

Appendix J. Wildlife Species and Associated Habitats in Western Washington

Table J.1. Wildlife Associated with Forest Habitat Listed as State Endangered, Threatened, Sensitive, or Candidate in Western Washington

Species	State status	Primary forest/upland habitat association
Western toad	Candidate	Riparian habitat for breeding
Northern goshawk	Candidate	Mature and late-successional forests
Bald eagle	Sensitive	Large trees for nesting, dense and mature forest stands for winter roosts
Cascade red fox	Candidate	Forest habitats
Fisher	Endangered	Structurally complex forest, large areas of contiguous forest, large snags and trees
Keens's myotis	Candidate	Structurally complex stands; caves, large snags, and trees for roosting
Pileated woodpecker	Candidate	Structurally complex forest, large and medium snags
Peregrine falcon	Sensitive	Forest habitats
Purple martin	Candidate	Snags near water, forest edges
Townsend's big-eared bat	Candidate	Caves for nesting
Vaux's swift	Candidate	Large snags for nesting
Wolverine	Candidate	Upper elevation forested habitats

Based on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Species of Concern List 2016. Table excludes federally listed species, which are described in Section 3.6.

Table J.2. Species of Regional Importance

Species/group	Importance	Habitat association/ known important areas (if any)
Deer and elk	Hunting, wildlife-watching, cultural. Also, elk can damage agricultural crops in valleys, such as in the Skagit River Valley (Davison 2002).	Mix of Ecosystem Initiation stage forests for foraging and structurally complex forests for resting and cover. Lower road densities preferred (Spencer 2002, Davison 2002). Elk critical winter habitat located in lower major river valleys, including the Skagit, Green, White, and Nisqually rivers (WDFW 2016). Other known wintering areas are present in the South Coast planning unit (Willapa herd) and the Straits planning unit (Dungeness herd).
Black bear	Hunting, wildlife-watching, cultural. Also economic importance related to bears feeding on and killing young conifer trees on lands managed for timber production (Ziegler 2004).	Dens in structurally complex forests, may feed in early and Competitive Exclusion stand development stages.
Cougar	Hunting, wildlife-watching, functioning ecosystems.	Closely related to deer and elk.
American marten	Functioning forest ecosystems.	Structurally complex forests.
Forest grouse	Hunting, wildlife-watching.	Riparian and early stage forests, roadside, and rights-of-way vegetation.
Forest owl (saw-whet, pygmy, western screech)	Wildlife-watching, functioning ecosystems.	Structurally complex forests (Johnsgard 1998).
Red-tailed hawk, great horned owl, and sharp-shinned hawk	Wildlife-watching, functioning ecosystems.	High-contrast edge, recently harvested, rights-of-way (Johnsgard 1990).
Neotropical migratory songbirds	Wildlife-watching, functioning ecosystems.	Early Ecosystem Initiation stand development stage forests and later structurally complex forests (Andelman and Stock 1994).

References

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