

California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Interagency Wildlife Task Group

DEL NORTE SALAMANDER

Plethodon elongatus

Family: PLETHODONTIDAE
A010

Order: CAUDATA

Class: AMPHIBIA

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Updated by: CWHR Program Staff, January 2000

DISTRIBUTION, ABUNDANCE, AND SEASONALITY

The Del Norte salamander is found in Del Norte, Siskiyou, and Humboldt cos. This species is a common yearlong resident in open-to-dense, sapling-to-mature stages of valley-foothill riparian, montane hardwood-conifer, Douglas fir and redwood habitats. Found at elevations from near sea level to about 1100 m (3610 ft) (Jennings and Hayes 1994).

SPECIFIC HABITAT REQUIREMENTS

Feeding: Feeds on a variety of invertebrates including springtails, beetles, annelid worms, spiders, flies and millipedes.

Cover: Found primarily within rock slides, beneath rotting logs, and under slabs of bark in damp, but not wet, situations. Rock rubble with considerable fine soil seems to be preferred (Stebbins 1972).

Reproduction: Breeds on moist soil (Livezey 1959).

Water: Does not require standing water.

Pattern: This species may be found in stabilized talus, rotten logs, or under surface objects in moist, but not wet, microhabitats.

SPECIES LIFE HISTORY

Activity Patterns: Probably nocturnal.

Seasonal Movements/Migration: No data.

Home Range: No data.

Territory: No data.

Reproduction: Eggs laid in spring; number averages 10 (range 5-15), hatching in fall to early winter.

Niche: Probably fed upon by small snakes.

REFERENCES

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- Livezey, R. L. 1959. The egg mass and larvae of *Plethodon elongatus* (Van Denburgh). *Herpetologica* 15:41-42.
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Life history accounts for species in the California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR) System were originally published in: Zeiner, D.C., W.F.Laudenslayer, Jr., K.E. Mayer, and M. White, eds. 1988-1990. California's Wildlife. Vol. I-III. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California. Updates are noted in accounts that have been added or edited since original publication.