

Heritage Ranking Form - State Rank

Scientific Name: *Aechmophorus occidentalis*

Common Name: Western grebe

Classification: Vertebrate Animal

Heritage Rank: **S4**

Rank Date: 2/16/2016

Comments: Breeding rank. Relatively common in appropriate habitat, but vulnerable to population reductions due to drought, oil spills.

Range Extent: F = 20,000-200,000 sq km (~8,000-80,000 sq mi)

Comments: Most of eastern OR, in suitable habitat. 183,000 sq km.

Population Size: FG = 10,000 - 1,000,000 individuals

Comments: Population highly variable depending on water levels. Jehl (2001) estimates North American population at more than 120,000. No information on Oregon numbers.

Number of Occurrences: 0

Comments: None

Area of Occupancy: H = 2,501-12,500 4-km² grid cells

Comments: 10331 4km² grid cells based on PODS records buffered to 11km (NatureServe separation distance).

Good Viability: U = Unknown

Comments: None

Environmental Sensitivity: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Short Term Trends: G = Relatively Stable (<=10% change)

Comments: None

Long Term Trends: 0

Comments: None

Threat Impact: B = High

Comments: Threats from Botulism, oil spills, drought

Intrinsic Vulnerability: Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Rank Notes: None

References: Jehl, J. R. 2001. The abundance of the eared (black-necked) grebe as a recent phenomena. *Waterbirds* 24:245-249. Spencer, K. 2003. Western grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) in *Birds of Oregon: A General Reference*. D.B. Marshall, M.G. Hunter, and A. L. Contreras, eds. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis, OR. ORBIC PODs data]

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