

California State Wildlife Action Plan Update 2015

Southern Cascades Ecoregion

DRAFT STRATEGY: Mixed Conifer Forests



GOALS

1. By 2025, collaborate with forest management agencies/ interests to design and implement strategies that will increase average rotation length within the managed forest.
2. By 2025, collaborate with forest management agencies/ interests to design and implement strategies that will result in increased recruitment of oaks, aspens, shrubs, and deciduous trees beyond the earlier seral stages.
3. By 2025, collaborate with fire control agencies to design and implement strategies that will increase the average and variance of fire return frequency (FRF) in the conifer forests.
4. By 2025, collaborate with forest management agencies/ interests to design and implement strategies that will maintain or increase the acreage of area comprised of early and late seral vegetation within the macrogroup.
5. By 2025, collaborate with forest management agencies/ interests to design and implement strategies that will maintain the native plant and wildlife species diversity including SGCN species.
6. By 2025, collaborate with forest management agencies/ interests to design and implement strategies that will Manage the forest to increase water yield and water retention capacity and dynamics.

The State Wildlife Action Plan examines the health of wildlife and prescribes actions to conserve wildlife and vital habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect. The plan also promotes wildlife conservation while furthering responsible development and addressing the needs of a growing human population.

STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Conduct research (data management)
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Research efficacy of different techniques to manage forest and reduce catastrophic fire
 - ii. Document the response of wildlife post-fire
 - iii. Document response of wildlife to different types of logging
 - iv. Document baseline conditions and monitor trends of SGCN using occupancy as a metric
 - v. Document baseline conditions and monitor trends of the conifer forests ecosystem
 - b. Activities
 - i. Conduct literature review
 - ii. Coordinate with land management agencies
 - iii. Identify funding sources, apply for funding
 - iv. Develop study and monitoring design
 - v. Work with federal agencies and add wildlife component to ongoing/funded research
 - vi. Conduct pilot research project
 - vii. Sustain ongoing relevant monitoring and resources assessment work
2. Engage in decision-making process
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Cooperate with federal agencies and private landowners on where controlled burns and forest thinning would be most beneficial to wildlife
 - b. Activities
 - i. Coordinate with federal agencies and private landowners
 - ii. Coordinate with Fire Science Centers
 - iii. Engage in forest treatment priorities and elevate wildlife
 - iv. Work with USFS to identify possible treatment areas
 - v. Establish ways to identify and prioritize high value wildlife habitat
 - vi. Identify funding sources and apply for grants
3. Protect land thru acquisition and Conservation Easements
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Increase the amount of key conifer areas protected through purchase or conservation easement.
 - b. Activities
 - i. Identify high priority areas
 - ii. Identify what is already conserved
 - iii. Develop habitat conservation plan
 - iv. Develop advance mitigation plan
 - v. Develop inter-disciplinary team to facilitate land acquisition and conservation
 - vi. Develop protection criteria (uniformity in wording) for conservation easement language. Standardizing, complete, doable, executable, legally enforceable, protection criteria.
 - vii. Develop CAPP or LAE

SENSITIVE SPECIES

LONG-TOED SALAMANDER
BRUSH RABBIT
DUSKY-FOOTED WOODRAT
MOUNTAIN BEAVER
SPOTTED OWL
BALD EAGLE
PEREGRINE FALCON
RUBBER BOA
GOLDEN EAGLE
RINGTAIL
AMERICAN BADGER
AMERICAN MARTEN
BLACK SWIFT
DEER MOUSE
FISHER
LONG-EARED MYOTIS
MOUNTAIN LION
NORTHERN FLYING SQUIRREL
NORTHERN GOSHAWK
OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER
OSPREY
PURPLE MARTIN
SNOWSHOE HARE
SOOTY GROUSE
VAUX'S SWIFT
WESTERN SPOTTED SKUNK
WESTERN TAILED FROG
YELLOW WARBLER



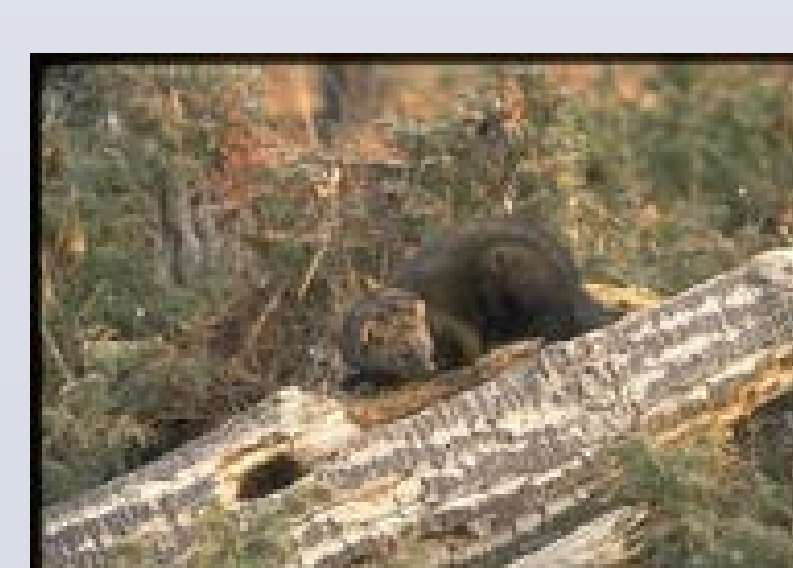
Rubber boa © 2001 Adam P. Summers



Northern spotted owl © 2009 Mendocino Redwood Company



Golden eagle © 2011 Ron Wolf



Pacific fisher: Gerald and Buff Corsi © 2007 California Academy of Sciences



Spotted skunk: Aiden M. Johnson © 1999 California Academy of Sciences

ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSES

- Change in CO2 level
- Change in natural fire regime
- Altered spatial distribution of habitat types
- Changes in community structure and composition
- Loss or change in biotic interactions
- Change in succession processes in ecosystem
- Habitat fragmentation
- Volcanoes

HUMAN RELATED IMPACTS

- Logging & Wood Harvesting
- Utility & Service Lines
- Inappropriate Livestock Farming and Ranching
- Renewable Energy
- Fire and Fire Suppression



TEAM



Name	Organization	Role
Brett Furnas	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Richard Lis	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Pete Figura	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Scott Hill	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Jennifer Carlson	CDFW-R1	Team Member
Ali Agili	CDFW-R5	Team Leader

