

# RIM FIRE WILDLIFE FACTS



Photo: Baby great gray owl, USFS



Photo: Mule deer, USFS



Photo: Marten, USFS

## Creatures great and small were affected by the Rim Fire

- The Rim Fire affected approximately 100,000 acres of important winter range for migratory California mule deer.
- Three-quarters of the area's known great gray owl nests were destroyed by the fire, and one quarter of the areas where spotted owls and goshawks roost and nest were destroyed.
- About 26,000 acres of the Stanislaus National Forest's fisher and marten habitat is no longer available. Areas suitable for the Pacific fisher and marten had already been impacted in the previous Ackerson and Kibbie fires, and what remained was wiped out by the Rim Fire.
- The Rim Fire also impacted suitable habitat for the federally threatened California red-legged frog and the endangered Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog.

## Even though the fire is out, the land these animals rely on continues to change

- Oak trees and other plants that California mule deer herds depend on for food burned during the Rim Fire, leaving the deer without a dependable winter food source.
- Impacts from erosion and sediment after the fire may impact frog and fish populations by clogging streams and reducing the oxygen in the water.

***The Rim Fire was the first of its kind, but it certainly won't be the last. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy has committed \$1 million towards Rim Fire restoration. Without significant increases in investment, these types of events will continue throughout the Sierra. To learn more please visit our Web site.***

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency that carries out a mission of protecting the environment and economy in a complementary fashion across the Sierra Nevada Region.



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