



Appendix 3.6-1

Terrestrial Buffers

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A3.6-1 Wildlife Buffer Setbacks

The following table summarizes recommended buffer setbacks around important wildlife features. Project components should be constructed and operated outside of these buffers. The applicant must verify and update these buffers in consultation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

Species	Species' Feature	Recommended Spatial Buffer around Feature	Reference(s) and Notes
Raptors			
Bald Eagle	Nest	0.5 miles	USFWS 2007
Golden Eagle	Nest	1.0 mile	Hansen et al. 2017
Ferruginous Hawk	Nest	12.5 miles	Watson and Azerrad 2024
Burrowing Owl	Nest	0.8 miles	Leupin 2004
American Goshawk	Nest	0.5 miles	Desimone and Hays 2003 Ruddock and Whitfield 2007
Flammulated Owl	Nest	0.31 miles	Government of BC 2013
Western Screech Owl	Nest	0.6 miles	BC MECCS 2019
Northern Spotted Owl	Nest	1.3 miles	USFWS 2019
Osprey, Falcons, and Other Raptors	Nest	0.5 miles	Carlisle et al. 2018 Government of BC 2013 Suter and Jones 1981
Mammals			
Wolverine	Dens	1.25 miles	BC MWLAP 2002
Ground Squirrels	Colonies/ Burrows	1.0 mile	Oregon DFW n.d.

Species	Species' Feature	Recommended Spatial Buffer around Feature	Reference(s) and Notes
Pygmy Rabbit	Colonies/ Burrows	5.0 miles	USFWS 2012
Bats, all	Hibernacula and Maternity Roosts	0.7 miles	Holroyd et al. 2016 Province of British Columbia n.d.
Ungulates	Calving Grounds	2.2 miles	Eftestøl et al. 2016.
Bighorn Sheep	Movement Corridors and Resting Areas	1.3 miles	BC MWLAP 2004
Pronghorn	Seasonal Range and Movement Corridors	0.25 miles	Autenrieth et al. 2006
Western Gray Squirrel	Nest Tree	400 feet	Linders et al 2010 Linders and Stinson 2007 Vander Haegen et al. 2004
Ungulate Mineral Licks and Wallows	Mineral Site Significant Wallow	660 feet	BC MECCS 2019
Bears	Den	0.62 miles	BC MWLRS 2024 BC MECCS 2019
Reptiles/ Amphibians			
Snakes, all	Hibernacula	0.62 miles	Government of BC, n.d.
Western Pond Turtle	Inhabited Waterbodies and Nests	0.50 miles	Nordstrom and Milner 1997
Northern Sagebrush Lizard	Duneland Habitat	Buffer around inland dunes 100 feet	USFWS 2024
Amphibians, all	Breeding Ponds and Sites	0.25 miles	Pilliod and Wind 2008
Birds			
Pelicans	Nest and Nesting Islands	1.0 mile	Doran et al. 1998

Species	Species' Feature	Recommended Spatial Buffer around Feature	Reference(s) and Notes
Woodpeckers	Nest	650 feet	BC TS 2017 Lewis and Azzerad 2003
Vaux's Swift	Nest, Roost	0.31 miles	Lewis et al. 2002
Marbled Murrelet	Nest	0.5 miles	Pacific Seabird Group. 2024.
Sandhill Crane	Breeding Meadows	0.75 miles	Bettinger and Milner 2000 Littlefield and Ivey 2002
Sharp-Tailed Grouse	Lek Core Habitat	5.0 miles	Stinson and Schroeder 2012 Schroeder and Tirhi 2003
Greater Sage-Grouse	Lek Core Habitat	5.0 miles	Schroeder et al. 2003

A3.6-2 Wildlife Timing Windows

Wildlife timing windows represent important periods throughout the year when certain wildlife guilds are particularly sensitive to disturbance. It is important to consider wildlife timing windows during construction planning to reduce potential disturbance to wildlife. The following wildlife timing windows identify periods when disturbance should be avoided. Each timing window is only applicable in areas where there is known or suspected activity of the stated species. Due to the annual and regional variability in the timing of wildlife activities, this list and timing periods should be verified with WDFW and updated as needed prior to implementation. Where timing windows cannot be adhered to, mitigation measures require the applicant to implement additional measures, such as preconstruction surveys in consultation with WDFW and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Lead Agency.

- Passerine nesting period (February to September)
- Eagle nesting period (January to July)
- Burrowing owl (mid-February to October)
- Northern spotted owl nesting period (March to October)
- Other raptor nesting period (mid-February to October)
- Sharp-tailed grouse (March to September)
- Greater sage grouse (mid-February to mid-June)
- Marbled murrelet (April to mid-September)
- Bear denning period (mid-October to April)
- Wolverine denning period (February to March)
- Fisher breeding and rearing period (mid-March to August)
- Bat timing windows
 - Maternity roost (May to September)
 - Hibernacula (December to April)
 - Fall migration (September to November)
 - Spring migration (March to June)
- Mazama pocket gopher (April to July)

- Western gray squirrel (March to September)
- Amphibian breeding and rearing period (February to October)
- Turtle nesting period (mid-May to mid-July)
- Snake brumation (i.e., hibernation) period (October to March)

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