

Bald Eagle Periodic Status Review and Recommendation

Hannah Anderson
Wildlife Diversity Division Manager – Wildlife Program



Draft Periodic Status Review: Process & Timeline

Listing Process Guided by WAC 220-610-110

- Final PSR in WAC process without a new listing.
- Last Bald Eagle PSR 2016

Recovered and delisted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission

- February 2020: solicit data and information from the public prior to work on initial draft
- February 2024: 90-day public comment period on Draft
- June 2024: PSR finalized
- Still “Protected Wildlife” like most birds



Listing Timeline of Bald Eagle

1940: Bald Eagle Protection Act

1978: Listed as threatened under the ESA

1983: Listed as threatened in Washington
by Fish & Wildlife Commission

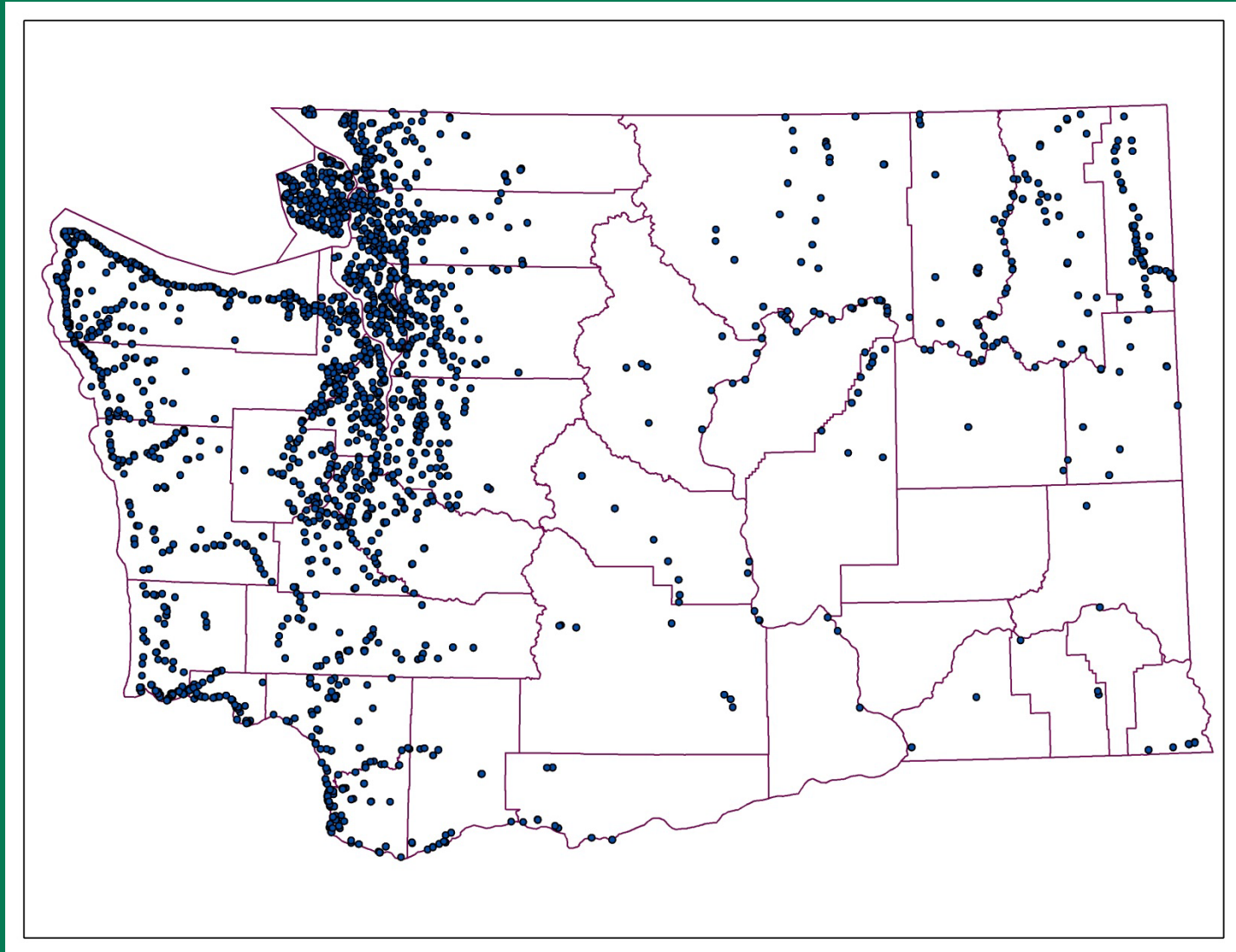
2007: Delisted from ESA (& revisions to
Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act)

