

the Oregon Conservation Strategy - *healthy habitats for wildlife and people*



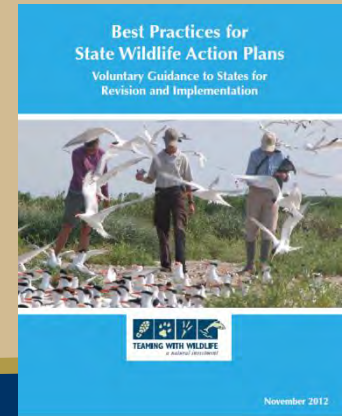
Audrey Hatch, Conservation Strategy Contractor

Arthur Rodriguez, Conservation Strategy GIS Analyst

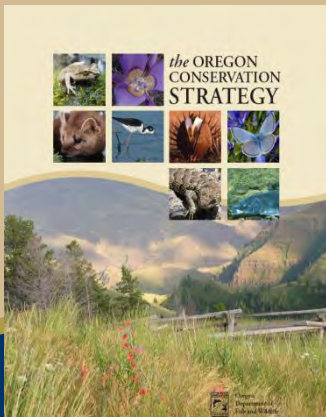
Gregory Krutzikowsky, Nearshore Policy Project Leader



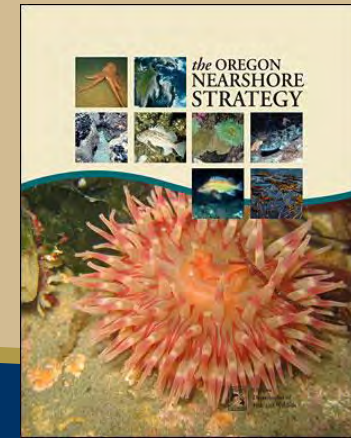
Why State Strategies (Action Plans)?



- National effort: All states have a SWAP
- Reduce the risk of additional threatened and endangered species listings
- Make the best use of limited conservation dollars
 - Agencies work together on cross-cutting priorities
 - Economies-of-scale
- Coordination, guidance from Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Teaming With Wildlife



Background: OCS & ONS



Requirements:

- 10-year review and update of the OCS & ONS
- Voluntary, collaborative approach to conservation
- Required by the USFWS to continue to receive State Wildlife Grant funding
- Deadline: October 1st, 2015

Parallel revision efforts:

- OCS update led by the Conservation Program
- ONS update led by the Nearshore Program
- Final products will be integrated into one cohesive strategy

Background: What is the OCS?

Identifies conservation action priorities for:

Ecoregions

Species

Habitats

Conservation Opportunity Areas

Key Conservation Issues (statewide threats)



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Conservation Opportunity Areas (COAs)

“...landscapes where broad fish and wildlife conservation goals can be met. Working in these landscapes can increase effectiveness of conservation actions at larger scales...”

- Oregon Conservation Strategy

Conservation Opportunity Areas (COAs)

Prioritizing Landscapes

- Granting programs
- Land acquisitions
- Planning efforts



2015 COA Revision

- Incorporate new science and enhance usability

- Revision timeline

Nov 2014: Technical Team met to discuss datasets

Dec 2014 - Feb 2015: Compile data

Feb - May 2015: Modeling analysis

May - June 2015: Review modeling results

July 2015: Produce draft COA map

Aug 2015: Finalize COA map

Sept 2015: Finalize COA profiles

COA Datasets



2005 Datasets

- Current and Historic Wildlife Habitat Index
- Existing and Historic Vegetation Models
- Protected Areas / Ownership
- 2004 Urban Growth Boundary
- 2000 Census
- Roads (2003)
- Public Ownership



2015 Datasets

- Strategy Species Observations and Models
 - Important Bird Areas
- 2015 Strategy Habitat Map
 - Wetlands, Sagebrush, Confluences, Floodplains
- Topo-climate Diversity Model
- Resistance to Species Movement Model
- Updated Protected Areas/Ownership

