

## PROTECTION MEASURES FOR SPECIFIC ANIMALS (SJCC 18.30.160 TABLE 3.11)

Measures are Recommended Unless Noted as a Requirement

For additional information see <http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/phslist.htm>

### ANIMAL SPECIES

### HABITAT DESCRIPTION

### PROTECTION METHODS

#### AMPHIBIANS

##### Sharp-tailed Snake



Live in relatively open, moist, woodlands, particularly near streams and secluded, south facing, rocky slopes. Usually found under rocks and rotting woody material. Primary food source is slugs. Use communal egg laying sites in cracks between rocks, underground or in clumps of grass roots.

- Minimize soil-disturbing activities.
- Retain rocks and down wood.
- Avoid predation by domestic cats.

##### Western Toad



Live near springs, streams, meadows and woodlands, especially those within 1,500 feet of ponds or wetlands. Feed on insects. Preferred breeding sites are water bodies with shallow, sandy bottoms. After breeding, they disperse into terrestrial habitats such as forests and grasslands, preferring damp conditions. Spend much time underground, often in small mammal burrows, beneath logs, and within rock crevices. Winter hibernation is in burrows.

- Protect buffers in accordance with SJCC 18.30.150 (required).
- Establish wetland buffers using a Category I Wetland Rating (required).
- Minimize soil-disturbance.
- Prevent pollution of runoff.
- Retain rocks & down wood.
- Avoid introducing aquatic predators (e.g. fish) into ponds and lakes.

#### BIRDS

##### American Dipper



Live on shorelines of perennial streams and lakes and seasonal streams that flow into them.

- Do not inhibit perennial flow in streams (required).
- Maintain buffers along streams and lakes in accordance with SCC 18.30.160 (required).
- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

##### American Kestrel



Live in open habitats with perching spots, including the edges of oak woodlands, open forests, and grasslands or agricultural areas with utility wires, fence posts or trees. Nest in tree cavities, cliffs, openings in man-made structures, and nesting boxes.

- Protect snags and trees used for nesting (required).

### **Black Oystercatcher**



Live and nest on the ground above the rocky intertidal zone in areas without predatory mammals.

- Discourage human presence near active nesting areas during the spring.
- Maintain forage fish populations and protect kelp and eelgrass beds in conformance with the SJC Code.

### **Chipping Sparrow**



Live in savannas, orchards and low-density residential areas.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.
- Maintain a mix of open land and wooded areas.

### **Common Nighthawk**



Live by rocky balds and flat areas with minimal vegetation.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### **Fox Sparrow**



Live and nest in dense shrub thickets with little or no forest canopy. The only suspected nesting is on small outer islands.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### **Great Blue Heron**



Live and feed in large ponds and wetlands, small ponds and wetlands not surrounded by forest, and marine waters. Nesting occurs in tall dense stands of conifers in areas mostly isolated from humans.

- Maintain a 200 foot buffer around nesting colonies (required).
- Within ¼ mile of nesting colonies, avoid construction & activities that disturb nesting birds Feb. - Sept.
- Protect wetlands and nearshore feeding areas in conformance with the SJC Code.

### Golden-Crowned Sparrow



Lives a migratory life. In the winter, it generally lives in brushy areas and dense shrubs. Nests in dense shrub thickets that have little or no forest canopy. The only suspected nesting is on small outer islands.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Golden Eagle



Nest on cliffs and also in trees, on the ground, or on human made structures. Food sources include rodents, small mammals and birds).

ALSO see the protection measures for peregrine falcon.

- Protect trees used for perching and nesting (required).
- Within 1,000 ft. of nests, avoid construction/activities that may disturb nesting birds Feb.15-July 15.
- Maintain food sources & habitat for animal food sources.
- Avoid the use of rodenticides in hunting areas and construction of wind turbines and multiple phase transformers near and in, nesting and hunting areas.

### Horned Lark



Live in prairies/savannas and other flat areas with minimal vegetation.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Lazuli Bunting



Live on the edges of oak woodlands, shrubby areas in forested zones, agricultural hedgerows, and shrubby habitat in residential gardens.

- Protect shrubs and small trees used for nesting.
- Protect food sources including seeds, berries and invertebrates.

### Long-Eared Owl



Live in woodlands. No recent nesting records.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Marbled Murrelet



Found in the waters surrounding Lopez Island and the area between Orcas and Blakely Islands. They feed year round in calm, shallow (< 100 ft.) nearshore waters. Nest in dense, mossy, wet, old growth conifer forests at least 7 acres in size and within 50 miles of marine waters. Not currently known to nest in SJC but could as second growth forests mature. Nesting sites are difficult to identify and contain nesting trees that are at least 32 inches in diameter. Nests are usually located in depressions in the moss and lichen.

- Protect old growth coniferous forests >7 acres in size that have trees more than 32 diameter at breast height used by nesting birds (required) See CH 222-16 WAC for guidance.
- If nesting areas are identified, staff will help landowner and WDF&W develop a site specific protection plan (required).
- Maintain forage fish and protect kelp and eelgrass beds in compliance with SJC codes.

### Merlin



Live on the edges of conifer woodlands.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Northern Goshawk



Live in mature forest on main islands.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Northern Harrier



Live in infrequently mowed pastures, prairies, and herbaceous wetlands without trees.

