

# Agenda Item 6

## Overview of Protecting Species with State Classifications



*Washington Department of*  
**FISH and WILDLIFE**

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Diversity Division, Wildlife Program

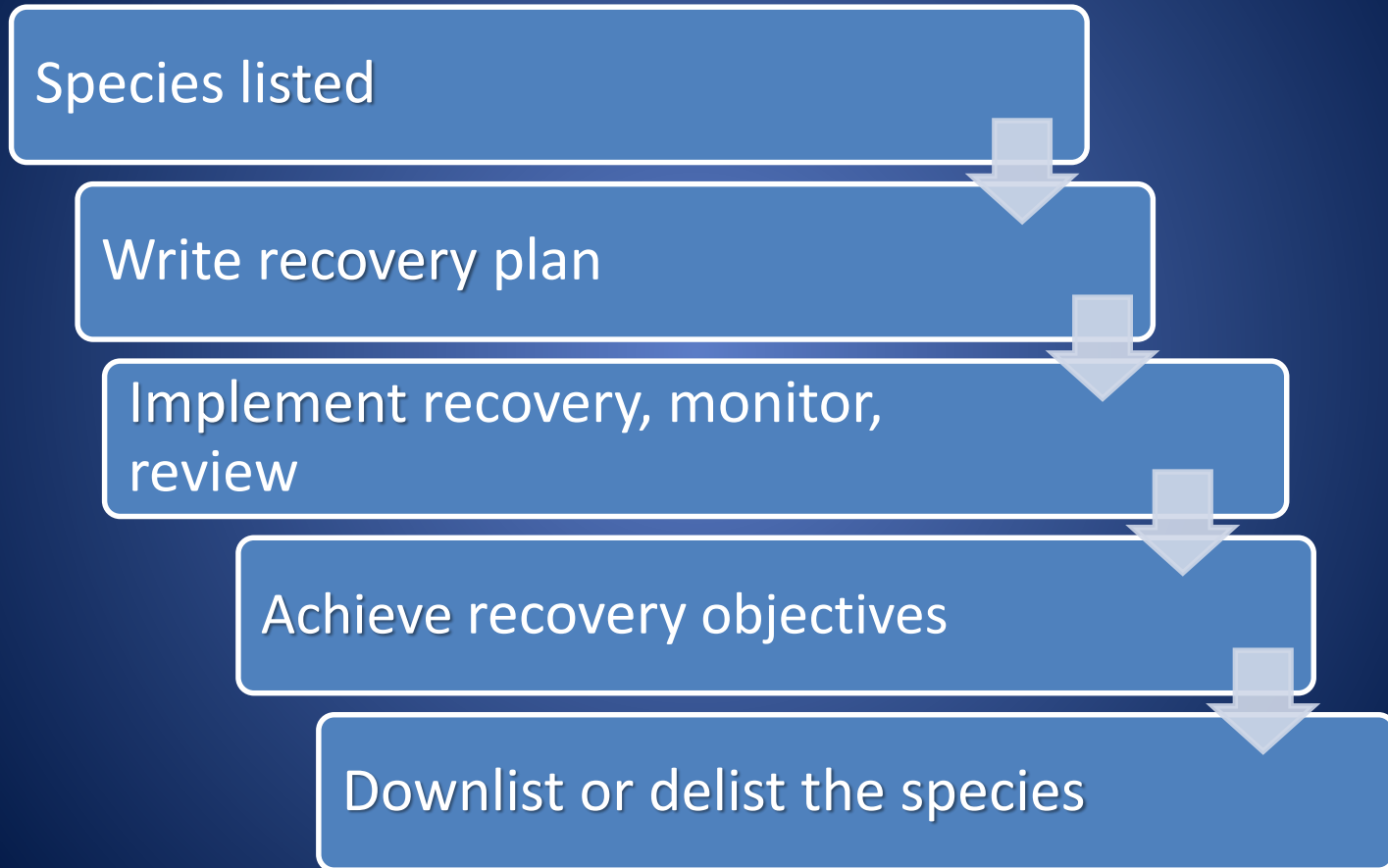
# WDFW's Goal for Imperiled Species

Identify and restore listed species to healthy populations in a significant portion of their historic range in Washington so they can be delisted.



