

## **Appendix E: Critical Functional Link Wildlife Species**

Focal habitats containing focal wildlife species that supply a critical functional link in the Intermountain Province

| <b>Focal Habitat</b>                       | <b>Key Ecological Function</b>   | <b>Focal Wildlife Species</b> |
|--|--|-------------------------------|
| Wetland – Lake, River, Pond, & Reservoir   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates feeding, roosting, denning, or nesting opportunities for other organisms</li> </ul> | Great blue heron              |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parasitizes nest of other species for breeding</li> </ul>                                   | Redhead                       |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses aerial structures created by other species</li> </ul>                                  | Black tern                    |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates ponds or wetlands through wallowing</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary consumer of bark, cambium, or bole</li> </ul>                                       | American beaver               |
| Wetland – Herbaceous                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates roosting, denning, or nesting opportunities for other organisms</li> </ul>          | Great blue heron              |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disperses lichens</li> </ul>  | Mountain caribou              |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physically fragments standing wood</li> </ul>   | Black bear                    |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary cavity excavator in snags or live trees</li> </ul>                                  | Black bear                    |
| Wetland – Montane Coniferous               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feeds on fecal material</li> </ul>  | Snowshoe hare                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>  | American beaver               |
| Riparian – Eastside (Interior)             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates roosting, denning, or nesting opportunities for other organisms</li> </ul>          | Great blue heron              |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
| Steppe – Eastside (Interior) Grassland     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates feeding, roosting, denning, or nesting opportunities</li> </ul>                     | Grizzly bear                  |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates ponds or wetlands through wallowing</li> </ul>                                      | Rocky Mtn. elk                |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary cavity excavator in snags or live trees</li> </ul>                                  | Black bear                    |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary consumer of bark, cambium, or bole</li> </ul>                                       | Black bear                    |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses aquatic structures created by other organisms</li> </ul>                               | Mink                          |
| Shrub-steppe                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses aquatic structures created by other organisms</li> </ul>                               | Mink                          |
| Forest – Westside Lowland Conifer-Hardwood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates roosting, denning, or nesting opportunities for other organisms</li> </ul>          | Great blue heron              |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grazes grasses/forbs, possibly altering vegetative structure &amp; composition</li> </ul>   | Rocky Mtn. elk                |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>  | American beaver               |
| Forest – Montane Mixed Conifer             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>  | American beaver               |
| Forest – Eastside (Interior) Mixed Conifer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>  | American beaver               |
| Forest – Lodgepole Pine                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feeds on fecal material</li> </ul>  | Snowshoe hare                 |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>                                      | American beaver               |

| <b>Focal Habitat</b>    | <b>Key Ecological Function</b>   | <b>Focal Wildlife Species</b> |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>                  | American beaver               |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses aquatic structures created by other organisms</li> </ul>     | Mink                          |
| Forest – Ponderosa Pine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feeds on fecal material</li> </ul>                                | Snowshoe hare                 |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>            | American beaver               |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>                  | American beaver               |
| Forest – Upland Aspen   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impounds water by creating diversion or dam</li> </ul>            | American beaver               |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary creator of aquatic structures</li> </ul>                  | American beaver               |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secondary consumer of freshwater or marine zooplankton</li> </ul> | Long-toed salamander          |
|                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses aquatic structures created by other organisms</li> </ul>     | Mink                          |

(Source: IBIS 2003)