

APPENDIX H

PRIORITY HABITAT & SPECIES FOUND IN CLARK COUNTY

PRIORITY SPECIES

Common Name		Federal	State	Crit.	Other Notes
Pacific Lamprey	Lampetra Tridentata	SOC		3	
River Lamprey	Lampetra Ayresi	SOC	C	1	
Green Sturgeon	Acipenser Medirostris	T		1,2,3	
White Sturgeon	Acipenser Transmontanus			2,3	
Leopard Dace	Rhinichthys Falcatus		C	1	
Mountain Sucker	Catostomus Platyrrhynchus		C	1	
Eulachon	Thaleichthys Pacificus		C	1,2,3	
Bull Trout / Dolly Varden	Salvelinus Confluentus	T	C	1,2,3	
Chinook Salmon	Oncorhynchus Tshawytscha	T	C	1,2,3	
Chum Salmon	Oncorhynchus Keta	T	C	1,2,3	
Coastal Resident / Searun Cutthroat	Oncorhynchus Clarki Clarki			3	
Coho	Oncorhynchus Kisutch	T	C	1,2,3	
Kokanee	Oncorhynchus Nerka			3	
Pink Salmon	Oncorhynchus Gorbuscha			2,3	
Rainbow Trout / Steelhead	Oncorhynchus Mykiss	T	C	1,3	
Sockeye Salmon	Oncorhynchus Nerka	E/T*	C	1,2,3	*Snake River / Ozette Lake
Cascade Torrent Salamander	Rhyacotriton Cascadae		C	1	
Larch Mountain Salamander	Plethodon Larselli	SOC	S	1	
Oregon Spotted Frog	Rana Pretiosa	C	E	1	
Western Toad	Bufo Boreas	SOC	C	1	
Western Pond Turtle	Clemmys Marmorata	SOC	E	1	
Western Grebe	Aechmophorus Occidentalis		C	1,2	
Great Blue Heron	Ardea Herodias			2	
Wood Duck	Aix Sponsa			3	
Barrow's Goldeneye	Bucephala Islandica			3	
Common Goldeneye	Bucephala Clangula			3	

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Bufflehead	Bucephala Albeola				3	
Hooded Merganser	Lophodytes Cucullatus				3	
Trumpeter Swan	Cygnus Buccinator				2,3	
Tundra Swan	Cygnus Columbianus				2,3	
Waterfowl Concentrations					2,3	
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus Leucocephalus	SOC	C		1	
Golden Eagle	Aquila Chrysaetos		C		1	
Northern Goshawk	Accipiter Gentilis	SOC	C		1	
Peregrine Falcon	Falco Peregrinus	SOC	S		1	
Mountain Quail	Oreortyx Pictus				3	
Sooty Grouse (Blue Grouse)	Dendragapus Fuliginosus				3	
Sandhill Crane	Grus Canadensis		E		1	
	Charadriidae				2	Non-Breeding Concentrations
	Scolopacidae				2	Non-Breeding Concentrations
	Phalaropodidae				2	Non-Breeding Concentrations
Band-Tailed Pigeon	Columba Fasciata				3	
Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus Americanus	C	C		1	
Spotted Owl	Strix Occidentalis	T	E		1	
Vaux's Swift	Chaetura Vauxi		C		1	
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus Pileatus		C		1	
Purple Martin	Progne Subis		C		1	
Slender-Billed Whitebreasted Nuthatch	Sitta Carolinensis Aculeata	SOC	C		1	
Big-Brown Bat	(Eptesicus Fuscus)				2	Roosting Concentrations
Myotis Bats	Myotis Spp.)				2	Roosting Concentrations
Pallid Bat	(Antrozous Pallidus)				2	Roosting Concentrations
Townsend's Big-Eared Bat	Corynorhinus Townsendii	SOC	C		1,2	
Gray-Tailed Vole	Microtus Canicaudus		C		1,2	
Fisher	Martes Pennanti	C	E		1	
Marten	Martes Americana				3	
Columbian Black-Tailed Deer	Odocoileus Hemionus Columbianus				3	
Elk	Cervus Elaphus				3	

E – Endangered, T – Threatened, S – Sensitive, C – Candidate, Soc – Species Of Concern, 1 - State-Listed And Candidate Species, 2 - Vulnerable Aggregations, 3 - Species Of Recreational, Commercial, And Tribal Importance

PRIORITY HABITATS

ASPEN STANDS

Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 0.4 ha (1 acre).