2008: Down-listed to sensitive status by
Fish & Wildlife Commission

2016: Delisted by the Fish and Wildlife
Commission



2016 BALD EAGLE DISTRIBUTION

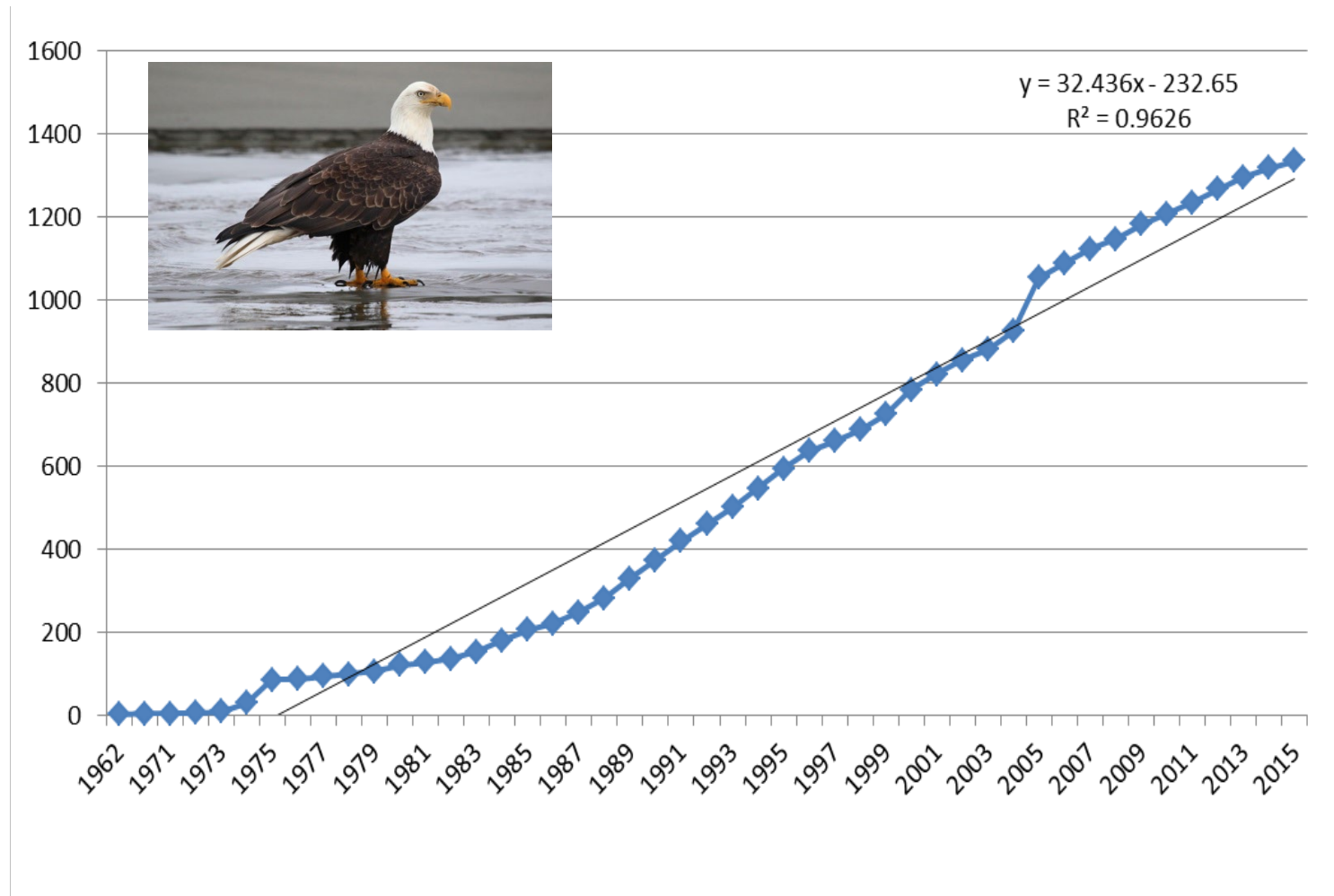


