

# Natural Heritage Ranking Form - Oregon State Rank

Oregon Ranking Form American pika (*Ochotona princeps*)

Oregon Biodiversity Information Center

## SPECIES ASSESSED

Scientific Name *Ochotona princeps*

ELCODE AMAEA01020

Common Name American pika

Element ID 6998

### Species Concept Reference Citation

Wilson, D. E., and D. M. Reeder (editors). 1993. Mammal species of the world: a taxonomic and geographic reference. Second edition. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. xviii + 1206 pp. Available online at: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/msw/>.

## CONSERVATION STATUS RANK

Assigned Rank **S2S3**

Rank Assignment Author E. Gaines

Rank Review Date 5/10/2019

Rank Factors Author E. Gaines

Rank Factors Date 02/01/2019

Calculated Rank S2S3

Rank Change Date 05/10/2019

Rank Methodology Used Rank calculator v.3.1x - 2011-2015 rank factors

### Assigned Rank Reasons

Wide distribution in Oregon, but widespread threats. Additional information needed. Still widespread at higher elevations in OR, but threatened by climate change. Occurs in anthropogenic habitats. Some indication that Columbia River Gorge population warrants

## RANGE/DISTRIBUTION

### Range Extent

Rating 20,000-200,000 square km (about 8000-80,000 square miles)

### Comments

### Area of Occupancy

#### Grid Cell Size

Rating (as Number of 4 km<sup>2</sup> Grid Cells) AF = 1-500

Comments Occurs at higher elevations and in Columbia River Gorge in OR

## ABUNDANCE AND CONDITION

### Number of Occurrences

Rating 6 - 80

### Good Viability/Ecological Integrity

#### Number of Occurrences with Good Viability/Ecological Integrity

Rating Some to many (13-125)

### Comments

Many sites are relatively secure, but number of sites unclear. Pikas in Cascades use man-made habitats and lower elevation sites.

## THREATS

### Calculated Overall Threat Impact

Assigned Overall Threat Impact B = High

**Overall Threat Impact Comments**

Threats from fire, reduced snow pack, climate change.

**TRENDS****Short-Term Trend**

**Rating** FG = Decline of <30% to relatively stable

**Comments**

Beever et al. (2016) report Pika extirpated at 44% of historic sites in Great Basin, though they do not address specific sites in OR. However Pikas appear to be more stable in Cascades and Columbia Gorge (Manning and Hagar 2011).

**Long-Term Trend**

**Rating**

**ADDITIONAL SPECIES INFORMATION****Oregon Habitat Comments**

Seem to occur wherever there is suitable cover and extent of slide rock, or broken talus.

**RANKING REFERENCES**

<u>Short Citation</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Full Citation</u>
Beever et al.		2013	Beever, E. A., S. Z. Dobrowski, J. Long, A. R. Mynsberge, and N. B. Piekielek. 2013. Understanding relationships among abundance, extirpation, and climate at ecoregional scales. <i>Ecology</i> 94(7):1563-1571.
Beever et al.		2016	Beever, E. A., J. D. Perrine, T. Rickman, M. Flored, J. P. Clark, C. Waters, S. S. Webber, B. Yardley, D. Thoma, T. Chesley-Preston, K. E. Goehring, M. Magnuson, N. Nordensten, M. Nelson, and G. H. Collins. 2016. Pika ( <i>Ochotona princeps</i> ) losses from two isolated regions reflect temperature and water balance, but reflect habitat area in a mainland region. <i>Journal of Mammology</i> 97:1495-1511.
Manning and Hagar		2011	Manning, T. and J. C. Hagar. 2011. Use of nonalpine anthropogenic habitats by American pikas ( <i>Ochotona princeps</i> ) in Western Oregon. <i>Western North American Naturalist</i> 71:106-112.
Robson, Lamb, and Russello		2015	Robson, K.M., C. T. Lamb, and M. A. Russello. 2015. Low genetic diversity, restricted dispersal, and elevation-specific patterns of population decline in American pikas in an atypical environment. <i>Journal of Mammalogy</i> , 97(2):464-472.
US Fish and Wildlife Service		2015	US Fish and Wildlife Service. 2015. American pika ( <i>Ochotona princeps</i> ) online profile. Endangered Species - Mammals, Mountain-Prairie Region. Online: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/americanPika.php">https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/americanPika.php</a>
Verts		1998	Verts, B.J. and L.N. Carraway. 1998. Land mammals of Oregon. University of California Press. 668 pp.

**RESOURCES**

Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, Institute for Natural Resources  
Portland State University, Mail Stop: INR, PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751 Phone: 503-725-9950

Additional ORBIC species ranking forms posted at  
<https://inr.oregonstate.edu/orbic/rare-species/ranking-documentation>

Information on Natural Heritage ranking methodology is available at  
<http://www.natureserve.org/biodiversity-science/publications/natureserve-conservation-status-assessments-methodology-assigning>

The Conservation Rank Calculator is developed and maintained by NatureServe and is available from  
<http://www.natureserve.org/conservation-tools/conservation-rank-calculator>

**ASSESSMENT CITATION**

Oregon Biodiversity Information Center. 2019. Oregon state rank assessment for American pika (*Ochotona princeps*). Institute for Natural Resources, Portland State University, Portland, OR.