



Wildlife Wins: Obama Administration Successes in Protecting Our Nation's Species

Council on Environmental Quality

May 20, 2016





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Introduction

Since taking office, President Obama has protected more land and water than any administration in history—more than 265 million acres. In addition to protecting some of our nation’s most iconic and special places, President Obama’s conservation efforts have extended to landscapes, creatures and plants around the country. In fact, the Obama Administration has brought to successful conclusion more wildlife recoveries than any other Administration.

The Obama Administration has taken many steps to ensure that our natural national treasures— our land, water and wildlife—are preserved for our children and grandchildren. These actions benefit the iconic wildlife that represent and define our country, from the bison and the bald eagle, to the lesser-known yet critically important species that indicate ecosystem health like the Greater sage-grouse.

Wildlife and their habitats are uniquely at risk from climate change. For example, warming temperatures are likely to contribute to more pest outbreaks in mountain forests, and sea level rise is threatening coastal marshes where some wildlife make their homes. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) found that 20-30% of all species are at risk of extinction from climate change. The Administration’s actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change have long-term benefits for wildlife. In addition, many of these landscape-level wildlife conservation strategies are win-wins, making both ecosystems and human communities more resilient to future impacts from climate change.

A vital tool in ongoing efforts to protect American wildlife is the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Signed into law in 1973, the ESA has had a 99 percent success rate in preventing listed species from going extinct. But just as important, the ESA has also led to critical actions that have rapidly conserved at-risk species before they need to be listed as endangered or threatened. Behind every one of those efforts is a story of cooperation, with the knowledge that collaboration at the outset can help boost America’s natural heritage, our economic activity, and our quality of life.

During this Administration, the ESA has played a role in 99 “wildlife wins” for American wildlife and endangered species, subspecies, and animal populations. Some of these success stories, like the conservation of the Greater sage-grouse and the New England cottontail, were made possible through innovative tools and partnerships developed by a diverse set of Federal, state, local, and tribal leaders and individuals throughout this Administration. Others, like the Louisiana black bear—the inspiration for the “teddy” bear famously pardoned by President Teddy Roosevelt in 1902—were brought back from the brink of extinction over decades, thanks to actions supported by the ESA.

This analysis finds that under President Obama’s leadership, we’ve achieved and recognized more victories for wildlife conservation than under any administration in history. These Wildlife Wins include:

- **45 recoveries and prevented listings:** A recovery is when a species’ population increases enough over time that it is formally removed from the Endangered Species list, or avoids a listing altogether. This includes 44 species of U.S. wildlife, and one more recovery of a species found outside the U.S.

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- **21 proposed or recommended wildlife recoveries:** There are currently 21 proposed or recommended wildlife recoveries that are on their way to being removed from the Endangered Species list. These species have been formally proposed for removal by an agency, or have been identified and recommended by agency scientists for removal, but have not yet been officially declared recovered.
- **11 species “downlisted”:** Eleven species have been “downlisted,” which refers to changing the status of an “endangered” species to a more secure status of “threatened” under the ESA, as their population has improved and the species is stabilizing.
- **22 species proposed or recommended to be “downlisted” from endangered to threatened:** Twenty-two species have been proposed to be “downlisted” as their status has improved, or have been recommended for downlisting by agency scientists but not yet formally proposed.

Over the last 43 years, the ESA has had a remarkable record in protecting and supporting the recovery of some of our most imperiled species and their habitats. This white paper summarizes the 99 recent successes that the ESA and America’s network of wildlife conservation tools have achieved, and also details the numerous other categories of success that show sustained progress in protecting and restoring wildlife both domestically and abroad.

A Remarkable History

In the early 1900s, the near-extinction of the bison and the disappearance of the passenger pigeon sparked the first mass public concern for our nation's wildlife, spurring legislation like the Lacey Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The first truly comprehensive species protection legislation, however, was the ESA's predecessor, the Endangered Species Preservation Act, which was enacted by Congress in 1966. However, species protection efforts under this law were deemed to be inadequate, and activists and others called on Congress to pass stricter legislation: the Endangered Species Act, which was signed into law by President Nixon at the end of 1973. At the time, President Nixon stated that the law "grants the Government both the authority to make early identification of endangered species and the means to act quickly and thoroughly to save them from extinction."

