

Waves, Wetlands, and Watersheds

Chapter 7: Alert! Species in Danger

Updates and Additional Information, October 2025

As of October 2025, the US Fish and Wildlife Service listed 2,388 species worldwide as endangered or threatened, of which 1,682 (744 animals, 938 plants) occur in the United States.

USFWS summary of listed species populations:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/boxscore>

There are 470 California species or subspecies (180 animals and 290 plants) listed as rare, threatened, or endangered by the State of California or the federal government.

California Department of Fish & Wildlife Threatened or Endangered Plant and Animal Lists:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/CESA>

The Brown Pelican, *Pelecanus occidentalis*, was delisted in 2009. Information on this species and its conservation history (with an emphasis on the Channel Islands):

<http://www.nps.gov/chis/naturescience/brown-pelican.htm>

Of interest regarding the article on page 96:

Rallus longirostris, the Clapper Rail, was renamed Ridgway's Rail in 2014. Three subspecies have been identified, two of which reside in California: *Rallus longirostris obsoletus* lives in the coastal marshes of the San Francisco Bay Area and is the subject of the article; *Rallus longirostris levipes* is native to coastal southern California and northern Mexico. Subspecies *levipes* is known by the common name Light-footed Ridgway's Rail (formerly Light-footed Clapper Rail) and is also endangered. A 2024 survey of San Francisco Bay found 519 Ridgway's Rails. Rail detections in the surveyed area have declined at a rate of 5% since 2019.

https://spartina.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2024_Ridgways_rail_Survey_Report.pdf

Read more about the California clapper rail (Ridgway's Rail) at

<https://www.fws.gov/species/california-clapper-rail-rallus-longirostris-obsoletus>