Natural History

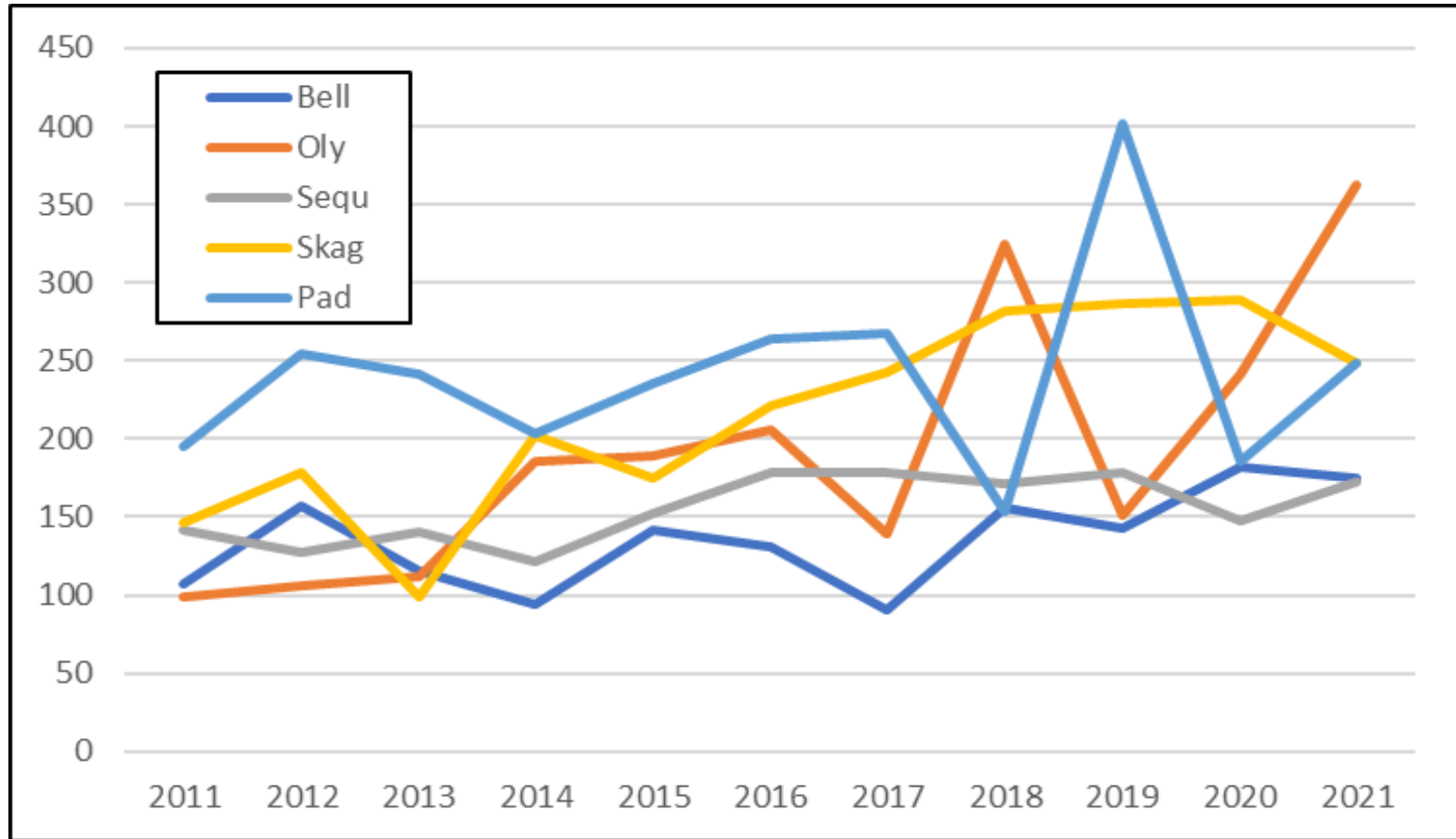
- Marine and freshwater environments
- Use large trees to support large nests
- Food: fish, waterbirds & waterfowl; self-caught or stolen; carrion



