

# Threatened and Endangered Species on DoD Lands

## Background

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) depends on high quality habitats to conduct its mission-critical training and readiness activities. DoD also plays a vital role in sustaining many rare plant and animal species. In the United States, DoD manages approximately 25 million acres of land across approximately 420 large military installations (greater than 500 acres); 339 of those installations have natural resources significant enough to require active management plans. Access limitations due to security and safety concerns shelter many military lands from development pressures and large-scale habitat loss. As a result, some of the finest remaining examples of rare wildlife habitats are found on military installations. In addition, many types of military training activities and land use are compatible with endangered species management. In fact, DoD has the highest density of species listed as threatened or endangered (T&E) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of any other federal land management agency.

## DoD T&E Species Expenditures

Each fiscal year (FY), the Military Services must report their T&E species expenditures to USFWS. These data summarize the costs for managing T&E species on DoD lands, and include actions such as species surveys and monitoring. USFWS reports these expenditures to Congress for all federal agencies.



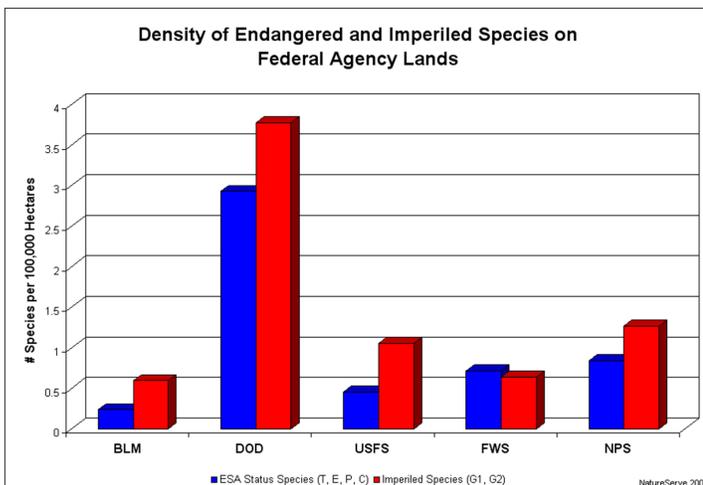
*The Desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii) is listed as threatened under the ESA, and was found on 14 DoD installations in FY2015.*

This fact sheet provides a summary of DoD reported T&E species expenditures by taxonomic group from FY1991-FY2015:

| Taxonomic Group  | No. of Species | Expenditures FY1991-FY2015 |
|------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Amphibians       | 11             | \$21.5 million             |
| Arachnids        | 4              | \$1.5 million              |
| Birds            | 74             | \$498.6 million            |
| Clams            | 17             | \$0.37 million             |
| Corals           | 10             | \$2.2 million              |
| Crustaceans      | 8              | \$18.1 million             |
| Ferns and allies | 5              | \$3.5 million              |
| Fishes           | 40             | \$40.8 million             |
| Insects          | 25             | \$21.9 million             |
| Lichens          | 1              | \$0.4 million              |
| Mammals          | 86             | \$144.5 million            |
| Plants           | 233            | \$164.8 million            |
| Reptiles         | 41             | \$177.6 million            |
| Snails           | 15             | \$11.3 million             |
| Other*           | x              | \$115.9 million            |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>571**</b>   | <b>\$1.22 billion</b>      |

\*Includes expenditures not attributable to a single species.

\*\*Includes candidate species and species no longer listed under the ESA as of FY2015.



DoD is responsible for managing and protecting approximately 400 T&E species found on its installations. Each installation has different requirements for both species protection and military training. DoD is required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Fisheries to manage their T&E species efforts. DoD, USFWS, NOAA Fisheries and other federal agencies and private entities also partner on various initiatives to conserve T&E species. These partnerships enable DoD to carry out its mission requirements, while ensuring the continued use of sound science in sustaining and protecting T&E species on DoD lands.