Since the passage of the ESA, the Department of the Interior's (DOI) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have worked with State and Federal agencies, local governments, tribes, academic scientists, private landowners, and the public to prevent the extinction of imperiled species. Today, more than 1,500 animals and plants in America have some form of Federal protection. The law also protects 673 foreign species, principally by regulating commercial trade.

The ESA's flexibility promotes voluntary partnerships with private landowners, agencies, non-profit organizations and others to support America's unique wildlife and healthy economic development. By helping to sustain the habitats that are critical to the activities that hunters, anglers, birders, hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts enjoy, the ESA ensures that where wildlife thrives, people prosper.

Innovative Collaborations by Agencies Help Species

Key to the success of the Endangered Species Act is cooperation across all levels—from the Federal government to state governments, local governments and communities, and stakeholders such as ranchers, farmers and outdoor recreationists. The Obama Administration's agencies, particularly USFWS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and NMFS, have implemented innovative tools to work effectively with different sectors. These tools are proactive and are intended to make sure that all stakeholders have a seat at the decision-making table, that agencies address potential issues before conflicts escalate, and that affected parties receive some level of regulatory certainty.

Innovative Partnership Programs

Working Lands for Wildlife, a strategic partnership between USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service, USFWS and other partners, provides tools to farmers and ranchers to help improve habitat for wildlife, including at-risk and listed species. Through this partnership, producers receive technical and financial assistance to voluntarily make improvements to working lands, which are both good for wildlife and agricultural production. So far, the program has helped conserve and restore more than 6.7 million acres of high-value wildlife habitat, aiding many species such as the Greater sage-grouse in the West and the New England cottontail in the Northeast. Both of these species – in large part because of voluntary conservation efforts on private lands – are on the rebound. The benefits of the program extend to hundreds of other species that share the same ecosystems. Participating landowners also receive regulatory predictability related to endangered species.

The Sentinel Landscapes program is a collaborative effort between USFWS, Department of Defense (DoD), and USDA with the goal of supporting military readiness, restoring and protecting wildlife habitat, and preserving agricultural lands. The initiative promotes the protection of at-risk and listed species under the ESA by working to protect the buffer zones around military lands, which helps with development encroachment on these lands and creates greater management flexibility for DoD facilities that are essential to national defense and local economies. The first designated Sentinel Landscape at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington currently supports the recovery of three listed species whose remaining populations exist largely on the base: the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly, the streaked horned lark, and the Mazama pocket gopher.

Providing Deadlines

In 2011, the USFWS established a multi-year work plan to provide timelines for listing determinations (e.g., listing determinations under the ESA for a given species must be made by a given date).ⁱ Through this work plan, the USFWS has dramatically reduced the amount of litigation over species listings, and has instead focused its limited resources on the actual conservation of candidate species—the purpose of the ESA. This clarity and certainty has in turn catalyzed stakeholders to engage in historic conservation efforts to address species' needs, including the New England cottontail, Greater sage-grouse, Bi-state sage-grouse and Arctic grayling.

Targeting Resources

NMFS's "Species in the Spotlight" campaign is an example of focusing resources and partnerships to protect listed species in a comprehensive and targeted way, prioritizing species that are the most at risk of extinction and helping them on the path toward recovery. The campaign is a concerted effort to rally individuals, agencies, groups, tribes, and organizations to ensure these species survive and help turn the corner towards recovery. For this effort, NMFS has engaged public and private sector partners in collaborative actions to spur recovery for eight species critically in need of support. The effort is guided by targeted, detailed five-year action plans for each species that build upon existing recovery plans and identify focused efforts to take over the coming years. The "Species in the Spotlight" initiative will guide agency actions where NMFS can make critical investments to safeguard these species.

Ongoing Progress

Building on these successes, the Obama Administration is pursuing an additional suite of actions to improve the effectiveness of the ESA and demonstrate its flexibility. The actions will engage the states, promote the use of the best available science and transparency in the scientific process, incentivize voluntary conservation efforts, and focus resources in ways that will generate even more successes under the ESA.