Sage Grouse

# Procedures for Listing - Recovery - Delisting



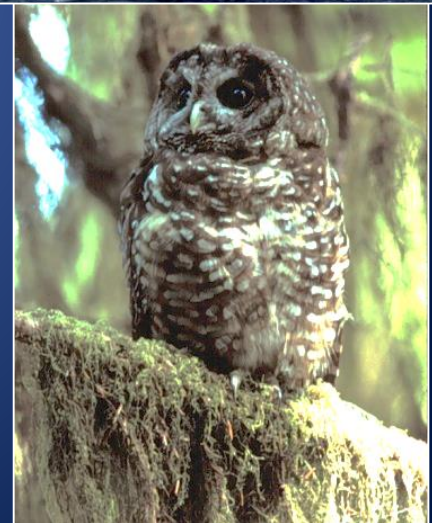
# How Do Species Get State Listed?

- 1989: rule created by large group of stakeholders
- Adopted by Commission in 1990

- Boise Cascade Corporation
- Private interested citizens
- Defenders of Wildlife
- King CO Outdoor Sports Council
- National Audubon Society
- State Parks & Recreation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Tulalip Tribe
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- US Forest Service
- USDA Animal Damage Control
- WA Forest Protection Association
- WA Dairy Federation
- WA State Cattlemen's Assoc.
- WA Association of Counties
- WA Association of Realtors
- WA Dept of Ecology
- WA Dept of Natural Resources
- WA Environmental Council
- WA State Grange
- WA State Sports Council
- WA State Farm Bureau
- WA Woolgrowers Association
- Weyerhaeuser Co.



Killer Whale



Northern Spotted Owl



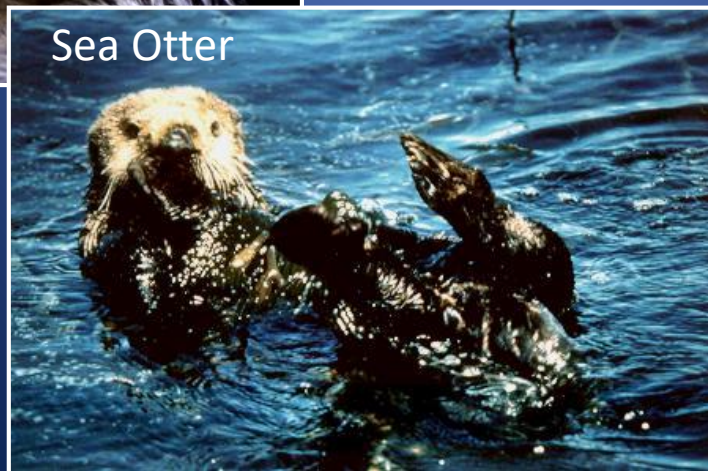
# WAC 220-610-110

**Purpose:** Classify native wildlife species that have need of protection and/or management to ensure their survival.

- Wildlife: animal species in WA that exist in a wild state
  - Excludes feral domestic mammals
  - Excludes fish, shellfish, and marine invertebrates classified as food fish or shellfish by the Director
- Native: species naturally occurring in WA for purposes of breeding, resting, or foraging

# Listing/Delisting Procedures

- Initiation
- Status Report
- Public Review
- Commission Action



# Listing Criteria

- Ecological factors rooted in best available science:
  - limited numbers, disease, predation, exploitation, habitat loss or change.
- If Federal Endangered Species Act listing, agency will recommend state listing.



Yellow-Billed Cuckoo



Columbia White-tailed Deer



# State Imperiled Wildlife Lists

- Endangered List (29): WAC 220-610-010
- Protected List: WAC 220-610-120
  - Threatened (8)
  - Sensitive (6)
  - Other protected wildlife: Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Marine Mammal Protection Action, Bald and Golden Eagle Act