COA Revision: Modeling

Site selection computer model

- Establish goals
 - Land cover percentage
 - Strategy Species and Strategy Habitats
- “Suitability Index”
 - Species permeability and resistance
 - Private vs public ownership

COA Revision: Review Process

- Meetings with ODFW field staff and Stakeholder Advisory Committee
 - Salem, Corvallis, La Grande, Bend, Klamath Falls, The Dalles, Heppner, Umpqua
- New technologies maximize review time
 - Webinars
 - Online Mapping Applications and PDF maps

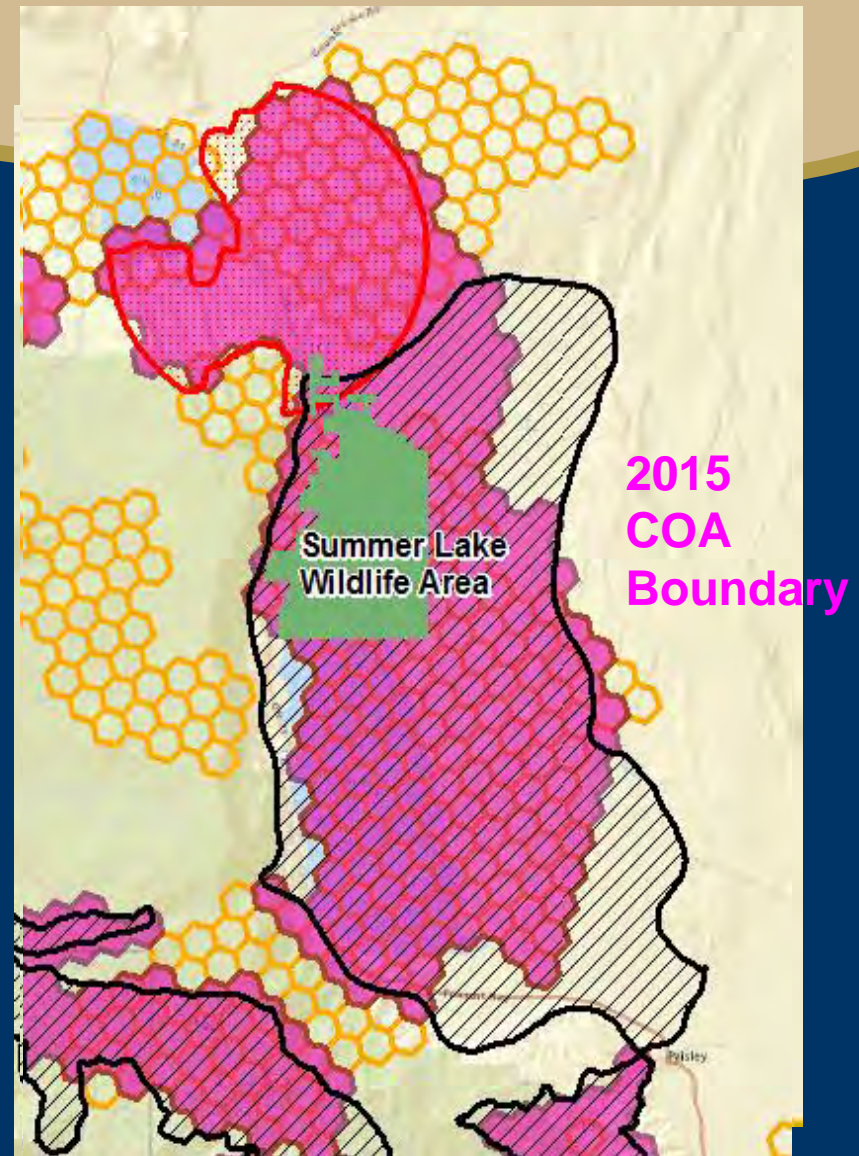
COA Revision: Finalization

Sage-Grouse
Core Area

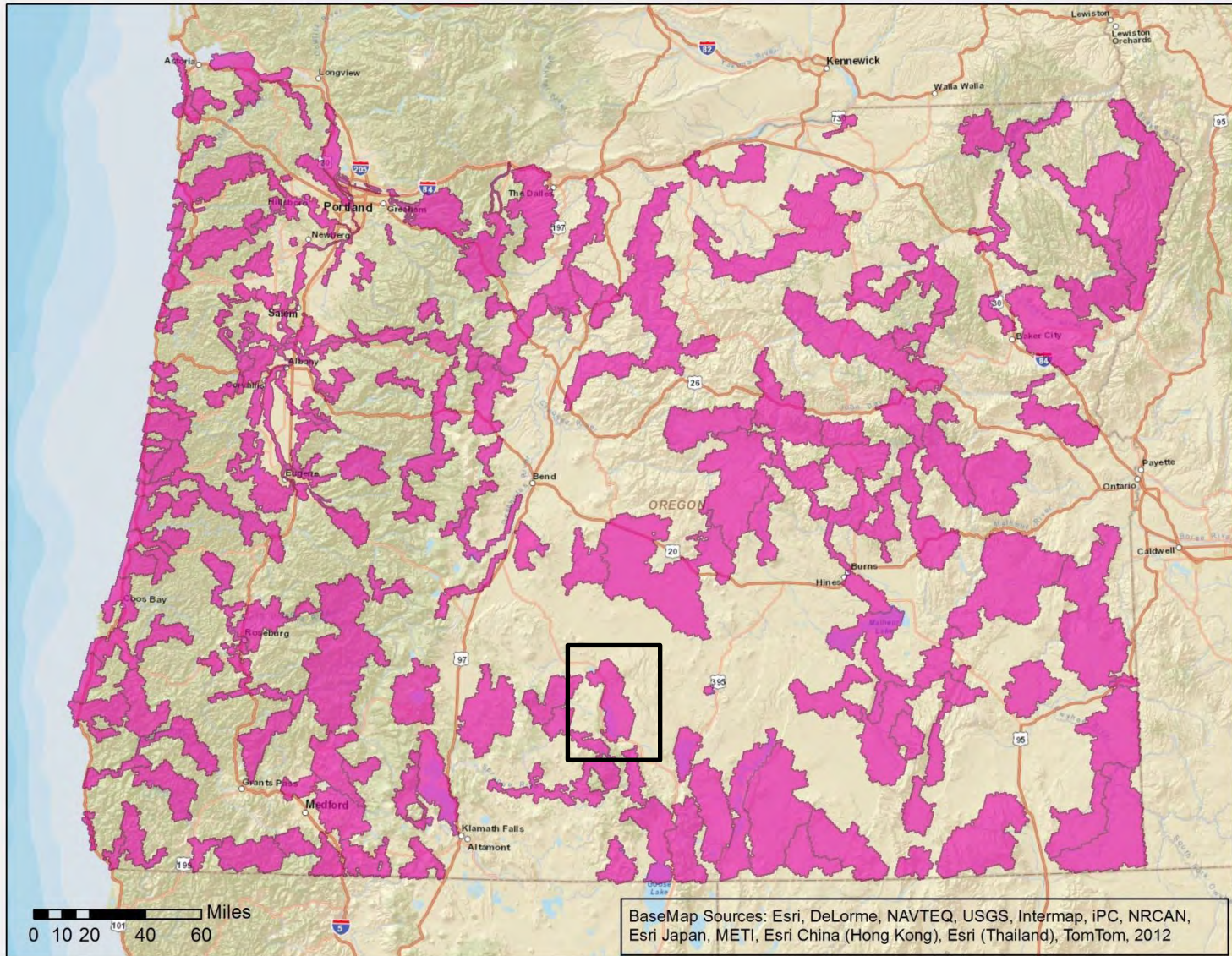
2015 Modeling
Results

Criteria:

- 2015 model results
- 2005 COAs
- Feedback
- Other prioritization projects (Sage-Grouse Core Areas, The Nature Conservancy, etc.)



