

# Recovering Wildlife Takes Time



Recovering wildlife is a challenge that takes time, especially given that some species have been in decline for over a century. Of the 35 species that have been successfully recovered under the Endangered Species Act, the time from initial protection to delisting averaged nearly 29 years. Unfortunately, most species protected under the Act were listed only following dramatic population declines, and recovery efforts have not yet had sufficient time to restore these populations. Presented below are the different stages of a few of America's wildlife species on the path to recovery.

While we work to conserve species most vulnerable to extinction we need to prevent other species from declining to the critical stage where they need Endangered Species Act Protection. Recovering America's Wildlife Act will allow states and tribes work with private and public partners to prevent further wildlife declines and assist the USFWS with safeguarding the most vulnerable species.

## Delisted Species

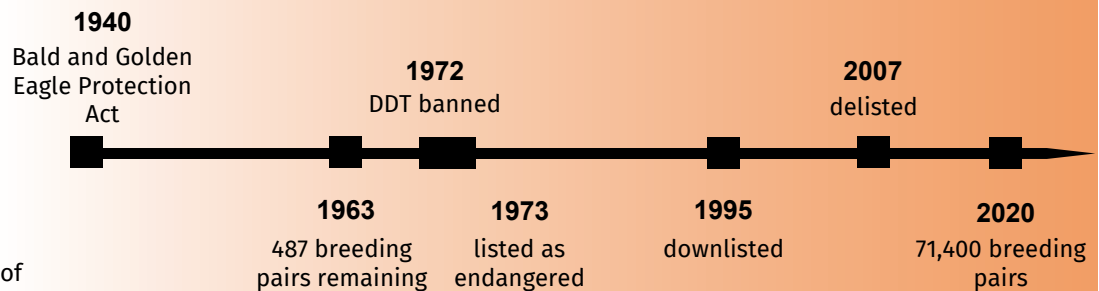
Delisting is the removal of species from the Federal Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. The following are examples of species delisted due to recovery.

### Bald eagle

(in the lower 48 states)



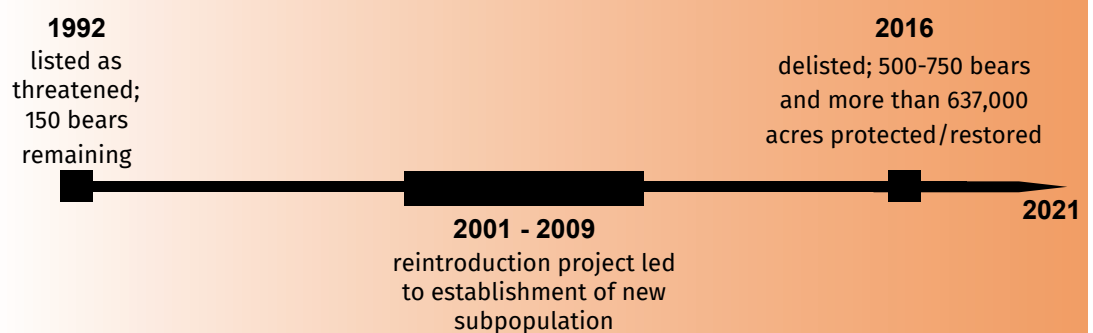
**Key conservation actions:** ban of DDT, habitat protection, captive breeding and reintroduction



### Louisiana black bear



**Key conservation actions:** habitat restoration and protection, reintroduction



### Snail darter



**Key conservation actions:** translocation and discovery of new populations



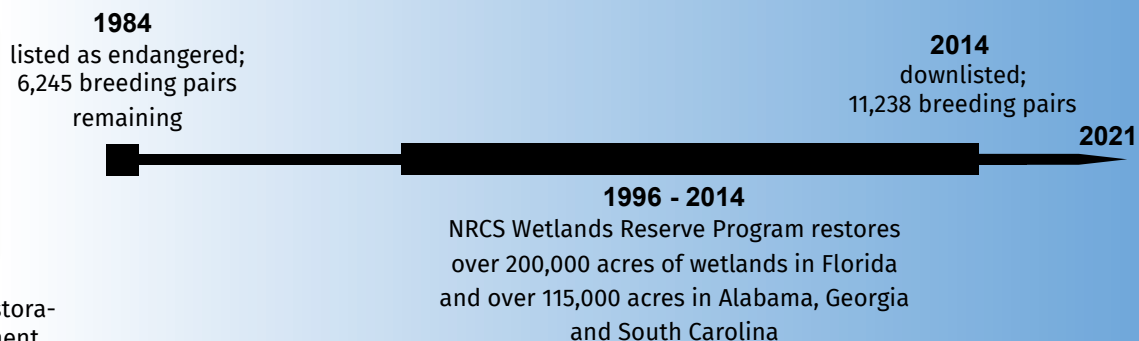
## Downlisted Species

Downlisting is the reclassification of a species from Endangered to Threatened.

### Wood stork



**Key conservation actions:**  
habitat protection and restoration, water level management



### Santa Cruz cypress



**Key conservation actions:**  
habitat protection and  
additional surveys



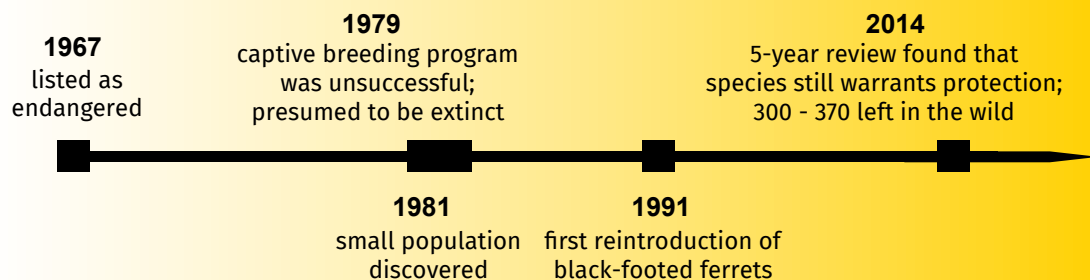
## Endangered Species

A species is classified as Endangered if it is in danger of extinction within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

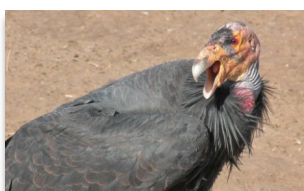
### Black-footed ferret



**Key conservation actions:**  
captive breeding and  
reintroduction



### California condor



**Key conservation actions:**  
captive breeding and  
reintroduction