Cumulative number of territories into 2016



Abundance from counts at 5 different locations through 2021



Factors Affecting the Species

- Chemical contaminants
 - Use of DDT discontinued
 - Other contaminants present, but not currently known to impact the species
- Disease
 - H5N1 influenza
- Habitat loss/change
 - Development
 - Loss of nest trees or candidate nest trees (removal, blow-down)
- Human interactions
 - Disturbance near nests
 - Collisions with vehicles



Management Activities

USFWS: Implement Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act

Local governments: protect Bald Eagles in a manner consistent with Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act

Forest Practices Rules: enhancement of habitat for salmon results in recruitment of nest trees for eagles

Similarly, while Bald Eagles are no longer on the Priority Habitat and Species list, their habitats are.

E.g. riparian and nearshore habitats



WDFW's Role

- Customer service (e.g., direct the public to USFWS website for permits, and inquiries about injured birds)
- Permit and support wildlife rehabilitation facilities that care for injured Bald Eagles
- Support needs of national feather repository
- Law enforcement as needed
- Maintain PHS habitat recs



Bald Eagles were delisted in 2016 and are currently classified as “Other Protected Wildlife” along with most birds.

Recommendation: Maintain current classification of the bald eagle



Questions?



Peregrine Falcon Periodic Status Review and Recommendation

Hannah Anderson
Wildlife Diversity Division Manager – Wildlife Program



Draft Periodic Status Review: Process & Timeline

Listing Process Guided by WAC 220-610-110

- Final PSR in WAC process without a new listing
- Last Peregrine Falcon PSR 2016

Recovered and delisted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission

- February 2020: solicit data and information from the public prior to work on initial draft
- February 2024: 90-day public comment period on Draft
- June 2024: PSR finalized
- Still “Protected Wildlife” like most birds



