

**CALIFORNIA CONDOR POPULATION SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION**  
**July 1, 2003** (status through June 30, prepared July 3)  
**GENERAL SUMMARY**

**TOTAL POPULATION** **223**

**CAPTIVE POPULATION** **141**

<b>Los Angeles Zoo</b>	<b>38</b> (incl. 9 chicks)
<b>San Diego WAP</b>	<b>37</b> (incl. 8 chicks)
<b>WCBP Boise</b>	<b>50</b> (incl. 11 chicks)
<b>Mentor birds in field pens</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Pre-release birds in field pens</b>	<b>13</b>
Southern California	2
Central California	6
Baja California	0
Arizona	5

**WILD POPULATION** **82**

<b>California</b>	<b>41</b>
Southern California-released birds in wild	21 (incl. 1 wild chick)
Central California-released birds in wild	20
<b>Baja California</b>	<b>5</b>
In wild	3
Recaptured, temporarily holding in field pen	2
<b>Arizona</b>	<b>36</b>
In wild	34
Recaptured, temporarily holding in field pen	2

**Changes in June:**

So. Calif. – Wild birds were trapped for West Nile Virus inoculation. Four birds were taken to LAZ: An adult Central CA-released bird was treated for lead toxicity but died June 15 (necropsy report pending); another was treated for lead toxicity and released; a bird re-released two weeks earlier was held to recuperate longer for a prior leg injury; a fourth was treated for a chronic limp and released. Two birds were newly released.

Central California – Birds held for West Nile Virus inoculation, including one held for chelation treatment for lead toxicity, were released; death of one adult bird (see above).

Arizona – One bird was temporarily recaptured for behavioral reasons.

Los Angeles Zoo – two eggs received from WCBP were hatched at LAZ. A recaptured So. CA bird underwent femoral head surgery.

WCBP Boise – transferred two eggs to LAZ

SDWAP – transferred one chick to LAZ

**Eggs laid in 2003:**

Los Angeles Zoo – 7 laid, 7 hatched, 6 chicks surviving

San Diego WAP – 11 laid, 9 hatched, 9 surviving

WCBP Boise – 23 laid, 11 hatched at WCBP and 2 hatch at LAZ; all chicks are surviving.

Wild, California – 1 laid, 1 hatched, 1 chick surviving

Wild, Arizona – 3 laid, 1 broken, 1 failed (cause unknown), 1 unknown (probably hatched)

**Production for 2003 was 28 chicks in captivity and 1 or 2 chicks in the wild**

California Department of Fish and Game, Habitat Conservation Planning Branch  
[http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hcpb/species/t\\_e\\_spp/tebird/Condor%20Pop%20Stat.pdf](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hcpb/species/t_e_spp/tebird/Condor%20Pop%20Stat.pdf)

**See below for detailed summary and explanatory notes**

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July 1, 2003 (status through June 30, prepared July 3)

<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>		<b>223</b>
<b>CAPTIVE POPULATION</b>		<b>141</b>
<b>Los Angeles Zoo</b>	<b>38</b> (incl. 9 chicks)	
<b>San Diego WAP</b>	<b>37</b> (incl. 8 chicks)	
<b>WCBP Boise</b>	<b>50</b> (incl. 11 chicks)	
<b>Oregon Zoo</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Mentor birds in field pens</b>	<b>3</b> (SB# 63 in Cent. CA; # 64, Baja CA; #36, So. CA)	
<b>Pre-release birds in field pens</b>	<b>13</b>	
Southern California	2 (SB# 268, 277)	
Central California	6 (SB# 265, 266, 270, 278, 286, 287)	
Baja California	0	
Arizona	5 (SB# 273, 275, 276, 280, 282)	
<b>WILD POPULATION</b>		<b>82</b>
<b>California</b>		<b>41</b>
Southern California-released birds	21	
In wild	21 (incl. 1 wild chick)	
Recaptured, temporarily holding in field pen	0	
Central California-released birds	20	
In wild	20	
Recaptured, temporarily holding in field pen	0	
<b>Baja California</b>		<b>5</b>
In wild	3 (SB# 217, 220, 261)	
Recaptured, temporarily holding in field pen	2 (SB# 218, 259)	
<b>Arizona</b>		<b>36</b>
In wild	34	
Recaptured, temporarily holding in field pen	2 (SB# 250, 243)	

### Changes in June:

So. Calif. – Wild birds were trapped June 11-12 for West Nile Virus inoculation. Four birds were taken to LAZ June 12: SB# 170, a Central CA-released bird, was treated for lead toxicity but died June 15 (necropsy report pending); SB# 107 was treated for lead toxicity, released June 20; SB# 202, re-released two weeks earlier, was held to recuperate longer re prior leg injury; SB# 247 was treated for a chronic limp, released June 20. Newly released: SB# 267 and 289.

