

Western brook lamprey (*Lampetra richardsoni*)



OREGON
CONSERVATION



WESTERN BROOK LAMPREY spend their entire lives in freshwater. This species bypasses the juvenile stage, transforming from larvae directly into adults at which point they stop feeding.

Size: to about 7 inches long.

Weight: less than 1 pound.

Lifespan: up to 9 years.

Diet: Larvae filter-feed on algae and micro-organisms. There is no juvenile stage, and adults do not feed.

Habitat: Larvae burrow into soft sediment of slow-moving and relatively small freshwater streams. Adults mature, spawn and die in these same waters.

Limiting factors and threats:

- Artificial barriers to migration routes.
- Water quality and quantity and land use changes.
- Degraded habitat.
- Predation.
- Climate change.

Conservation actions:

- Provide education and outreach to natural resource managers, practitioners, and Oregonians.
- Provide passage and screening at artificial obstructions and water diversions.
- Protect and restore habitat.
- Conserve water.
- Prohibited harvest.

Conservation plans:

- [ODFW's Conservation Plan for Lampreys in Oregon](#)
- [The Oregon Conservation Strategy](#)



Current distribution based on observation