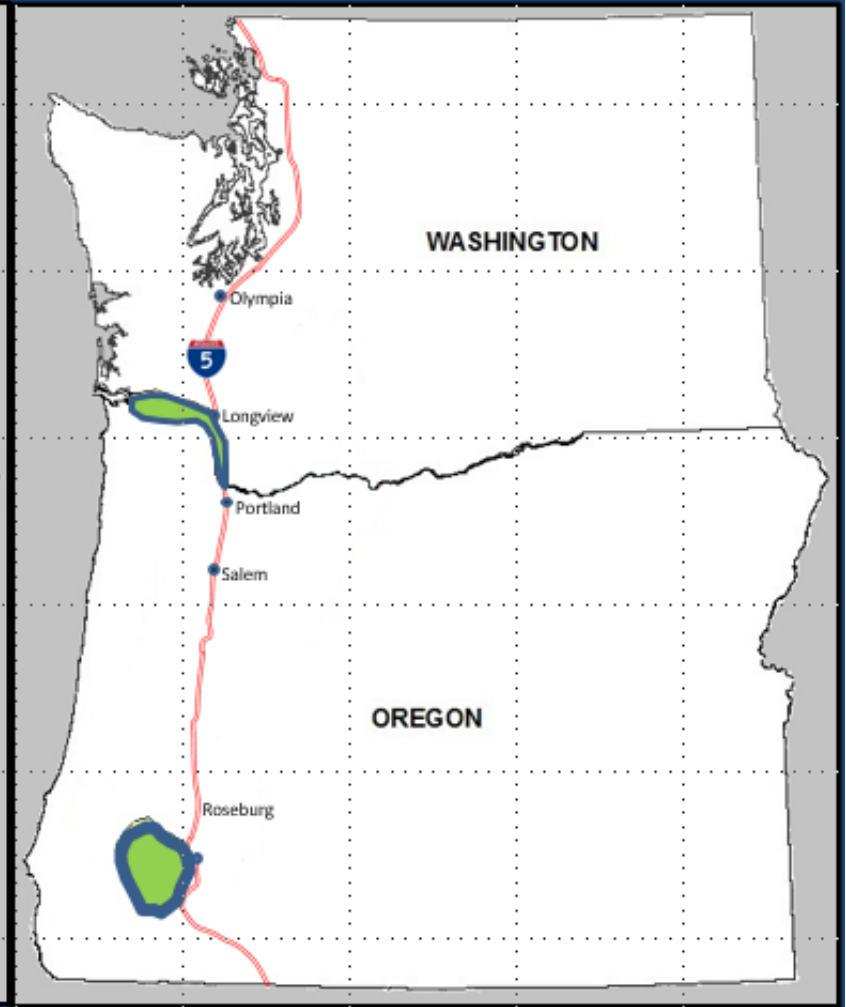
- Subspecies of white-tailed deer
- Pacific Northwest endemic species
- Appearance almost indistinguishable from Northwest White-tailed Deer