Central California – Birds held for West Nile Virus inoculation, including SB# 199 that was held for chelation treatment for lead toxicity, were released by July 1; death of SB# 170 (see above).

Arizona – SB# 243 temporarily recaptured for behavioral reasons

Los Angeles Zoo – two eggs received from WCBP on June 3 hatched June 18 and June 24; one chick received from SDWAP. SB# 238, a recaptured So. CA bird, underwent femoral head surgery.

WCBP Boise – transferred two eggs to LAZ

SDWAP – transferred one chick (hatched May 19) to LAZ

### Eggs laid in 2003:

Los Angeles Zoo – 7 laid, 7 hatched, 6 chicks surviving

San Diego WAP – 11 laid, 2 infertile, 9 hatched, 9 surviving

WCBP Boise – 23 laid, 5 infertile, 1 unkn, 4 non-viable, 11 hatched at WCBP, 11 surviving; 2 eggs transferred to LAZ also hatched and chicks are surviving.

Wild, California – 1 laid, 1 hatched, 1 chick surviving

Wild, Arizona – 3 laid, 1 broken, 1 failed (cause unknown), 1 unknown (probably hatched)

**Production for 2003 was 28 chicks in captivity and 1 or 2 chicks in the wild**

### **Wild population statistics**

**1992-95:** So. CA - 13 released (1992-93): 6 died, 7 returned to captivity permanently

**Since 1995:** 148 condors released (So. CA – 50; Cent. CA – 32\*; Baja CA – 5; AZ – 61) \*excl. #134 relocated to AZ

52 released-bird deaths (0 in 1995; 2 in 1996; 6 in 1997; 5 in 1998; 7 in 1999; 16 in 2000; 5 in 2001; 7 in 2002; 4 so far in 2003); 4 known nestling deaths

15 returned to captivity permanently, indefinitely (e.g., #238), or for extended treatment or rehabilitation (e.g., #202)

Jan. 1 totals: 13 in 1996; 25 in 1997; 40 in 1998; 44 in 1999; 52 in 2000; 53 in 2001; 59 in 2002; 80 in 2003

Egg-laying pairs in the wild, California: 2 in 2001; 3 in 2002; 1 in 2003

Egg-laying pairs in the wild, Arizona: 1 in 2001; 2 in 2002; 3 in 2003

Explanatory notes:

SB# - Condor Studbook number

"CAPTIVE POPULATION" includes:

- birds captured from the wild prior to 1988 that are still in a captive facility (e.g., zoo)
- previously released birds returned to captivity permanently or for care and possible re-release
- surviving chicks and juveniles (excludes eggs laid)
- captive-hatched birds retained for captive breeding
- young birds held in breeding facilities in preparation for transfer to a field pen for release
- "mentor birds" from a captive facility transferred temporarily into a field pen to aid socialization of pre-release birds
- birds transferred from a captive facility to a field pen in preparation for initial release or re-release
- WAP is Wild Animal Park (Zoological Society of San Diego); WCBP is World Center for Birds of Prey (The Peregrine Fund)

"WILD POPULATION" includes:

- free-flying birds recently accounted for
- free-flying birds, assumed to be alive, although not recently accounted for
- nestlings in wild nests
- temporarily re-captured wild birds, held in a field pen, that are intended to be re-released soon

"So. Calif." refers to birds originally released at sites from San Luis Obispo County to Ventura County by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Birds released in the two California release areas now freely intermingle.

"Central Calif." refers to birds originally released at sites north of San Luis Obispo County by the Ventana Wilderness Society. Birds released in the two California release areas now freely intermingle.

"Baja Calif." refers to birds originally released in Baja California by the Zoological Society of San Diego, the Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, and the Instituto Nacional de Ecología.

"Arizona" refers to birds in Arizona and several other states east of California, released by The Peregrine Fund.

Mortalities requiring law enforcement investigation often will not be publicly reported immediately.

California Department of Fish and Game  
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch

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