

Category	Ref. #	Tasks Synopsis	Rank	Status & Implementing Party
1. Determine Population Status and Current Distribution	1.1	1. Inventory populations		
	1.1.a	a. Develop and test survey protocols		<i>Ongoing</i>
	1.1.a.i	i. Identify the type, number and timing of surveys required to determine occupancy, including refining process to determine area occupied		WDFW, FWS
		ii. Identify the type, number and timing of surveys required to determine population numbers		WDFW
	1.1.a.ii			
	1.2	2. Identify methods and develop sampling schemes for monitoring trends in pocket gopher populations.	8	
	1.2.a	a. Develop and test cost effective and efficient monitoring protocols at multiple levels of protection	9	
	1.2.b	b. Implement monitoring scheme		
		3. Implement survey protocols to refine and update gopher distribution	12	
	1.3	a. Task required.		
2. Protect Existing Populations and Habitat	2.1	1. Map suitable habitat		
		2. Protect occupied habitat via land purchase, easements, voluntary conservation, etc.	1	
	2.2	a. Develop and implement management agreements (e.g. ESMP, Mgmt. Plan)	4	<i>In Progress</i> JBLM, WDFW, CNLM, FWS
	2.2.a			
	2.2.b	b. Explicitly include gophers in incentive programs, e.g. NRCS FRPP	6	<i>Ongoing</i> NRCS
	2.3	3. Protect occupied habitat via regulation	1	
	2.3.a	a. Create long-term strategy to address development pressure (e.g. mitigation bank, HCP)	2	<i>In Progress</i> Thurston County, FWS, WDFW, CNLM
	2.3.a	b. Improve conservation effectiveness and implementation of regulatory process for local permitting offices, consultants and DFW	10	<i>Ongoing</i> WDFW, Thurston Co.
	2.3.b			
2.3.c	c. Assess set-aside effectiveness			
3. Manage, Enhance, and Maintain Habitat	3.1	1. Identify and reduce direct and indirect threats		
		2. Identify and implement habitat restoration, maintenance and enhancement needs	5	
	3.2			
	3.2.a	a. Control pest plants at occupied sites (e.g. trees, shrubs, pasture grasses)		<i>Ongoing</i>
	3.2.b	b. Expand occupied habitat through restoration (e.g. tree removal)		
	3.2.c	c. Determine the role of disturbance in habitat restoration, maintenance and enhancement. i.e. source, frequency, intensity, duration, and spatial extent		
	3.2.d	d. Evaluate vegetation composition and structure, improve as needed		
	3.2.d.i	i. Assess diversity and abundance of food resources		
	3.2.d.ii	ii. Assess vegetation structure		
		3. Develop and implement spatially-explicit plans to restore, enhance, maintain habitat		
	3.3			
	3.3.a	a. Identify compatible/incompatible land uses and redirect incompatible land use (e.g. recreation, military training, grazing, prescribed fire)		
	3.3.b	b. Explicitly include gophers in incentive programs (e.g. FWS Partners Program, NRCS Stewardship Programs - WHIP, EQIP)	7	<i>Ongoing</i> FWS, NRCS
3.4	4. Identify important habitat features	11		
3.4.a	a. Identify key food plants (native & non) that are tied to survival and reproduction			
3.4.b	b. Identify vegetation structure favorable to Mazama pocket gophers			
3.4.c	c. Identify the level and type of disturbance beneficial to gophers and/or their habitat			
3.4.d	d. Determine relationship between gopher populations and soil type and structure			
4. Increase Size and Number of Populations	4.1	1. Identify sites that are suitable for reintroduction	16	
	4.1.a	a. Identify, evaluate, and prioritize potential introduction/reintroduction sites		
	4.1.b	b. Identify source populations for translocations/reintroductions		
	4.1.b.i	i. Incorporate genetic and demographic research results as appropriate		
	4.2	2. Evaluate need for passive vs. active colonization/recolonization		
	4.3	3. Conduct translocation research		
4.3.a	a. Evaluate efficacy and feasibility of translocating gophers <i>Ongoing</i>		WDFW	
5. Additional Research	5.1	1. Conduct demographic studies		
	5.1.a	a. Determine population vital rates (e.g., survival, reproduction, etc.)		
	5.1.b	b. Identify characteristics of dispersal that would affect population structure and viability (e.g., timing, distance, and demographics)		
	5.1.c	c. Determine sustainable population size relative to habitat patch size and quality	13	
	5.1.d	d. Determine whether and how populations are structured (i.e. panmictic, metapopn, isolated)		
	5.2	2. Conduct genetic studies		
	5.2.a	a. Evaluate genetic diversity of existing populations		FWS, WDFW
	5.1.b	b. Describe subspecific taxonomy of Washington populations based on DNA including mapping boundaries of distinct populations	3	<i>In Progress</i> FWS, WDFW
6. Partnerships and Outreach	6.1	1. Maintain active working group, information sharing, and collaborative action	14	<i>Ongoing</i> CNLM, Partners
	6.2	2. Educate the public through outreach		
	6.2.a	a. Direct outreach to landowners of existing populations		<i>In Progress</i> WDFW, Thurston Co., CNLM, Conservation District
	6.2.b	b. Improve public perception of gophers through positive PR & other means	15	<i>In Progress</i> CNLM
	6.2.c	c. Educate public on Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance		<i>Ongoing</i> Thurston Co.
	6.3	3. Educate the public through published information		
	6.3.a	a. Update habitat management guidance for land managers and private landowners		
	6.3.b	b. Develop guide for voluntary conservation (e.g. who to contact, how to do it).		
6.3.c	c. Update, clarify, and explicitly link private, federal, county and state on-line information (e.g., PHS, CAO)			

1. Heading indicates an objective

- a. Subheading indicates an action
- i. Sub-sub heading indicates a task within an action

Status Legend:

- Ongoing* - Time indefinite action.
- In Progress* - Time definite action.

Note:

Rank is given to headings only. * indicates emphasis on a specific task or action within an