

CALIFORNIA CONDOR POPULATION SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION

May 1, 2004

(status through April 30, prepared May 4)

TOTAL POPULATION

232

CAPTIVE POPULATION

135

Los Angeles Zoo	27	(including 1 chick)
San Diego WAP	29	(including 7 chicks)
WCBP Boise	47	(including 6 chicks)
Oregon Zoo	12	(no chicks)
Mentor birds in field pens	3	
Pre-release birds in field pens	17	
Southern California	6	
Central California	2	
Baja California	3	
Arizona	6	

WILD POPULATION

97

California			47
Southern California-released birds		20	
Flying	20		
Central California-released birds		24	
Flying	22		
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	2		
Chicks in wild		3	
Baja California			5
Flying	5		
Arizona			45
Flying	44		
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	1		

Changes in April:

Arizona – One bird temporarily recaptured for behavioral reasons

One fertile egg transferred from SDWAP to LAZ for incubation

Wild, California - 3 chicks hatched

Eggs laid in 2004:

Los Angeles Zoo – 5 laid: 1 hatched, 2 incubating

San Diego WAP – 11 laid: 7 hatched, 1 incubating

WCBP Boise – 29 laid: 6 hatched, 11 incubating

Oregon Zoo – 2 laid: 2 incubating

Wild, California – 3 laid: 3 hatched

Wild, Arizona – 2 laid: 2 incubating

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

See below for detailed summary and explanatory notes

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Los Angeles Zoo	27 (including 1 chick)
San Diego WAP	29 (including 7 chicks)
WCBP Boise	47 (including 6 chicks)
Oregon Zoo	12 (no chicks)
Mentor birds in field pens	3 (SB# 36 in So. CA; # 63 in Centr. CA; # 64 in Baja CA)
Pre-release birds in field pens	17
Southern California	6 (SB# 294, 298, 301, 303, 311, 318)
Central California	2 (SB# 306, 317)
Baja California	3 (SB# 269, 279, 284)
Arizona	6 (SB# 291, 293, 297, 302, 314, 316)

WILD POPULATION

97

California		47
Southern California-released birds	20	
Flying	20	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	0	
Central California-released birds	24	
Flying	22	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	2 (SB# 265, 278)	
Chicks in wild	3	
Baja California		5
Flying	5	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	0	
Arizona		45
Flying (incl. one wild-fledged juvenile)	44	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	1 (SB# 273)	
Chicks in wild	0	

Changes in April:

Central CA – 2 birds (SB# 265, 278) temporarily retrapped for behavior/health reasons

Arizona - SB# 273 temporarily retrapped Apr. 22, behavioral reasons

Wild, California - 3 chicks hatched (on or about Apr. 9, Apr. 11, and Apr. 22)

Eggs laid in 2004:

Los Angeles Zoo – 5 laid: 1 non-viable, 1 broken, 2 incubating, 1 hatched and surviving

San Diego WAP – 11 laid: 1 infertile, 1 unkn, 1 died, 1 incubating, 7 hatched and surviving

WCBP Boise – 29 laid: 5 non-viable, 7 infertile, 11 incubating, 6 hatched and surviving

Oregon Zoo – 2 laid: 2 incubating, 1 fertile, 1 unkn.

Wild, California – 3 laid: 3 hatched and surviving

Wild, Arizona – 2 laid: incubating

Production in 2004 to date: 46 captive-laid eggs; 5 wild-laid eggs

Production in 2003: 28 offspring in captivity and 1 fledgling in the wild were produced from 41 captive-laid and 4 wild-laid eggs.

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.

Wild Population Statistics, May 1, 2004

1988-92: So. CA – 15 Andean condors released, 1 died, 14 returned to captivity, relocated

1992-95: So. CA - 13 California condors released in 1992-93: 6 died, 7 returned to captivity permanently

Since 1995:

165 California condors released (So. CA – 52; Cent. CA – 38; Baja CA – 5; AZ – 70)

58 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; 10 in 2003; 0 so far in 2004)

14 returned to captivity permanently, indefinitely, or for extended treatment or rehabilitation

Egg-laying pairs in the wild, California: 2 in 2001; 3 in 2002; 1 in 2003; 3 in 2004

Egg-laying pairs in the wild, Arizona: 1 in 2001; 2 in 2002; 3 in 2003; 2 in 2004

5 known deaths of nestlings in the wild in CA; 1 bird fledged in the wild in AZ

July 1 totals: 6 in 1995, 17 in '96, 29 in '97, 38 in '98, 49 in '99, 48 in '00, 56 in '01, 64 in '02, 82 in '03

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