It's not just the ESA: Other Tools are Critical to Success

The ESA is just one component of a network of governmental and non-governmental actions that have contributed to national efforts to conserve the country's wildlife. This includes the work of more than 50 State and Tribal wildlife agencies, as well as more than 1,500 land trusts and other private organizations that work to protect open space and important habitat.

Other Federal laws like the 100-year old Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the Lacey Act limit the harvest, killing, and trade of many species, and have kept countless populations of animals from declining to the point of becoming endangered. In addition, America's state

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and Federal lands cover more than 785 million acres and can serve as strongholds for wildlife. However, private landowners hold the majority of land in the country,ⁱⁱ and their work—often done voluntarily—has been equally critical to effective conservation across the country. Thanks to these efforts, the ESA has been successful in turning around the status of 99 percent of endangered and threatened species, supporting their recovery so they have a secure future for generations to come.

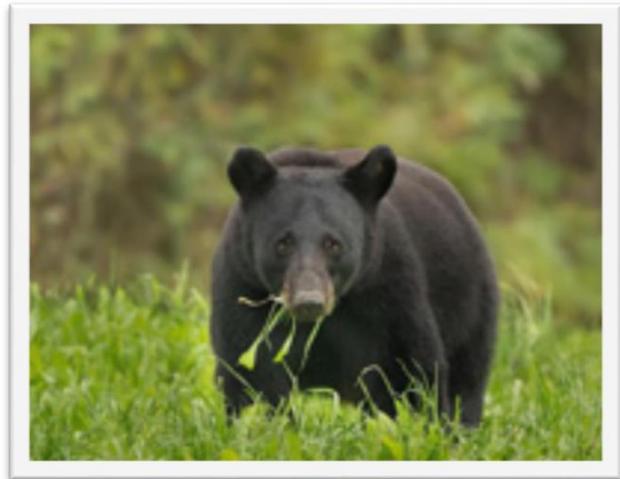
99 Wildlife Wins

The Obama Administration has overseen 99 successful actions in the conservation of wildlife under the Endangered Species Act. These successes come at different steps in the process—in some instances species have been removed from the list entirely, whereas in others their populations have stabilized enough to downgrade the seriousness of their endangered status. No matter how it is counted, however, each step towards recovery of a species is critical, and is a win for that species.

Species Recoveries

Declaring a species to have achieved “recovered” status is the ultimate goal of the ESA. Once a species reaches that point, ESA protections are no longer necessary. Recovery is the process of stopping the decline of an endangered or threatened species by removing or reducing threats so that the species’ long-term survival is no longer in jeopardy.¹ Since the ESA’s passage in 1973, 30 animals and plants have reached this benchmark in the U.S.

The American alligator was one of the first species to recover and be removed from Federal protection in 1985, and its population now numbers in the millions throughout the southeastern U.S.ⁱⁱⁱ The Nation’s official symbol, the bald eagle, is another example of a fantastic wildlife recovery – bald eagle populations have grown from only 500 breeding pairs in the lower 48 states in the 1970’s to more than 72,000 eagles spread across the country today. The Louisiana black bear is one of the most recent examples of a recovery under the Act. After 24 years of collaborative effort, the bear was declared recovered in March of 2016.



When the species was added to the endangered species list in 1992, only approximately 150 bears were left. The majority of Louisiana black bear habitat falls on private lands, which allowed USDA and USFWS to work with forest landowners and other private landowners to voluntarily restore more than 485,000 acres of bottomland hardwood forests—a key component of the bear’s habitat.^{iv}

¹ For the purposes of this white paper, a “recovered” species is a species found in the U.S. and its territories that was listed under the ESA and taken off due to sufficient population recovery and threat reduction. Agencies may protect and count recovery successes for separate populations or subspecies of the same species, and for the purposes of this white paper we use this same counting method. That is, if two distinct population segments (DPSs) of, for example, the green sea turtle were listed and then recovered, we count the recovery of these two DPSs as two distinct successes, even though it is the same species ultimately. This is true for each of the other categories as well—proposed and recommended recoveries and downlistings for foreign and domestic populations, as well as prevented listings.

Private land conservation work has been paired with action on National Wildlife Refuges, state lands and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lands that have delivered further improvements for the bear. For example, Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge in Louisiana has a primary mission to preserve and manage habitat for the bear, and the Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge, also in Louisiana, permanently protects areas of its essential habitat. With the bear's recovery, the Obama Administration has finalized more endangered species recovery decisions than any previous administration.