- Protect buffers in accordance with SJCC 18.30.150 (required).
- Establish wetland buffers using a Category I Wetland Rating (required).
- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Northern Pygmy-Owl



Live in mature conifer forest on main islands.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

## Peregrine Falcon



Live year-round in SJ County ( $\approx$  21 nesting pairs). Nest on cliffs and ledges. Feed on birds, especially shorebirds and waterfowl.

- Within  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile of nests, avoid construction/activities that may disturb nesting birds March 1-June 30.
- If possible, locate structures at least 1,500 ft. back from cliffs with nests.
- Prevent pesticide and chemical contamination of prey, particularly with lead, mercury, organochlorides, organophosphates, carbofuran, and famphur.
- Near nesting and feeding areas, do not use lead shot and avoid the use of insecticides and pesticides that will be injected by birds that are food sources (e.g. pigeons).
- Follow County stormwater and buffer requirements.
- Avoid construction of power lines near nests or feeding areas.
- Maintain trees along shorelines in conformance with SJCC 18.30.160.

## Pigeon Guillemot



Live year round along Puget Sound, feeding in shallow water and nesting in colonies in burrows on sandy and rocky cliffs.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas in spring.

## Short Eared Owl



Live in infrequently mowed pastures, prairies, and herbaceous wetlands without trees.

- Protect buffers in accordance with SJCC 18.30.150 (required).
- Establish wetland buffers using a Category I Wetland Rating (required).
- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

## Sooty Grouse



Live in extensive conifer forests on main islands.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.
- Minimize fragmentation of forest by roads, driveways, and tree removal.

### Vesper Sparrow



Live in savannas, prairies, and fields with scattered shrubs.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.

### Western Bluebird



Live and nest in oak woodlands and fields with nest boxes or many standing dead trees.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.
- Avoid pesticide use in or near active nesting areas.
- Avoid removal of dead standing trees in or near active nests.

### Western Meadowlark



Live in savannas, prairies, and fields with scattered shrubs.

- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.
- Avoid pesticide use in or near active nesting areas.

### Western Screech Owl



Live in open woodlands, especially along streams. Nests in holes in cliffs and tree cavities, particularly cottonwood and big leaf maple.

- Protect snags and trees used for nesting (required).

### Wilson's Snipe



Live in herbaceous wetlands and wet fields with scattered shrubs.

Protection measures apply in nesting or feeding areas.

- Protect buffers in accordance with SJCC 18.30.150 (required).
- Establish wetland buffers using a Category I Wetland Rating (required).
- Prevent disturbance of active nesting areas during the spring.
- Avoid pesticide use in or near active nesting areas.

## INSECTS

### Great Arctic Butterfly



Only recorded US population is on Orcas Island. Dependent on forest openings and rocky balds.

- Avoid the use of insecticides and herbicides.
- Protect rocky balds.

### Island Marble Butterfly



Live on San Juan and Lopez Islands and are the only remaining populations. Dependent on Puget Sound Peppergrass and other native mustards and non-native mustards.

- Avoid using insecticides and herbicides.
- Limit grazing & agricultural land disturbance.
- Protect food source areas including Puget Sound peppergrass and other native and non-native mustards during development.

### Sand Verbena Moth



Only recorded US populations on San Juan Island and in Clallam County. They are dependent on the native sandy coastal habitat and Sand Verbena (*Abronia*) for larval food plant.

- Avoid the use of insecticides and herbicides.
- Limit grazing and agricultural land disturbance.
- During land development protect with food sources including Sand Verbena (*Abronia*).

### Taylor's Checker-spot Butterfly



Live near maritime prairies & shore-lines along the Strait of Juan De Fuca, with concentrations on Long Island, and possibly Lopez Island. Live in the post-glacial gravelly outwash and mounded prairies of Puget Trough, and open island prairies with a dominance of original vegetation. Host plants include the native seaside plantain and nonnative English plantain.

- Avoid the use of insecticides and herbicides.
- Limit grazing and agricultural land disturbance.
- Protect areas with plantain during land development.

### Valley Silverspot Butterfly



Live in native prairies and windy peaks with nearby forest openings. They are extinct in many areas and have declining populations in San Juan Islands. They are dependent on Western Blue Violet (*Viola adunca*).

- Avoid the use of insecticides and herbicides.
- Limit grazing and agricultural land disturbance.
- Protect areas with western blue violet during land development.

## MAMMALS

### **Roosting Concentrations - All Bat Species**



Sites used for roosting include caves, mines, snags, large trees, buildings and barns.

- Avoid pesticide use.
- Avoid removal of large dead trees over 12 inches in diameter at breast height.

### **Townsend's Big Eared Bat**



Live near fresh water and suitable roosting sites such as caves, mines, snags, large trees, buildings and barns. Winter roosting is generally in caves, but may also occur in cavities of large trees and buildings. Primary food source is moths, but they will consume other arthropods.

- Avoid pesticide use and the removal of large dead trees over 12 inches in diameter at breast height.

### **Flying Squirrel**



Live in mature forests and woodlands with many dead standing trees.

- Avoid removal of large dead trees over 12 inches in diameter at breast height in or near known areas.