# Historic Distribution



# Current Distribution



# Columbia River CWTD Population

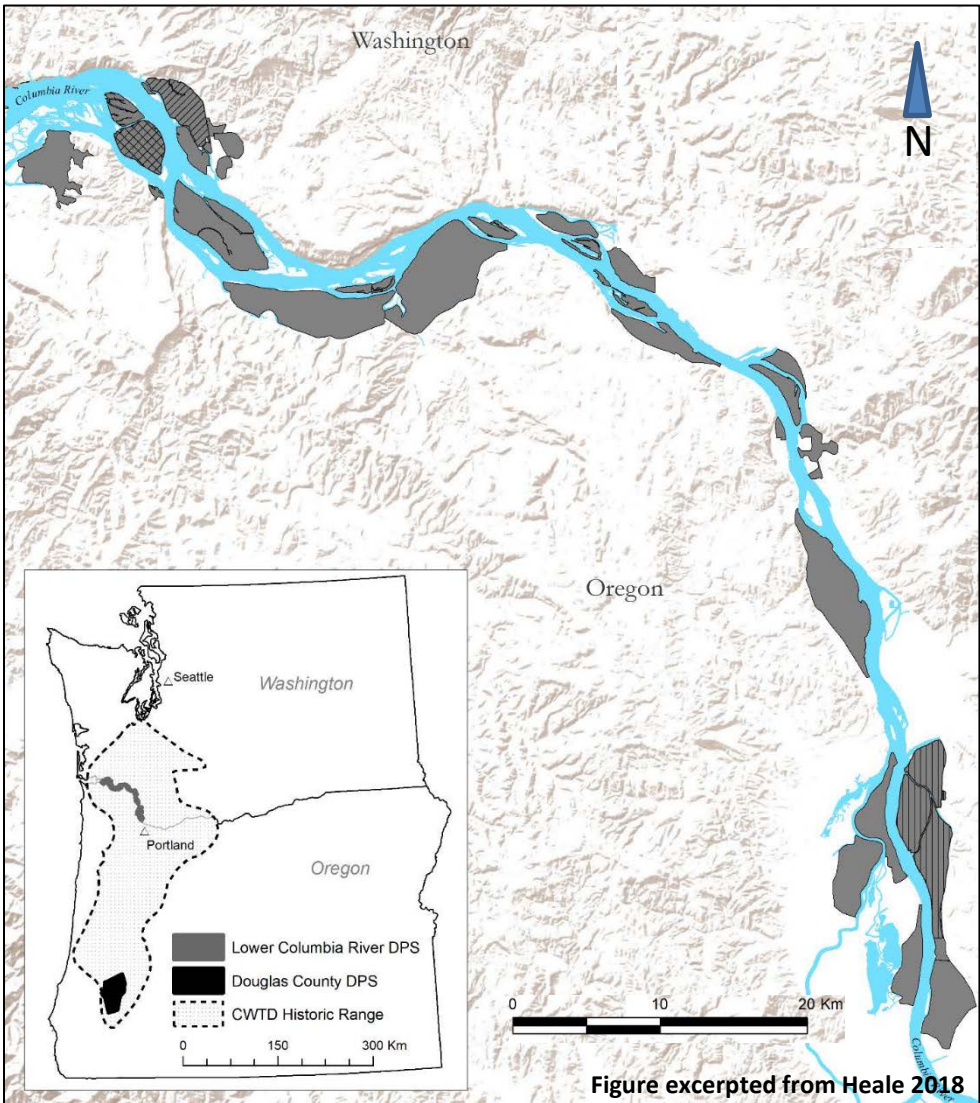


Figure excerpted from Heale 2018



# Legal Status

- State Endangered in Washington
- Federally Threatened



Photo courtesy of USFWS



# Historical CWTD Habitat



Photo courtesy of [southsoundprairies.org](http://southsoundprairies.org)