2015 Conservation Opportunity Areas (Draft)



165. Summer Lake Area. (DRAFT)

This area is comprised of Summer Lake and the surrounding high desert wetlands subregion...

Special Features:

- Number of observed Strategy Species: 20
- Number of Strategy Habitats: 6
- Summer Lake Wildlife Area
- Diverse and expansive wetland complex (includes playas, seasonal wetlands, etc.)
- Important stop-over for migratory birds

Strategy Species:

Amphibians

- [Western toad \(modeled habitat\)](#)

Birds

- [American white pelican \(observed\)](#)
- [Black-backed woodpecker \(observed\)](#)
- [Black-necked stilt \(observed\)](#)
- ...

Fish

- [Redband trout](#)

Mammals

- [California myotis \(observed\)](#)
 - [Hoary bat \(observed\)](#)
- ...

Strategy Habitats:

- [Aspen Woodlands](#)
- [Flowing Water and Riparian](#)
- [Natural Lakes](#)
- [Ponderosa Pine Woodlands](#)
- [Sagebrush](#)
- [Wetland](#)

Specialized & Local Habitats:

Alkaline lakes & wetlands, Alkali grasslands, Rock habitat, Salt desert scrub, Springs

Key Conservation Issues:

- [Barriers to Fish & Wildlife Movement](#)

Recommended Conservation

Actions:

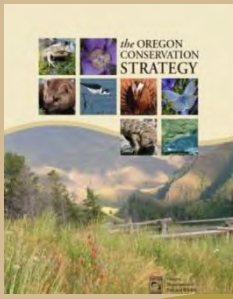
- Improve water delivery system within the Summer Lake area to improve effectiveness of wetland management.
- Maintain diverse wetland habitats.
- Restore and maintain complex, continuous sage habitat.

Local conservation actions & plans:

- [Intermountain West Joint Venture Implimentation Plan \(2013\)](#)
- [Intermountain West Waterbird Conservation Plan \(Ivey and Herziger 2006\)](#)
- [Oregon's Important Bird Areas](#)
- [Oregon Aquatic Habitat and Restoration Guide. The Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds \(May 1999\)](#)
- [Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Assessment and Strategy for Oregon](#)
- [Summer Lake Wildlife Area Management Plan](#)
- ...

Potential Conservation Partners:

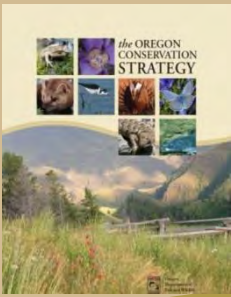
- [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)
- [The Nature Conservancy](#)
- [Oregon Habitat Joint Venture](#)
- [Audubon Society of Portland](#)
- [East Cascades Audubon Society](#)
- [Ducks Unlimited](#)
- [Oregon Hunters Association](#)
- ...



Public Involvement: Summary



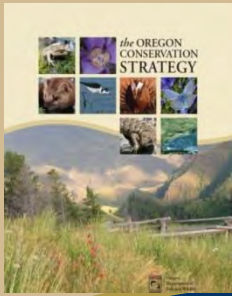
- Partner Notification Letter (July 2014)
- ODFW Reviewers (2014 – August 2015)
- External Technical Reviewers (2014 – August 2015)
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee (April – July 2015)
 - Outdoor interest groups, agriculture, forestry, conservation organizations, travel industry
 - Government and professional society representation
- Online public review (June – July 2015)
 - News release
 - Stakeholder notifications
- Commission briefings: January, April, August, September 2015