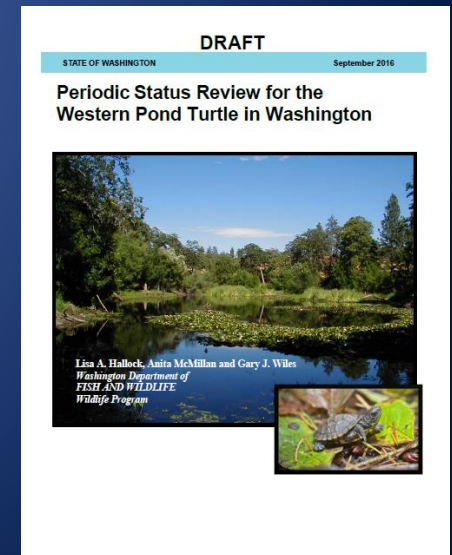
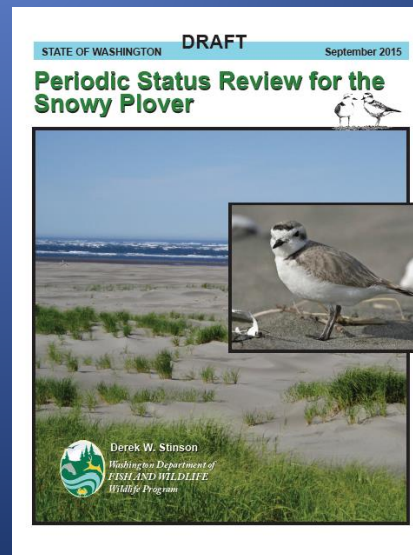
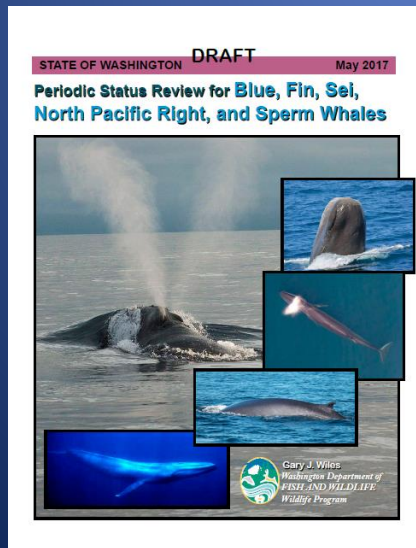
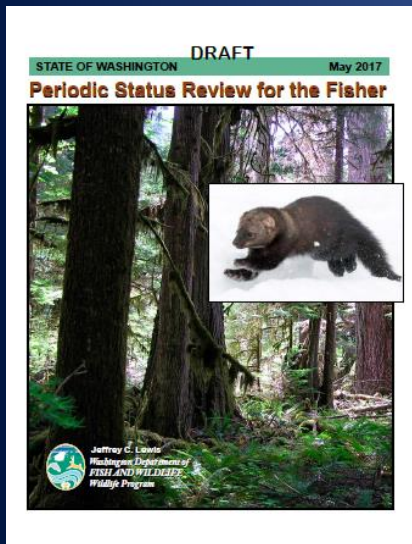


Western Gray Squirrel



# Periodic Status Reviews

- Every 5-years after listing
- Review once 5 yrs post-delisting
- Evaluate need for change in status
- Recent focus on completing PSRs for all listed species



# Delisting Criteria

Only when:

- populations no longer in danger of failing, declining, or are no longer vulnerable
- recovery plan goals have been met
- no longer meets the definition of E, T, or S





# Effects of State Listing: Proactive, Non-regulatory Measures

- Recognition, sends a strong message
- Higher priority for resources
- Management plan is prepared
- Actions become priority





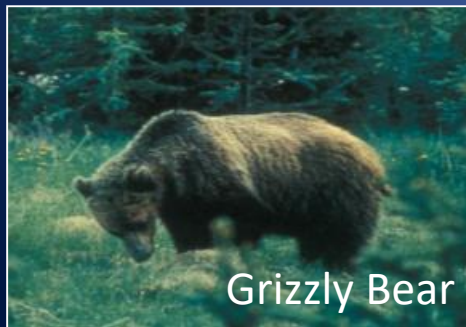
# Proactive Effects of State Listing: Ferruginous Hawk

- State listed in 1996, no federal status
  - habitat loss, nest site disturbance
- Enhanced available resources
  - State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement
    - Voluntary Farm Bill Program
    - Eligible landowners paid to create habitat
- Priority Actions Implemented
  - Private Lands Bios deliver SAFE
  - State-wide surveys and working group