# Current CWTD Habitat

- Open understory
- Prefer deciduous forest
- Riparian
- Avoid conifer forest

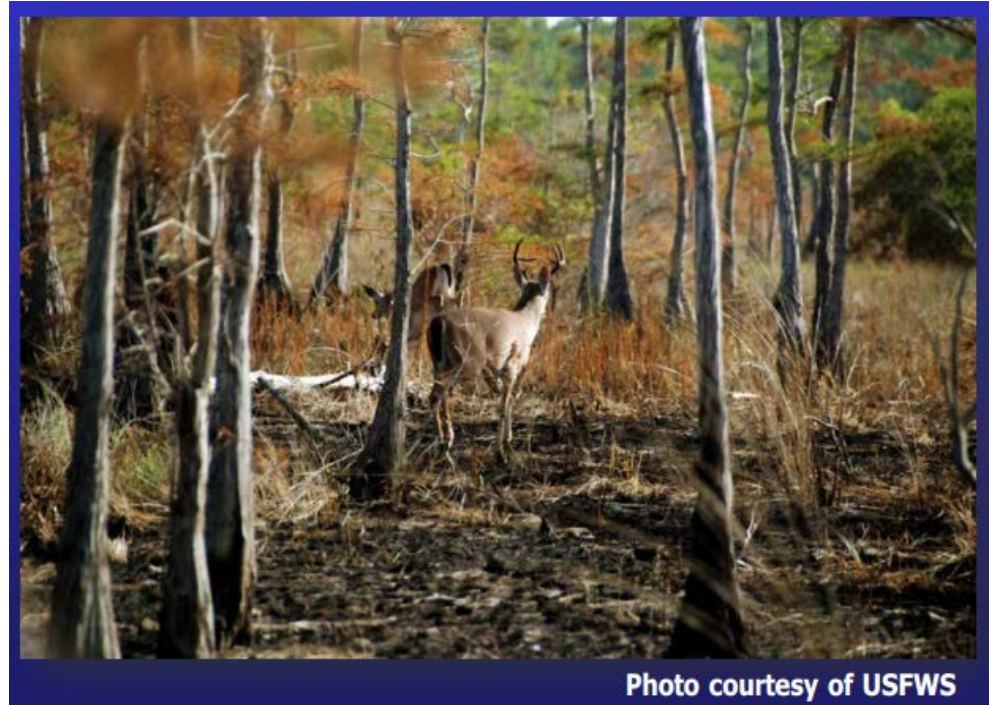


Photo courtesy of USFWS





# Historical Population Status

- Historically abundant
- Near extirpated by 1900
- ~720 in 1984
- ~550 to 600 between 2000 and 2010



# Management Activities: Habitat Protection



Courtesy USFWS – Pacific Region



# Management Activities: Habitat Restoration



Courtesy USFWS – Pacific Region



# Management Activities: Predator Control



Courtesy BLM



# Management Activities: Translocations

Year	# Translocated	Destination
1985	21	
1986	19	Tenasillahe Island
1987	19	
1988	21	
1999	30	Crim's Island
2000	30	
2003	16	Lord Island
2003	12	Fisher Island
2004	11	
2004	8	Lord Island
2006	10	Fisher Island
2006	9	Lord Island
2006	5	Crim's Island
2006	5	
2009	20	JBH Mainland
2010	8	
2010	15	Cottonwood Island
2013	12	
2013	37	
2014	21	Ridgefield
2015	30	
2020	15	
2021	12	Columbia Stock Ranch
2022	10	



# Population Viability Analysis (PVA)

- Current and projected demographics
- Carrying capacity
- Extinction risk



The image shows the cover of a workshop report. At the top left is the IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group logo, which includes the text "IUCN", "SSC", "CONSERVATION PLANNING SPECIALIST GROUP", and "Changing the Future for Wildlife". To the right of this logo, the text reads "Columbian White-Tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus leucurus*) Population and Habitat Viability Assessment". Below this text is the title "WORKSHOP REPORT" in large, bold, black letters. The central part of the cover is a photograph of two Columbian white-tailed deer standing in a field of tall grass. At the bottom of the cover, there are four logos: the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service logo, a circular logo with a fish and a bird, the Oregon Fish & Wildlife logo, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife logo.



# Findings of PVA Relevant to Status Review

- Carrying capacity around Ridgefield NWR
- Low extinction risk



# Endangered

Any wildlife species native to the state of Washington that is seriously threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the state (WAC 220-610-110 [2.4]).



