

WASHINGTON'S  
STATE WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN

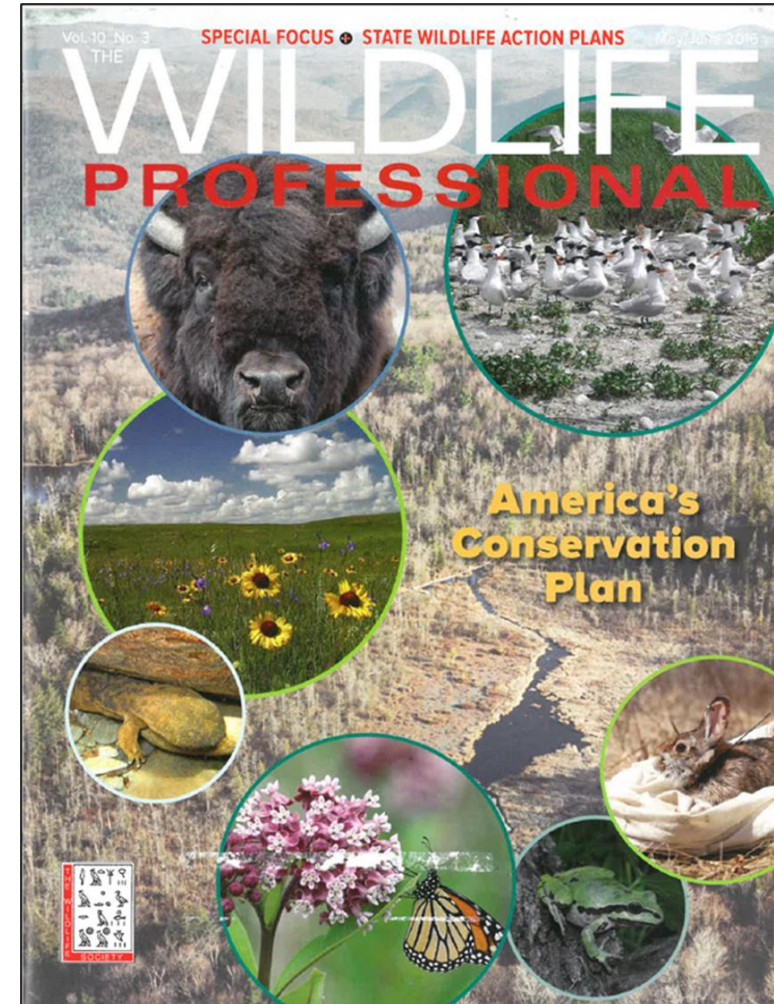
Version 3 – Due October 2025



# State Wildlife Action Plan for Washington

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- 2001 Congress created the State Wildlife Grants Program (SWG and C-SWG)
- **Purpose:** conserve wildlife and habitat before they become too rare or costly to restore
- Eligibility: **State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)**
- First SWAPs 2005, update required every 10 years
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) framed required 'Eight Elements' for all SWAPs






# SWAP Eight Required Elements

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- Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)
- *Related* habitats and systems
- Threats and issues
- Conservation actions
- Monitoring and adaptive management
- Plan review and update process
- Agency, tribe, and organization coordination
- Public engagement



Image: Fisher, WDFW

A Great Horned Owl is shown in profile, facing left, with its wings spread wide. The owl has a white face with a dark mask and large, yellow eyes. Its wings are dark with light-colored spots and streaks. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The owl is perched on a thin, brown branch.

# Washington's SWAP 2005 and 2015

- 268 SGCN
- Associated HGCN and ESOC
- Conservation Actions
- Climate Change vulnerability/risk assessments
- Monitoring
- Implementation
- Appendices – species fact sheets, potential ranges, supporting information

# SWG to WDFW FFY23/SFY24

SWG (and C-SWG) - important funding source for non-game conservation

SWAPs required to receive Recovering America's Wildlife Act funding, when it passes

FFY23	\$1,254,767	
FFY23/SFY24		
Wildlife	69.40%	\$870,808
Fish	19.90%	\$249,699
Habitat	10.70%	\$134,260
Total	100%	



Science	Diversity	
\$115,208	\$755,600	\$870,808
13.23%	86.77%	100.00%

# Funding AND ...

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- Communicate conservation need and priorities
- Enable interstate (WA, OR, ID primarily), international (Canada), and intergovernmental (Tribes) communication and partnership on shared conservation priorities
- Share expertise and priorities to engage and enable action by others - RCO funding criteria, USFS/BLM ISSSSP, NPS shared priorities, NFWF, NGOs
- Explicit connections among species, habitats, systems
- Frame how we and our partners can document progress and **effectiveness**
- Reference – fact sheets, range maps, bibliography; a digest of science-based institutional knowledge (snapshot)



# Bumble Bee Example

Community Science  
Species and Groups  
of Species  
information AND  
**management**