Oregon Chub

The Oregon Chub recently became the first fish in history to be delisted because of recovery.^v It was listed as endangered in 1993, as there were only eight known populations due to threats to its main habitat—the Willamette River—which stopped the periodic flooding that the Chub relies on to disperse. By 2007, there were 38 known populations, and the Fish and Wildlife Service downlisted the Oregon chub to threatened. In 2010, there were 50 known populations with an upward trend in stability, allowing for the fish to be de-listed entirely.



This recovery was due in large part to a recovery plan, published in 1998, for the Chub, and efforts in cooperation with private landowners which protected existing wild populations, re-introduced the Chub into other suitable habitats, and increased public awareness.

Avoided Listings

While the story of the Louisiana black bear is one of a species that was listed, protected, and then de-listed under the Act, conservation efforts for other species have achieved a different milestone that is an equally important kind of recovery: avoiding the need to be listed in the first place. These animals and plants were identified as potentially needing protection under the ESA, but before any listing occurred, action by states, tribes, local landowners and Federal agencies was successful in ensuring the species did not need the protection of being listed under the ESA in order to thrive.

Some of the best examples of species that avoided listing under the ESA due to other conservation actions are the Greater sage-grouse and the New England cottontail. In many cases, species kept off the endangered list in this way are ones with a small number of localized threats, where a single action or coordinated set of actions can resolve that threat and ensure the species' survival—this is true for the New England cottontail. However, other species like the sage-grouse required large-scale conservation work and coordination among partners and across landscapes in order to protect the species and its habitat.

Greater Sage-Grouse



Due to unprecedented conservation cooperation across the western United States, the Greater sage-grouse—a ground-dwelling bird located across the West on sagebrush landscapes—successfully avoided the need for legal protection under the ESA. The Greater sage-grouse conservation strategy comprised the largest landscape-level conservation effort in U.S. history. All affected states developed their own conservation strategies, and state and Federal partnerships with more than 1,100 ranchers will now work to conserve or restore 4.4 million acres of habitat through programs that provide financial assistance for conservation. Federal agencies finalized 98 plans for different regions of federally managed

public lands that used the best available science to resolve the primary threats to sage-grouse and its habitat, and a national strategy to deal with rangeland fire was put in place. In total, coordinated efforts by all involved stakeholders generated plans that protect nearly 70 million acres of important habitat, and will also benefit more than 350 other rangeland species including mule deer, elk and golden eagles.

New England Cottontail

The New England cottontail is the only rabbit native to New England, and was the inspiration for author Thornton Burgess's "The Adventures of Peter Cottontail." After the 1960's, the cottontails' range shrank by 86 percent as its habitat disappeared, resulting in it becoming a candidate for listing in 2006. However, in 2015, the USFWS determined that the cottontail would not need to be listed because of the success of other conservation efforts, highlighting the way in which the ESA can catalyze strategic partnerships and the manner in which this Administration's innovations have led to conservation successes.

First, a number of the northeastern states led work to develop the science and specific restoration techniques needed to restore cottontail habitat, which is primarily young forests.

Next, USDA through its Working Lands for Wildlife program supported voluntary conservation efforts by farmers and landowners across New England. And finally, Candidate Conservation Agreements—voluntary conservation agreements between USFWS and one or more public or private parties—were developed to provide regulatory certainty, assuring non-government partners that they would not face additional regulation in light of their voluntary conservation actions.



Foreign Recoveries

In addition to American plants and wildlife, the ESA also allows foreign species to be listed as endangered or threatened, which provides protection for the animal being traded, imported into, or exported from the United States. For example, African elephants have been protected under the ESA since 1978 because these charismatic animals have long been illegally poached, in massive numbers, due to the ivory that their tusks provide. The Obama Administration has proposed a near complete ban on commercial trade in ivory to expand our efforts to combat illegal poaching of elephants in Africa. At present, four foreign species have recovered and been removed from the endangered list.