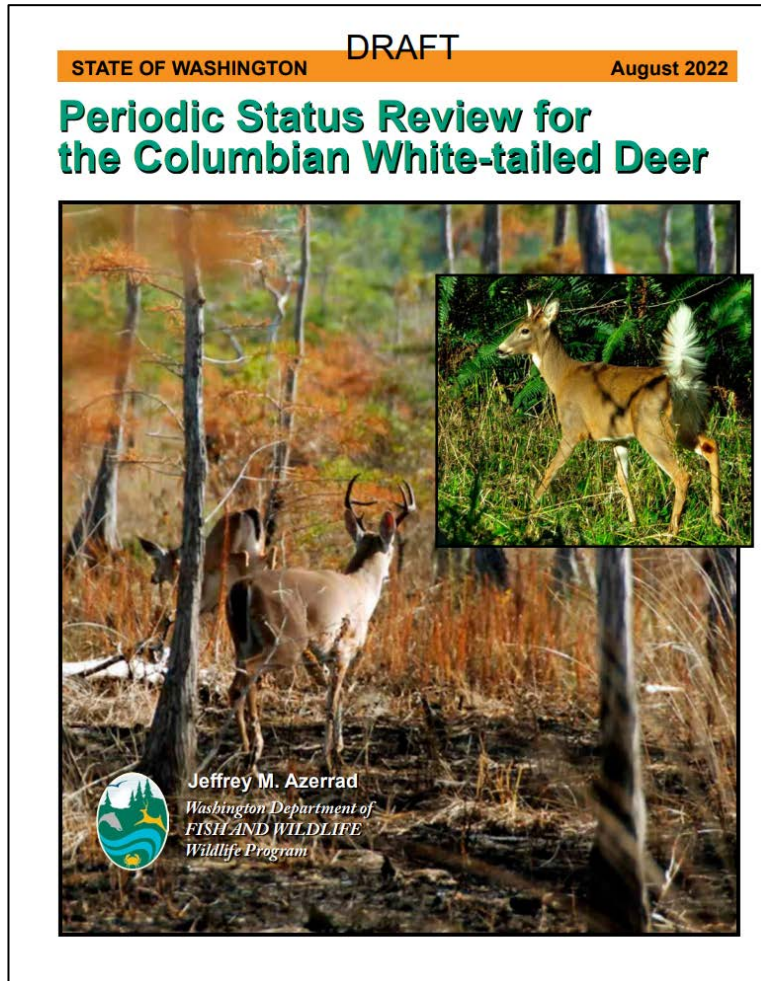


# Threatened

Any wildlife species native to the state of Washington that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout a significant portion of its range within the state without cooperative management or removal of threats (WAC 220-610-110 [2.5]).



# Recommendation



**Reclassify  
Columbian White-tailed Deer to  
Threatened**



# Public Comments

- 19 reviewers provided public comments
  - 7 reviewers stated their support of our recommendation.
  - 8 reviewers stated their preference that the species remain state endangered.
  - 1 reviewer was neutral but supported protection
  - 1 reviewer's comment was addressing NE WA whitetail
  - 1 reviewer provided a personal anecdote regarding their positive experience with the species on their property.
  - 1 reviewer provided a comment to improve format of a few of the tables.





Bonneville  
POWER ADMINISTRATION



# Questions on Columbian White-tailed Deer Periodic Status Review?



# Cascade Red Fox Classification

Taylor Cotten, Conservation Assessment Section Manager  
Wildlife Diversity Division