Public Involvement: Briefings and presentations

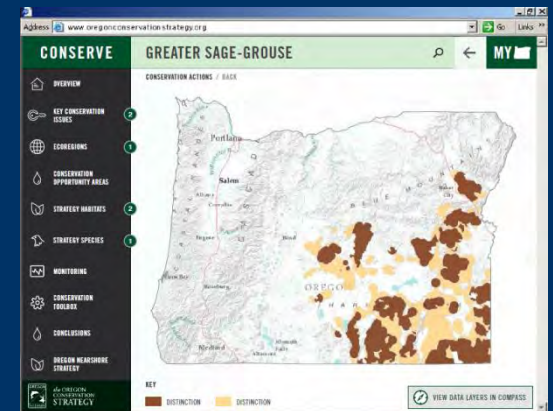
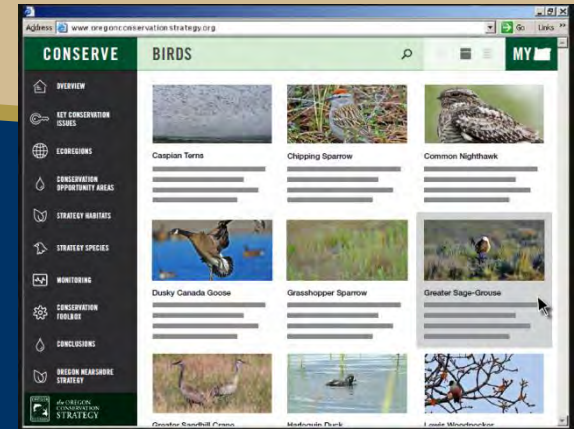
- League of Oregon Cities
- Oregon Cattlemen's Association
- Land Trusts
- The Nature Conservancy
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
- Oregon Conservation Education & Assistance Network
- ODFW Conservation Leaders Group
- Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society





Next Steps to Finalize the 2015 Update

- Incorporate reviewer input
- Complete COA profiles
- Request for Approval by Fish and Wildlife Commission: September 4
- Format online presentation
- Submit to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service by Oct 1st



Oregon Nearshore Strategy



Marine component of the
Oregon
Conservation Strategy



Oregon Nearshore Strategy Review & Update

Focus for the Review/Update:

- Incorporate New Information
- Strategy Species
- Habitat Map Update
- Review and Update Conservation Needs
- Public Input
- Review and Update Recommendations
- Enhance Integration with OCS

Summary of Changes

- The term “Nearshore” was expanded to include all of Oregon’s Territorial Sea, shoreline areas in the supratidal zone, and portions of Oregon’s estuaries
- Information on coastal communities was updated
- Reorganized with new and updated information incorporated to make it easier to find information on:
 - Species
 - Habitats
 - Factors affecting species and habitats
 - Research and monitoring needs

Summary of Changes

- Species lists modified based on new information, better integration with the Oregon Conservation Strategy and inclusion of estuaries as part of the nearshore
- The new federally-adopted Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard was integrated to describe habitats

Summary of Changes

- Better inclusion of the Oregon Nearshore Strategy and the Oregon Conservation Strategy
 - Integrated Strategy Species list
 - Nearshore Ecoregion in the Oregon Conservation Strategy
 - Work is underway to web enable both Strategy documents
- Updates to the recommended actions for 1) Outreach and Education; 2) Research and Monitoring; 3) Policy and Management

Overview of Public Involvement

Notified key partners and stakeholders (July and Sept 2014)

Web Outreach Seeking Public Input (Sept 2014 – Aug 2015)

- ODFW Marine Resources Program Home Page
- Oregon Nearshore Strategy Page

Technical Advisory Committee (April – June 2015)

Public and Stakeholder Review & Input (June – July 2015)

- Public Review Draft Available Online: June 19 – July 20
- Public meetings: July 7 and 9, 2015

Commission Meetings: January, April, August, September 2015

Public Input and Next Steps

Public Input

- Overall support for updated document
- Suggestions for changes

Next Steps

- Examine and analyze input
- Incorporate as appropriate and practicable

Questions and Input



2015 Habitat Conservation Stamp Winner
Tufted Puffins by Don Meinders (NC)