



NEWS BULLETIN

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Endangered Species Act Turns 40 on December 28



The recovery of the bald eagle owes its success to the Endangered species Act, which turns 40 on December 28. Photo USFWS.

The Endangered Species Act, the bipartisan legislation that is credited with saving hundreds of species from extinction, was signed into law by President Nixon 40 years ago on December 28, 1973.

This landmark law has been the catalyst for fully recovering 31 species, including the bald eagle, eastern population of Steller sea lion, American alligator, Lake Erie water snake and the Virginia northern flying squirrel. It continues to work today to protect and recover more than 2,100 animals and plants in the U.S. and around the world.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have assembled a wide range of resources to enable media to celebrate this historic occasion, including:

- [USFWS ESA 40th Anniversary Webpage](#) containing a decade-by-decade timeline; [state-by-state guide](#) with focal species, partnership stories, and additional resources; downloadable copies of the [Endangered Species Bulletin](#) newsletter; latest edition of Fish and Wildlife News magazine that focuses on the act; and a [full media kit](#) with b-roll, fact sheets and videos.
- [NOAA ESA 40th Anniversary Webpage](#), containing an [ESA overview](#) and [detailed species information](#) pages.
- [Quote sheet](#), including quotes from the Secretary of the Interior, FWS Director, NOAA leadership and others.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit www.fws.gov, or connect with us through any of these social media channels:



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