

Succession Stages and Wildlife Habitats

Age of Forest	Succession Stage	Description	Wildlife
Young-Open Forests <i>*Note: weed control at this stage minimizes plant competition and allows trees to establish a strong, healthy root system</i>	Grass/Forb	Vegetation consists of weeds, wildflowers, and various grasses	skunk, badger, nighthawk, bluebird, American goldfinch, vole, Chipping sparrow, gopher, beaver, Deer mouse, Dusky flycatcher, Fox sparrow, MacGillvray's warbler, Luzulli bunting, Spotted towhee, alligator lizard
	Shrubs	Woody vegetation is more established with young trees intermingled	
Middle-Aged Forests	Open sapling, pole	Trees become more distinct in size and shape; ground vegetation, such as ferns, are established	Snowshoe hare, Ruffed grouse, Sharp-skinned hawk, pigeon, boia Townsend warbler, Hairy woodpecker, Great horned owl, Long-tailed weasel, Marten, Chestnut-backed chickadee, Red-breasted nuthatch, Ensatina salamander, garter snake
	Closed sapling, pole	Weaker, smaller trees are thinned and ground vegetation is well established	
Older Forests	Mature	Trees are predominant and have formed a canopy. The understory has developed	Marbled murrelet, varied thrush, pileated woodpecker, Pygmy nuthatch, Vaux's swift, Spotted owl, Red tree vole, Northern goshawk, Northern flying squirrel, Oregon slender salamander, Cooper's hawk, Pine siskin, Hoary bat
	Old Growth	More fallen trees and snags are present	

Wildlife found in all forests: black bear, red fox, black-tailed deer, Roosevelt Elk, coyote, raccoon, cougar, bobcat, squirrel, Pacific tree frog, bats, Common garter snake