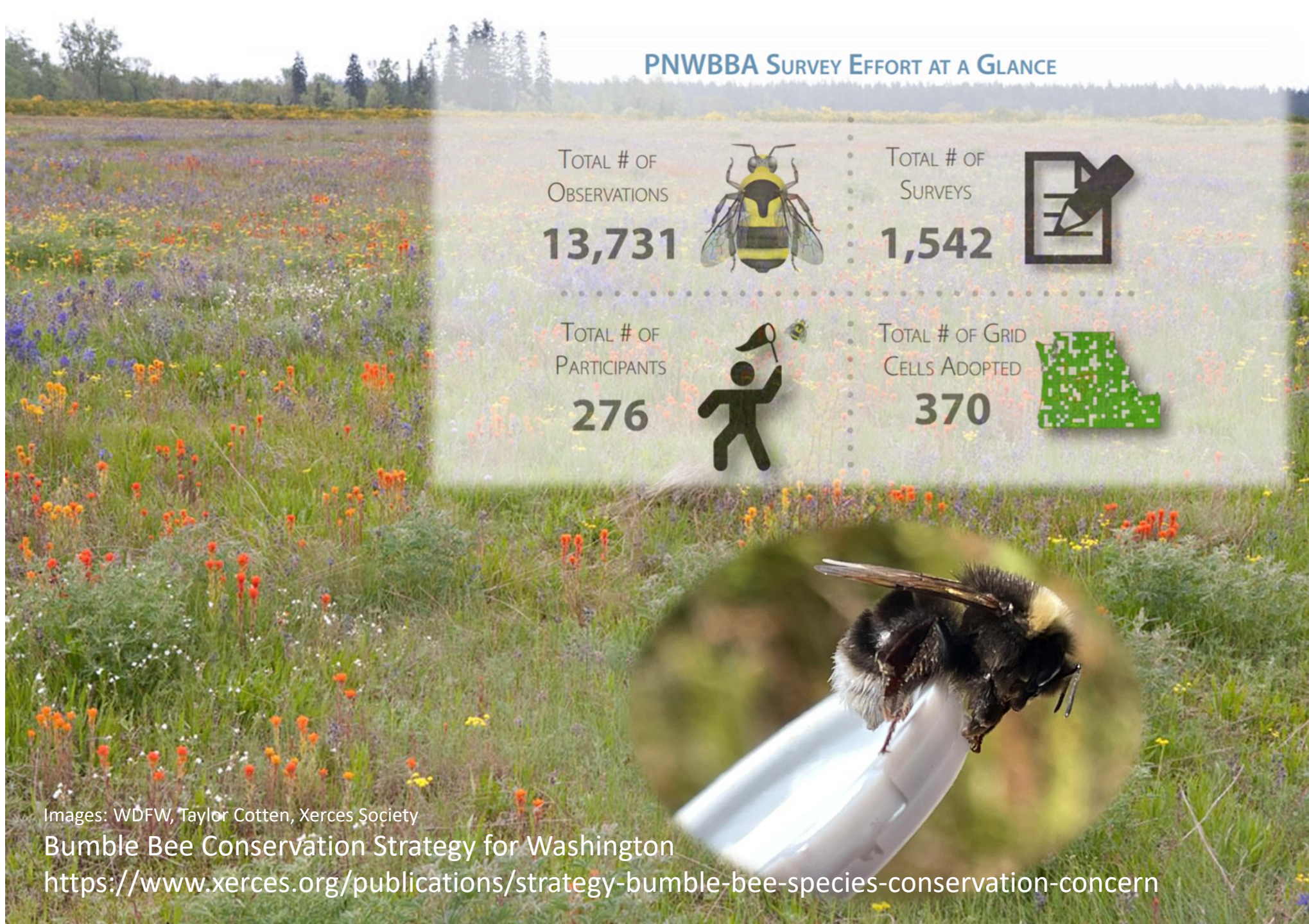
Strong partnerships

Inform federal and  
state status

Habitat Restoration

Washington State  
Conservation

Strategy



## PNWBBA SURVEY EFFORT AT A GLANCE

TOTAL # OF  
OBSERVATIONS

**13,731**



TOTAL # OF  
SURVEYS

**1,542**



TOTAL # OF  
PARTICIPANTS

**276**



TOTAL # OF GRID  
CELLS ADOPTED

**370**



Images: WDFW, Taylor Cotten, Xerces Society

Bumble Bee Conservation Strategy for Washington

<https://www.xerces.org/publications/strategy-bumble-bee-species-conservation-concern>



# Agency adoption and engagement

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SGCN/SWAP - focus internally, promote externally (PHS example)

## Strategic Plan

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/02149>

“80 percent of SGCN have been surveyed and incorporated into strategies and plans that ensure their conservation”

## Partner Engagement and Coordination

RAWA and Recovering Washington’s BioDiversity funding



WDFW





# Re-Vision Due October 2025

## Re-Vision Goals (so far)

not (just) a pdf, not multi-volume tome

Up-to-date and **updatable** information

Clearer relationships among species, habitats, systems, and conservation actions

More than a WDFW plan

Landscape conservation

Relevant and actionable climate adaptation strategies

Plants and other RAWA-readiness

Clearer relationship with other Agency products (i.e. Priority Habitats and Species)

Web-based, spatially enabled tool to serve conservation practitioners, landowners, and agencies

Meaningful engagement during development – Regions, public, partners, Tribes, Canada

1,095-page pdf

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/swap>

# Cross-Program Kickoff and Support

Steering Committees

Technical Committees

Councils

Triangle Report June 2023 – advising engagement



Images: Groundsquirrel, J. Abel; Sinlahekin Wildlife Area, Justin Haug; Spring Chinook salmon, John McMillan; others WDFW





# Questions?

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Wendy Connally

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

State Wildlife Action Plan Coordinator

[wendy.Connally@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:wendy.Connally@dfw.wa.gov)