Listing Timeline of Peregrine Falcon

1970: Listed as Endangered under the ESA

1980: Listed as Endangered in Washington by Fish & Wildlife Commission

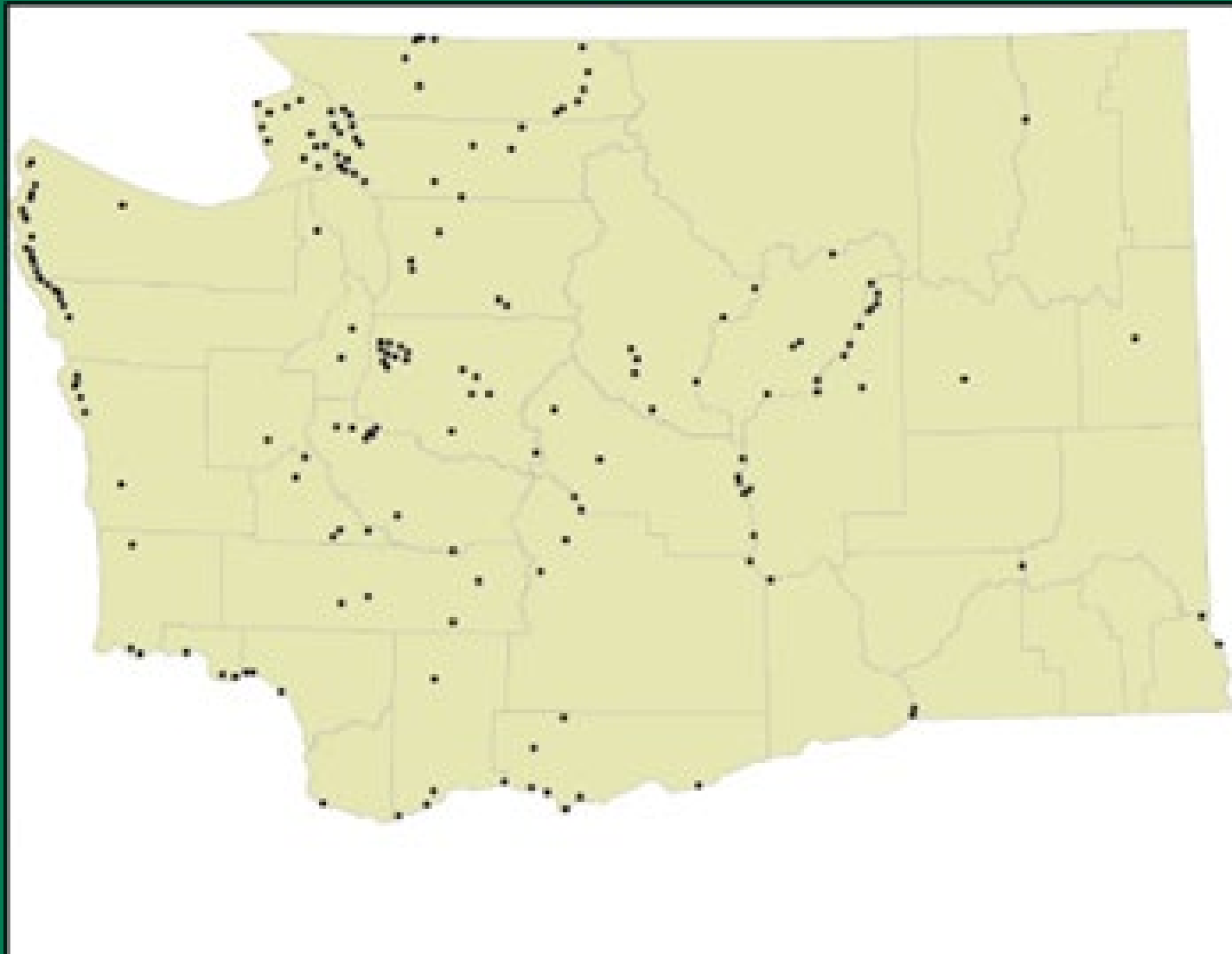
1999: Delisted from ESA

2002: Down-listed to Sensitive status by Fish & Wildlife Commission

2016: Delisted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission



PEREGRINE FALCON BREEDING TERRITORIES



Natural History

- Widespread in WA, but uncommon on the landscape
- Predominantly two subspecies in WA, *P.f. anatum* and *pealei*. With Peale's occurring primarily along the coast.
- Most breeding locations are west of the cascade crest
- Nest on cliffs, offshore islands, and human built structures
- During nonbreeding season, birds may migrate through and can be found in low lying and agricultural lands as well
- Food: variety of prey ranging in size from bat (occasionally) to ducks and geese



Population Status in North America

- Found throughout North America and have adapted to urban areas and artificial nest structures
 - Numbers in most states rival historic estimates
- Pre-decline estimates around 7,300 pairs
- By mid 1990's an estimated 7,169 pairs in North America
 - 8,000-10,000 pairs by the late 1990s
- More recent estimates are between 10,000-15,000 pairs



Population Status in Washington

- Between 2003 and 2012 occupancy rate of monitored territories in WA ranged between 79%-82%
 - Comparable with stable populations elsewhere
- Nesting success rate was also high, >50% during the 2003-2012 monitoring
- As of 2021, 190 territories known in WA
 - Applying the 2012 occupancy rate (82%) estimate 155 occupied territories state-wide
 - Federal delisting criteria was just 30 pairs state-wide



Factors Affecting the Species

- Chemical contaminants
 - Use of DDT discontinued
 - Mercury
 - Organophosphates and neonicotinoid insecticides, PCBs, avicides, flame retardant chemicals and oil
- Disease
 - Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
- Climate change
 - Potential declines in prey abundance



Management Activities

- Some land management entities still protect nesting areas post delisting
 - WDFW provides management guidance, recommendations and monitoring support around disturbance
 - Typically recreation, development, or pesticide application
- Long term monitoring of falcons on the coast
- Falconry
 - WDFW determines the number of birds available for falconry based on state level management considerations and within guidance from the Pacific Flyway Council and in collaboration with the USFWS.
- While no longer a PHS species, their nesting habitat (cliffs and talus) are Priority Habitats on the PHS list.



Peregrine Falcons were delisted in 2016 and are currently classified as “Other Protected Wildlife” along with most birds.

Recommendation: Maintain current classification of the Peregrine Falcon



Questions?