Proposed and Recommended Recoveries

As of April 2016, USFWS and NMFS have formally proposed another nine domestic species or subspecies and nine foreign species and subspecies for recovered status, and have sought public comment on the decision through notice in the Federal Register. These proposed decisions may be finalized in 2016 or later years, or if new information indicates the species are not yet stable, they may retain endangered or threatened status.

In addition, the ESA requires USFWS and NMFS to review the status of each listed species every five years. These 'status reviews' provide comprehensive information on whether an animal or plant is faring well or poorly, and prioritize conservation strategies that should be implemented or continued over the next five years. The scientists that develop these reviews also provide their expert assessment of whether a species is recovered. USFWS has recommended three additional recoveries of plants and animals in conjunction with the nine already under review. These may be officially proposed as recovered species later this year, or in the future.

Yellowstone Grizzly Bear

After 41 years as an endangered species, sustained investments in conservation and collaboration among Federal and state agencies, tribes, scientists, and the public pushed the grizzly bear to a proposed recovery status in 2016. At the time it was listed, the species was reduced to just two percent of its historic habitat south of Canada. Approximately five distinct populations remained, totaling 800 to 1,000 bears. The most isolated population occupied Yellowstone National Park.

To achieve recovery of the grizzly bear, Federal and state agencies took a number of actions. First, they stopped grizzly bear hunting in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, established the Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Recovery Area, and created the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team to coordinate bear management among the Federal agencies and state wildlife managers. Federal agencies also established the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee to increase communication and cooperation among managers in all recovery areas and to supervise public education programs, sanitation initiatives, and research studies. The National Park Service and USDA's Forest Service are



using the Grizzly Conservation Strategy to sustain the region's grizzly populations and its habitat. This strategy has been effective because of coordination and cooperation among stakeholders.

Species' Threat Levels Lowered from Endangered to Threatened

The decline of a wildlife species can take place over years, decades, or centuries, as their habitat is lost or other threats take a toll. Once listed as endangered, it may take many years for conservation efforts to halt the decline of an animal and result in its status improving to the point that protections under the ESA are no longer needed. To measure success, Congress added a second category to the law—threatened species—to allow the country to protect species that are at risk of becoming endangered, but are less imminently imperiled. Many species have been formally reclassified from endangered to the lower level of threatened—including nine domestic species under the Obama Administration—and almost all of these species have continued to see further improvements in population numbers, or reductions in threats.



Wood Bison

In 1974, the wood bison, historically found in Alaska and Canada, appeared on the first list of endangered species under the ESA. The species was originally classified as endangered until May 3, 2012, when it was reclassified as threatened under the ESA due to successful recovery efforts. Integral to the species' recovery was the discovery of a pristine, disease-free population of wood bison in 1959 in Canada. Today, most of the world's current population of wood bison was derived from 37 animals that were captured and relocated from this herd.

Through captive breeding and reintroduction efforts, Canada increased the total number of herds from one in 1978, to seven herds with a total of more than 4,400 animals today. Furthermore, in 2015, Alaska Department of Fish and Game introduced a nonessential experimental population (NEP) of 130 captive bred wood bison in an effort to restore a bison population in Alaska's northern ecosystem. The population is currently being closely monitored with the goal of future reintroductions to follow.

Florida Green Sea Turtle

In April 2016, NMFS and USFWS announced the reclassification of the Florida and Mexico green sea turtle populations from endangered to threatened. Years of coordinated conservation efforts, including protection of nesting beaches, reduction of bycatch in fisheries, and prohibitions on the direct harvest of sea turtles, led to a significant increase in the number of turtles nesting in Florida and along the Pacific coast of Mexico. For instance, in 2015, more than 12,000 sea turtles dug nests at a national wildlife refuge in Florida that previously only had 50 or fewer nests in the 1980s.



Although significant challenges remain to conserving and restoring green sea turtle populations around the world, these two distinct populations are on the road to recovery, and agencies and partners continue to study green sea turtles to ensure that conservation and management decisions are driven by the best available science.