Enabling the Mission, Defending the Resources  
Department of Defense Natural Resources Program

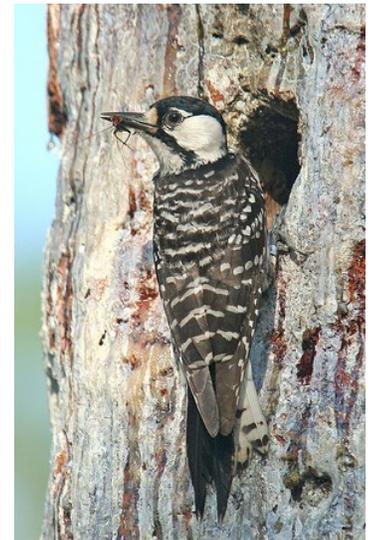
| Top Species by Expenditure (FY2015) |                                |                | Top Species by Expenditure (Cumulative FY1991-FY2015) |                                |                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rank                                | Species                        | Expenditure    | Rank  | Species                        | Expenditure     |
| 1                                   | Red-Cockaded Woodpecker        | \$11.0 million | 1   | Red-Cockaded Woodpecker        | \$190.8 million |
| 2                                   | Desert Tortoise                | \$8.9 million  | 2   | Desert Tortoise                | \$134.2 million |
| 3                                   | San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike | \$4.4 million  | 3   | San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike | \$44.4 million  |
| 4                                   | Mariana Gray Swiftlet          | \$2.3 million  | 4   | Mexican Spotted Owl            | \$23.8 million  |
| 5                                   | Northern Long-Eared Bat        | \$2.3 million  | 5   | Black-Capped Vireo             | \$22.3 million  |
| 6                                   | Blue Whale                     | \$1.7 million  | 6   | California Least Tern          | \$21.7 million  |
| 7                                   | Mariana Crow                   | \$1.6 million  | 7   | Western Snowy Plover           | \$21.4 million  |
| 8                                   | Western Snowy Plover           | \$1.6 million  | 8   | Florida Scrub Jay              | \$20.1 million  |
| 9                                   | Arroyo Southwestern Toad       | \$1.6 million  | 9   | Bald Eagle                     | \$18.8 million  |
| 10                                  | Fin Whale                      | \$1.5 million  | 10  | Golden-Cheeked Warbler         | \$18.7 million  |



In FY2015, DoD expenditures for 13 threatened and endangered whale species totaled \$7.1 million. Pictured here is the endangered Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*).  
Photo: Mathew Hull

### DoD T&E Species Management Efforts

Installations manage T&E species through consultation with USFWS and implementation of their Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMPs). INRMPs are planning documents that allow DoD installations to implement landscape-level management of their natural resources, including T&E species. INRMPs identify specific actions required to minimize effects to listed species while ensuring military mission requirements are met. Specific management actions identified in installation INRMPs vary by species and landscape, but can include captive breeding programs, habitat enhancement, prescribed burning, invasive species management, noise effect studies, monitoring, and inventory.



The Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) received more funding than any other species: over \$190 million over the last 25 years.  
Photo: USFWS

### Contact Information:

Alison A. Dalsimer  
Program Director  
DoD Natural Resources  
[allyn.a.dalsimer.civ@mail.mil](mailto:allyn.a.dalsimer.civ@mail.mil)  
[www.DoDNaturalResources.net](http://www.DoDNaturalResources.net)  
<https://twitter.com/dodnatres>  
[www.DoDLegacy.org](http://www.DoDLegacy.org)  
[www.denix.osd.mil/nr/](http://www.denix.osd.mil/nr/)

July 2016

| Installations with Greatest Number of T&E Species (FY2015) |           |   |       |           |
|--|-----------|---|-------|-----------|
| Rank   | Service   | Installation                            | State | # Species |
| 1  | Army      | Schofield Barracks Military Reservation | HI    | 57        |
| 2  | Army      | Makua Military Reservation              | HI    | 46        |
| 3  | Navy      | Naval Station Pearl Harbor              | HI    | 33        |
| 4  | Army      | Kawailoa Training Area                  | HI    | 32        |
| 5  | Navy      | Naval Air Station Key West              | FL    | 21        |
| 6  | Army      | Pohakuloa Training Area                 | HI    | 20        |
| 6  | Navy      | Naval Base Coronado                     | CA    | 20        |
| 6  | Air Force | Patrick Air Force Base                  | FL    | 20        |
| 9  | Air Force | Homestead Air Reserve Base              | FL    | 19        |
| 9  | USMC      | MCB Camp Pendleton                      | CA    | 19        |