# Cascade Red Fox review

## Listing Process Guided by WAC 220-610-110

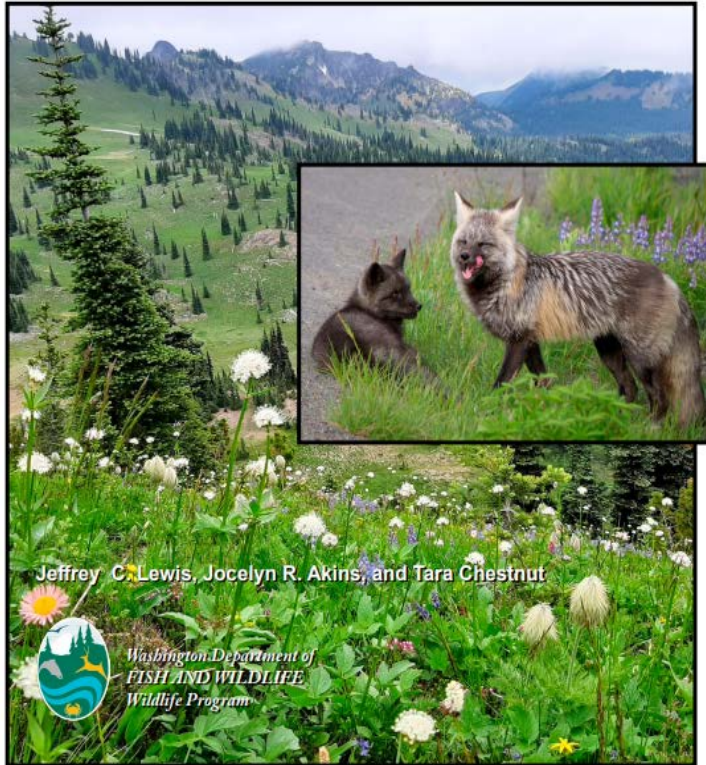
- February 2022 - 90 day public comment period on draft Status Report, recommendation to classify as Threatened
- September 2022 – Fish and Wildlife Commission Presentation, Threatened recommendation
- October 2022 – Fish and Wildlife Commission vote to classify the species as Endangered
  - Endangered WAC not specifically considered with the code reviser for this species at time of October decision.



# Cascade Red Fox review

STATE OF WASHINGTON DRAFT

## Status Report for the Cascade Red Fox



- 1)  $\geq 50\%$  range contraction
- 2) Small population size
- 3) Potential increase in predation and competition from coyotes due to Climate Change
- 4) Climate Change: Increased habitat loss via greater fire frequency, and the anticipated expansion of dense forest cover into occupied fox habitat.
- 5) Potential threat of disease transmission, competition, and hybridization if non-native red foxes invade CRF range.

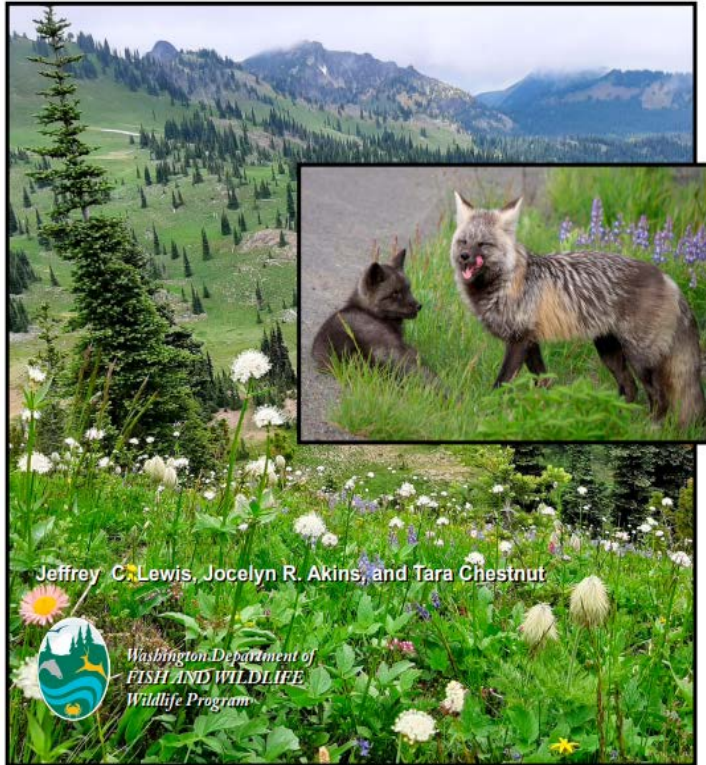




# Cascade Red Fox decision

STATE OF WASHINGTON DRAFT

## Status Report for the Cascade Red Fox



In order to consider the appropriate WAC 220-610-010, Endangered Wildlife:

- Seeking new vote on decision to classify the Cascade Red Fox as Endangered in Washington.
- 7 comments on the rulemaking
  - 4 supportive of Endangered classification
  - 2 unsupportive of Endangered classification
  - 1 neutral, asking the Department to align trapping and hunting regulations for red fox



# Questions on Cascade Red Fox?