BIODIVERSITY AREAS AND CORRIDORS

Biodiversity areas and corridors are areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife.

1. Biodiversity areas.
 - a. The area has been identified as biologically diverse through a scientifically based assessment conducted over a landscape scale (e.g., ecoregion, county- or city-wide, watershed, etc.). Examples include but are not limited to WDFW Local Habitat Assessments, Pierce County Biodiversity Network, and Spokane County's Wildlife Corridors and Landscape Linkages. OR
 - b. The area is within a city or an urban growth area (UGA) and contains habitat that is valuable to fish or wildlife and is mostly comprised of native vegetation. Relative to other vegetated areas in the same city or UGA, the mapped area is vertically diverse (e.g., multiple canopy layers, snags, or downed wood), horizontally diverse (e.g., contains a mosaic of native habitats), or supports a diverse community of species as identified by a qualified professional who has a degree in biology or closely related field and professional experience related to the habitats or species occurring in the biodiversity area. These areas may have more limited wildlife functions than other priority habitat areas due to the general nature and constraints of these sites in that they are often isolated or surrounded by highly urbanized lands.
2. Corridors. Corridors are areas of relatively undisturbed and unbroken tracts of vegetation that connect fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, priority habitats, areas identified as biologically diverse (see attribute 1a), or valuable habitats within a city or UGA (see attribute 1b).

HERBACEOUS BALDS

Occurs as variable-sized patches of grass and forb vegetation located on shallow soils over bedrock that commonly is fringed by forest or woodland. Typically consists of low-growing vegetation adapted for survival on shallow soils amid seasonally dry conditions, and is often on steep slopes. Dominant flora includes herbaceous vegetation, dwarf shrubs, mosses, and lichens. Rock outcrops, boulders, and scattered trees are often present, especially Douglas-fir, Pacific madrone, and Oregon white oak. Balds occur within mid-montane to lowland forest zones. On slopes near saltwater shorelines in the northern Puget Trough, herbaceous balds and herbaceous bluffs can sometimes be difficult to differentiate. Balds typically are smaller than 12 acres, although some can be up to about 250 acres.

OLD-GROWTH/MATURE FOREST

Stands > 7.5 acres having at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/acre that are > 32 inches DBH or > 200 years of age; and > 4 snags/acre over 20 inches in diameter and 15 feet tall; with numerous downed logs, including 4 logs/acre

that are > 24 inches in diameter and > 50 ft long. High elevation stands (> 2,500 feet) may have lesser DBH (> 30 inches), fewer snags (> 1.5/acre), and fewer large downed logs (2 logs/acre) that are > 24 inches in diameter and > 50 feet long. Stands smaller than 7.5 acres in rural and urban areas can still retain significant wildlife value and therefore should be evaluated as a potential biodiversity area (see Biodiversity Areas and Corridors).

OREGON WHITE OAK WOODLANDS

Stands of oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component of the stand is 25%; or where total canopy coverage of the stand is <25%, but oak accounts for at least 50% of the canopy coverage. The latter is often referred to as oak savanna. In non-urbanized areas west of the Cascades, priority oak habitat consists of stands > 0.4 ha (1.0 ac) in size. East of the Cascades, priority oak habitat consists of stands > 2 ha (5 ac) in size. In urban or urbanizing areas, single oaks or stands < 0.4 ha (1 ac) may also be considered a priority when found to be particularly valuable to fish and wildlife. Oak woodlands in western Washington may contain understory plants indicative of [Westside] Prairie.

RIPARIAN

The area adjacent to flowing or standing freshwater aquatic systems. Riparian habitat encompasses the area beginning at the ordinary high water mark and extends to that portion of the terrestrial landscape that is influenced by, or that directly influences, the aquatic ecosystem. In riparian systems, the vegetation, water tables, soils, microclimate, and wildlife inhabitants of terrestrial ecosystems are often influenced by perennial or intermittent water. Simultaneously, adjacent vegetation, nutrient and sediment loading, terrestrial wildlife, as well as organic and inorganic debris influence the biological and physical properties of the aquatic ecosystem. Riparian habitat includes the entire extent of the floodplain and riparian areas of wetlands that are directly connected to stream courses or other freshwater.