Proposed or Recommended Threatened Downlistings

In addition to the plants and animals that have formally been reclassified from endangered to threatened, agencies have identified and proposed for reclassification another three species that they believe face a lower threat level because of conservation action. However, a final regulatory action to reclassify is not yet complete. The manatee, a marine mammal found in Florida and the Caribbean, is in this category. In addition, 15 species have been recommended for reclassification through the five-year status review process, in which agency staff review all of the conservation actions, changes in threats, and new science for a given species and potentially make a new recommendation based on this information. These expert recommendations have not yet been formalized through agency action, but the status reviews provide significant evidence supporting the efforts that have benefited each species and led scientists and others to believe that a species is less at risk than when it was first protected under the ESA.

California Least Tern



The California Least Tern is a coastal bird that nests in colonies on the Pacific coast of California and Baja, Mexico. While in the early twentieth century it was threatened by the trade in feathers for women's hats, its population has more recently faced threats from growing development and recreational pressures on the coasts of California.

In 1970, when it was placed on the endangered species list, just 225 nesting tern pairs were

recorded. Today, thanks to strong efforts to create secure management areas for its nesting and breeding, the bird's population is back to a stable 1,200 breeding pairs and is present in 33 colonies along the coast. Permanent management commitments are needed to ensure that the bird continues to be protected, allowing its population to grow, but the species has been recommended for reclassification.

Species on the Road to Recovery

This white paper provides a progress update on species that have met formal milestones under the ESA. However, there are many more species that have not reached such a formal milestone, but that are significantly better off because of actions taken since they were protected under the ESA.

California Condor

The California condor - the largest bird in North America – is another hallmark example of the ESA's success. In 1982, with only 23 individuals in the world, the condor was on the verge of extinction. USFWS and its partners implemented an aggressive strategy that involved biologists capturing the last remaining wild condors in 1982 to bring them into a captive breeding and reintroduction program. Since then, the condor population has grown to 410 birds. There are more condors in the wild now than there have been in approximately 60 years, with populations reintroduced to the Grand Canyon as well as to Mexico.



Black-Footed Ferret

The black-footed ferret was declared extinct in 1979, when the last known captive animal died. It wasn't until 1981, when a single remaining population was found in Wyoming, that an intense captive breeding and reintroduction program was introduced under the ESA to save the species. The first reintroduction took place in 1991 in Wyoming, and since then, 19 additional reintroductions have taken place across eight states within the U.S. as well as Mexico and Canada.

Furthermore, the population is estimated to have increased from the original 18 captive bred and released animals to approximately 750 ferrets in 17 locations. Although the species is not at a point of full recovery, it has come a long way and continues to make progress. The commitment and funding provided under the ESA has led to collaborations with dozens of federal, state and tribal agencies, in cooperation with private landowners, conservation groups, and the North American zoo community, to save what would have otherwise been an extinct species.



Conclusion

With more than 2,250 species listed under the Endangered Species Act, the nation still has a long way to go in helping to recover wildlife near the brink of extinction. As climate change intensifies, many species will face new threats to their habitats and food sources, which will often force migrations and other changes in populations. A growing number of humans also means new threats to species and their habitats, especially as development increases. In fact, a new analysis found that natural areas in the West are disappearing—whether to development or other encroachments—at the rate of a football field every two and half minutes.^{vi} From a wildlife perspective, that amounts to significant habitat loss in the face of other increasing stressors and threats.

To support the growing need for conservation today and to plan for the challenges of tomorrow, the ESA remains a critical and effective tool. Implementation of and innovation under the ESA may continue to grow and change, but it is unrivaled in its success in protecting our nation's iconic wildlife and habitats. With continued federal, state, local and tribal support and cooperation, the ESA remains our best bet for protecting our treasured wildlife—and for achieving ongoing wildlife wins.

Appendix

For the purposes of this white paper, a “recovered” species is a species found in the United States and its territories that was listed under the ESA and taken off due to sufficient population recovery and threat reduction. Agencies may protect and count as recovery successes separate populations or subspecies of the same species, and for the purposes of this white paper we use this same counting method. That is, if two distinct population segments (DPSs) of, for example, the green sea turtle were listed and then recovered, we count the recovery of these two DPSs as two distinct successes, even though it is the same species ultimately. This is true for each of the other categories as well—including proposed and recommended recoveries and downlistings for foreign and domestic populations, as well as prevented listings.

