

## << PREVIOUS MESSAGE

### Special Status Species

**Indicator:** Number of species federally listed as threatened or endangered, including proposed and candidate species, on both public and private lands, by county. The BLM addresses the conservation and protection of plants and animals that are federally listed, proposed, or candidates for listing as threatened and endangered. The BLM also includes species designated as BLM sensitive in the category of special status species. BLM sensitive species (not included on this map) includes plants and animals warranting conservation action because of their declining abundance or occurrence, vulnerability to human-related activities, or other associated problems.

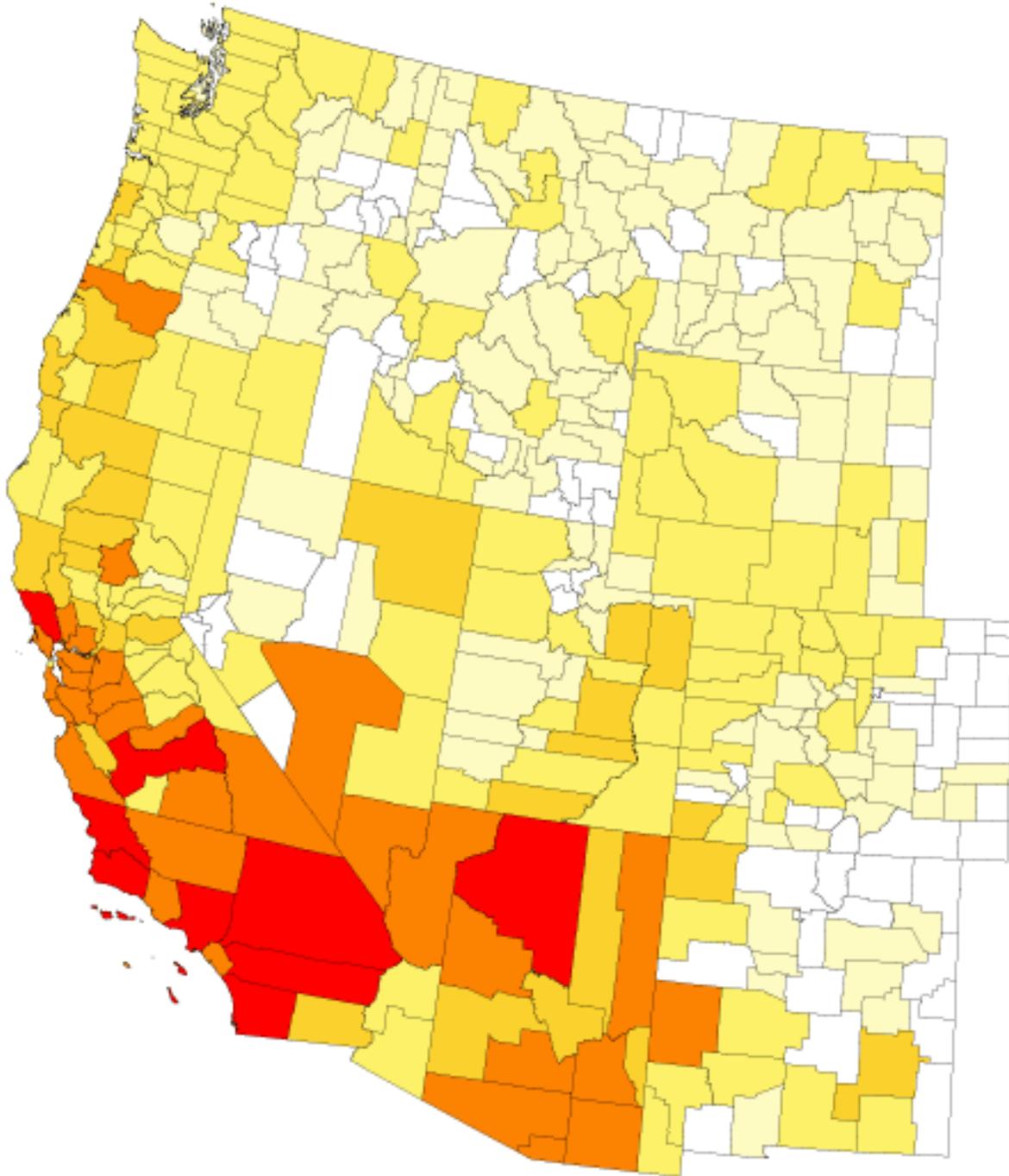
**Key Findings:** Public lands managed by the BLM support 228 species of plants and animals federally listed as threatened or endangered, 68 species proposed for listing, and 71 that are candidates for listing. Although not shown on the map, an additional 1500 species are designated as BLM sensitive. The map highlights those areas that contain relatively high numbers of listed, proposed, and candidate species, which may suggest unhealthy habitats. Further investigations are needed to determine causal factors and thus better guide management decisions.

**Limitations:** In some areas, the numbers of species alone will have little meaning. Because of large differences in county size, a county map is of limited use to show the relative distribution of special status species over the landscape. Species that appear in the same county may likely require different habitats. Furthermore, a county map cannot adequately distinguish those species with distributions that overlap many counties from those that appear in relatively small areas. Because site specific data for BLM lands are lacking, the best source for this information was external which did not differentiate between species occurring on and off BLM-managed lands. In addition, the data portrayed are incomplete as the 1500 BLM sensitive species are not included.

**Source:** This information is excerpted from Stein, B.A., Kutner, L.S., and Adams, J.S eds. 2000. *Precious Heritage: The Status of Biodiversity in the United States*. Oxford University Press, New York., with permission granted by The Nature Conservancy (<http://www.tnc.org>) and the Association for Biodiversity Information (<http://www.abi.org>).

**Comments:** The Association for Biodiversity Information will be able to provide more detail on BLM specific species in the future. Also, BLM's long term strategic goal is to develop baseline information for 40 federally listed/proposed and twenty BLM sensitive species each year for the next five years.

# Special Status Species



Threatened and Endangered Species  
also includes Proposed and Candidate  
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