WESTSIDE PRAIRIE

Herbaceous, non-forested (< 60% forest canopy cover) plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie where soils are well-drained or a wet prairie.

Dry Prairie: Located in areas containing prairie vegetation. Although dry prairie can occur on other soils, typically it occurs on any one of the soils known to be associated with prairie (Table 1). Locations occurring on mapped prairie soils where the surface is impervious is not considered dry prairie. Certain vegetation characteristics typify dry prairie. These include the occurrence of diagnostic grasses, sedges, and forbs. Mosses, lichens, and bare ground may also be found in the spaces between grass and forb cover. In parts of Puget Trough, prairie can sometimes be recognized by mounded topography. The presence of certain diagnostic plants is required to establish an occurrence of dry prairie. In particular, three of the diagnostic grasses, sedges, or forbs (Table 2) are required. Shrubs such as Black Hawthorn (*Crataegus douglassii*), Kinnikinnick (*Arctostaphylos uvaursi*), and Oval-leaf Viburnum (*Viburnum ellipticum*) can be found at low densities within prairie. Some Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*) can also be present in native prairie (see Oregon White Oak Woodlands for areas with denser oak stands). Native and nonnative invasive plants typically dominate most remaining prairie. Common invasives are Scot's Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), Colonial

Bentgrass (*Agrostis tenuis*), Common Velvetgrass (*Holcus lanatus*), Tall Oatgrass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), and Kentucky Bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*). Other invasive grasses, forbs, and shrubs also can be present.

Wet Prairie: Located in areas containing prairie plants. Although wet prairie can occur on other soils, typically it occurs on any one of the soils known to be associated with prairie (see Table 1). Locations occurring on mapped prairie soils where the surface is impervious is not considered wet prairie. In the Lower Columbia - Willamette region of southwest Washington, wet prairie occurs on clay-rich soils that are saturated to the surface during the early part of the growing season, gradually drying out during the summer. Wet prairies in Puget Trough generally are found on glacial outwash soils that typically are limited to swales or low-gradient riparian areas. Three diagnostic grasses, sedges, or forbs from a combination of the wet prairie diagnostic species list (Table 3) and the dry prairie diagnostic species list (Table 2) are required to establish the presence of wet prairie.

FRESHWATER WETLANDS AND FRESH DEEPWATER

Freshwater Wetlands: Lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. Wetlands must have one or more of the following attributes: the land supports, at least periodically, predominantly hydrophytic plants; substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soils; and/or the substrate is nonsoil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year.

Fresh Deepwater: Deepwater habitats are permanently flooded lands lying below the deepwater boundary of wetlands. Deepwater habitats include environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. The dominant plants are hydrophytes; however, the substrates are considered nonsoil because the water is too deep to support emergent vegetation. These habitats include all underwater structures and features (e.g., woody debris, rock piles, caverns).

INSTREAM

The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

CAVES

A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages (including associated dendritic tubes, cracks, and fissures) which occurs under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations, and is large enough to contain a human. Mine shafts (a man-made excavation in the earth usually used to extract minerals) may mimic caves, and abandoned mine shafts with actual or suspected occurrences of priority species should be treated in a manner similar to caves.

CLIFFS

Greater than 7.6 meters (25 feet) high and occurring below 1524 meters (5000 feet).

SNAGS AND LOGS

Snags and logs occur within a variety of habitat types that support trees. Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 51 cm (20 in) in western Washington and > 30 cm (12 in) in eastern Washington, and are > 2 m (6.5 ft) in height. Priority logs are > 30 cm (12 in) in diameter at the largest end, and > 6 m (20 ft) long. Abundant snags and logs can be found in old growth and mature forests or unmanaged forests of any age; in damaged, burned, or diseased forests; and in riparian areas. Priority snag and log habitat includes individual snags and/or logs, or groups of snags and/or logs of exceptional value to wildlife due to their scarcity or location in a particular landscape. Areas with abundant, well-distributed snags and logs are also considered priority snag and log habitat. Examples include large, sturdy snags adjacent to open water, remnant snags in developed or urbanized settings, and areas with a relatively high density of snags.

TALUS

Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.15 - 2.0 m (0.5 - 6.5 ft), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.