Table 1. Distinct Wildlife Successes under the Obama Administration, by Category of Success^{vii}

Category	Species	Year
Final Recoveries	Louisiana black bear	2016
	Johnston’s frankenia	2016
	Modoc sucker	2015
	Oregon chub	2015
	Delmarva Peninsula fox squirrel	2015
	Island night lizard	2014
	Magazine Mountain Shagreen	2013
	Virginia northern flying squirrel	2013
	Steller Sea lion, Eastern population	2013
	Concho water snake	2011
	Lake Erie water snake	2011
	Northern Rockies Gray wolf	2011
	Tennessee purple coneflower	2011
	Maguire daisy	2011
	Brown pelican	2009
Proposed Recoveries	Humpback whale, Hawaii population	2015
	Yellowstone grizzly bear	2016
	Santa Cruz Island fox	2015
	Santa Rosa Island fox	2015
	San Miguel Island fox	2015
	White-haired goldenrod	2015
	Inyo California towhee	2013
	Eureka Dune grass	2011
	Eureka Valley evening-primrose	2011
Recommended Recoveries	Hidden Lake bluecurls	2015
	Interior least tern	2013
	Water howellia	2013
	Humpback whale, Oceania population	2015

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Foreign, Proposed Recoveries	Humpback whale, East Australia population	2015
	Humpback whale, Southeast Africa / Madagascar population	2015
	Humpback whale, West Indies population	2015
	Humpback whale, Brazil population	2015
	Humpback whale, Southwest Africa / Gabon population	2015
	Humpback whale, West Australia population	2015
	Humpback whale, Southeastern Pacific population	2015
	Humpback whale, Mexico population	2015
Foreign Recovery	Morelet's Crocodile	2012
Prevented listings		
Prevented listings	Greater sage-grouse	2015
	Greater sage-grouse, Bi-state population	2015
	Goose Creek milkvetch	2015
	Nevarés Spring naucorid bug	2015
	Page springsnail	2015
	Ramshaw meadows sand verbena	2015
	Siskiyou mariposa lily	2015
	Tahoe yellow cress	2015
	Southern Idaho ground squirrel	2015
	New England cottontail	2015
	Graham beardtongue	2014
	White River beardtongue	2014
	Arctic grayling	2014
	Georgia aster	2014
	Least chub	2014
	Packard's milkvetch	2014
	Rio Grande cutthroat trout	2014
	Coral Pink Sand Dunes tiger beetle	2013
	Brand's phacelia	2013
	Orcutt's hazardia	2013
	Soldier Meadows Cinquefoil	2013
	Yadkin River goldenrod	2013
	Dunes sagebrush lizard	2012
	Christ's paintbrush	2012
	Elongate mud meadows springsnail	2012
	Mardon skipper	2012
	Wekiu bug	2011
	Flat-tailed horned lizard	2011
Sacramento Mountains checkerspot butterfly	2009	

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Downlistings from Endangered to Threatened	Green sea turtle, South Atlantic population	2016
	Green sea turtle, East Pacific population	2016
	Santa Cruz cypress	2016
	Wood stork, SE US population	2014
	San Clemente Island Indian paintbrush	2013
	San Clemente Island Lotus	2013
	Wood Bison	2012
	Okaloosa Darter	2011
	Tulotoma snail	2011
Foreign, Downlistings from Endangered to Threatened	Straight-horned Markhor	2014
	Broad-snouted Caiman, Argentina population	2013
Proposed Downlistings	West Indian manatee	2016
	Santa Catalina Island fox	2016
	Columbian white-tailed deer, Columbia River population	2015
	Woodland caribou, Selkirk Mountains population	2014
	Tidewater goby	2014
Foreign, Proposed Downlistings	Humpback whale, Western North Pacific population	2015
	Humpback whale, Central America population	2015
Recommended Downlistings	Snake River physa snail	2014
	Cumberland sandwort	2013
	Kirtland's warbler	2012
	Borax lake chub	2012
	Beach layia	2012
	Running buffalo clover	2011
	Smooth coneflower	2011
	Stephen's kangaroo rat	2011
	Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly	2010
	Topeka shiner	2010
	Tobusch fishhook cactus	2010
	Mitracarpus polycladus	2010
	Florida golden aster	2009
	Northeastern bulrush	2009
Virgin Islands tree boa	2009	

Endnotes

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