

THREAT LEVEL

IDAHO FISH & GAME

Apparently Secure (S4):

Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to decline or other factors



CALL TO ACTION

- ▶ Protect wetland ecosystems and other critical habitat
- ▶ Expand research to better understand how livestock and grazing impacts nesting



Mallard

Anas platyrhynchos

Photo Credit: fws.gov

OVERVIEW

Mallards face risks from rising temperatures, habitat destruction, and aquatic ecosystem disruption. Agricultural development and livestock grazing threaten important nesting sites, and increased drought will alter wetland areas, further limiting suitable habitat. Protecting wetlands and riparian habitats will be important to mitigate threats to mallards.

CONSERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

VULNERABILITY RANKING

CLIMATE

LOW-MODERATE

NON-CLIMATE

LOW-MODERATE

CONFIDENCE

MODERATE

Physiological, phenological, or ecological factors to consider when planning conservation projects:

- ▶ Mallards are widespread and are known to be opportunistic foragers
- ▶ Mallards depend on water resources and wetland habitat and are considered drought intolerant

Vulnerability Rankings Methodology

These priority species have been assessed for climate and non-climate vulnerability using a process adapted from the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife's Methodology for ranking the Climate Change Vulnerability of Species. WDFW's approach includes rating each species' climate sensitivity and exposure. These two rankings are then averaged for a climate vulnerability ranking. The Tribe developed a non-climate vulnerability ranking to capture species' relative risk and adaptability to factors such as human-caused development, predator/prey relationships, or low population numbers. Confidence rankings were assessed based on the availability of scientific research.

KEY THREATS

Habitat Degradation & Loss

Mallards face habitat loss due to increased agriculture and development. Riparian areas and wetlands are at high risk due to human development, which reduces suitable breeding and nesting habitat for mallards.

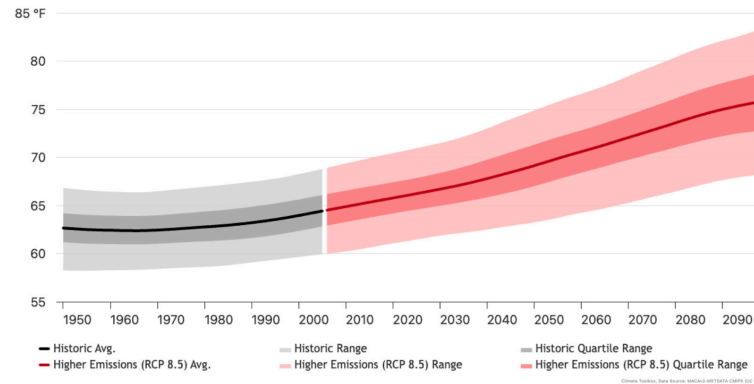
Climate Change

- ▶ According to the National Audubon Society, rising temperatures are expected to cause habitats to shift northward during the summer, resulting in a loss of overall summer range and potentially reduced breeding habitat.
- ▶ Warmer temperatures will lead to increased drought and altered precipitation patterns, reducing shallow bodies of water such as ponds and floodplains.
- ▶ Warmer winters may reduce the need for southward migration.



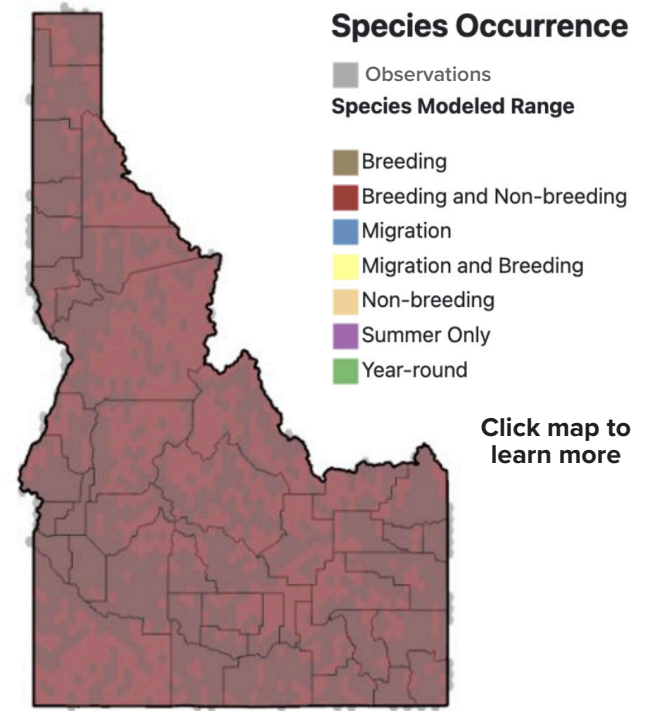
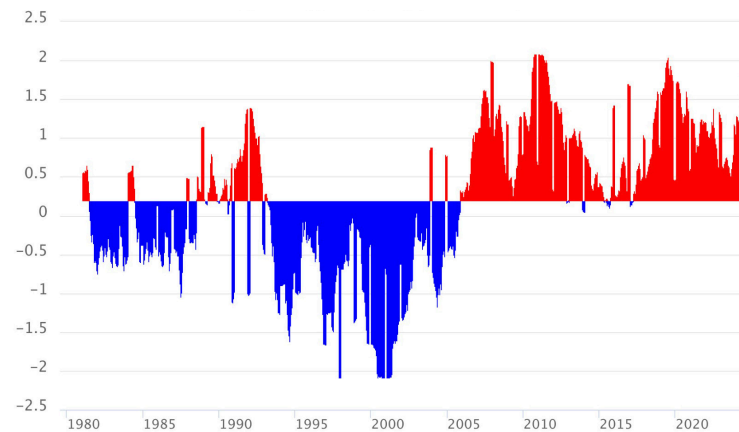
Photo Credit: Pexels

JUN-JUL-AUG MAX TEMPERATURE BOUNDARY COUNTY, ID



2-YEAR EVAPORATIVE DROUGHT DEMAND INDEX (EDDI)

BOUNDARY COUNTY, ID, AVG (1980-2024)



Click map to learn more

Source: Idaho Fish & Game

REFERENCES

- “A Mallard Floating in Water at Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge.” FWS.gov, 2023, www.fws.gov/media/mallard-floating-water-billy-frank-jr-nisqually-national-wildlife-refuge. Accessed May 15 2025.
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PRIORITY AT-RISK SPECIES
KOOTENAI TRIBE OF IDAHO