State Wildlife Action Plan 2015 Update

Southern Cascades Ecoregion
Montane Conifer and Hardwood Forest
South Lake Tahoe Public Meeting

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Southern Cascades Ecoregion

- Bounded by Great Basin, Klamath Mountains and Sierra Nevada Mtns.
- Southern limit of Cascades
- Volcanic Mountains
- Mt. Shasta and Mt. Lassen
- Elevations 1500 - 14,000 ft.
- Public Lands: USFS, BLM, NPS
- Many unique endemic species
Southern Cascades Ecoregion Habitats

- Montane Conifer forest*
- Temperate Grassland *
- Sagebrush Steppe
- Riparian Forest and Scrub
- Oak Woodlands
- Alpine zone
- Wetlands, fens, bogs
- Vernal pools

Photo: Ken Morefield, CDFW
Montane Conifer and Hardwood Forest

- Dominated by conifers with hardwoods mixed
- Widely distributed in Ecoregion
- Striking vegetation zonation with elevation
- Important conifers: ponderosa pine, jeffrey pine, sugar pine, douglas fir, incense cedar
- Important hardwoods: black oak, white oak, tanoak

Mt. Shasta from McCloud area
Photo: Richard Lis, CDFW
Species of Concern

Sierra Nevada Red Fox
Photo: Jennifer Carlson, CDFW
Species of Concern

Mammals
• Snowshoe Hare
• Pacific fisher
• Long-eared Myotis
• Ring-tailed cat

Wolverine
Photo: Photographer Unknown, NPS

Badger
Photo: Miller, NPS
Species of Concern

Mountain Beaver
Photo: Dr. Lloyd Glenn Ingles
California Academy of Sciences

Northern Flying Squirrel
Photo: Dr. Lloyd Glenn Ingles,
California Academy of Sciences
Species of Concern

**Reptiles & Amphibians**
- Long-toed salamander
- Rubber Boa

**Birds**
- Golden Eagle
- Spotted Owl
- Yellow warbler
- Sooty Grouse
- Black swift

*Western Tailed Frog*
Photo: William Flaxington

*Bald Eagle*
Photographer Unknown
Environmental Stresses

- Changes in Natural Fire Regime
- Changes in Community Dynamics
- Changes in Biotic Interactions and Successional Processes
- Climate Change
- Increased Habitat Fragmentation
- Volcanic Activity

*Cypripedium montanum*

Photo: Richard Lis, CDFW

Porcupine

Photo: Ken Morefield, CDFW
Human Impacts

- Timber Harvesting
- Over-grazing
- Recreational activities
  (summer and winter)
- Renewable Energy
- Fire and Fire Suppression
- Utility and Service Lines
- Invasive species
- Marijuana Growing
Strategies

- Landscape Planning on fire return intervals
- Outreach and education
- Assess role of fire in community dynamics
- Monitoring of species and populations
- Monitor spatial distribution and species composition and changes over time

*Spiraea douglasii*, Photo: Richard Lis, CDFW
Great Blue Heron
Photo: Ken Morefield, CDFW