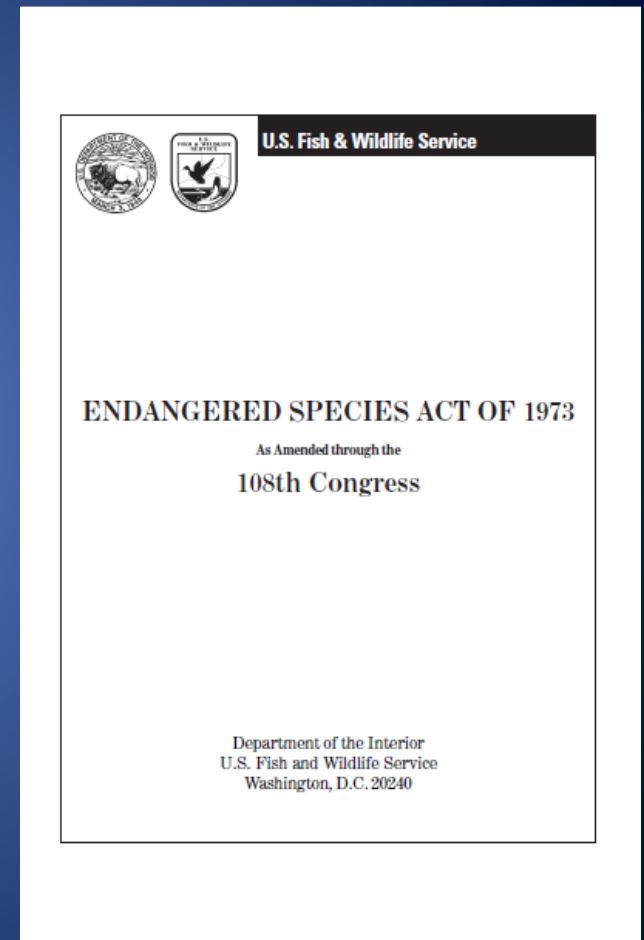
# Effects of State Listing: Regulatory Measures

- Direct penalties for “take” established in RCW.
- Becomes Priority Habitat and Species (PHS): habitat protection by county and city critical areas ordinances required by Growth Management Act.
- Forest habitat may become regulated by mandatory critical habitat rule in Forest Practices WAC or voluntary measures created.



# What about the Federal ESA?

- Section 4: Prohibition on Take
  - harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect any threatened or endangered species
- Section 11: Penalties and Enforcement





# What about the Federal ESA?

- Section 10: Exceptions to prohibitions for non-feds
  - Permit actions that may impact a listed species
    - Habitat Conservation Plans
    - Safe Harbor Agreements
    - Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances
- Section 6: Cooperation with the States
  - Collaborate to “do good things”
  - Funding pathway



Taylor's Checkerspot



Western Pond Turtle

# Getting Ahead: Precluding the Need to List

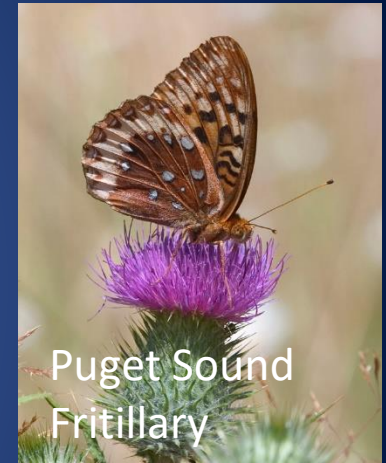
- Increasingly there is focus on non-listed species.
- Pro-active, non-regulatory approaches to conservation are both more effective and palatable.





# Precluding the Need to List

- Example: Species of Greatest Conservation Need
  - South Sound Prairies (15 SGCN)
    - Habitat enhancement
    - Reintroduction
    - Monitoring
    - Land protection
    - Key research
    - Partnering





# Summary

- Past 2 years focus on PSRs
  - 25 complete
  - 8 in process
  - 5 to go
- Once complete, simplify PSR process
- Turn to planning, defining actions, recovery implementation



# Questions?



Northern Leopard Frog