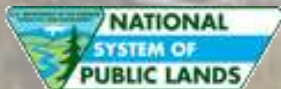


# Optimizing Conservation of Rare and Endangered Species on BLM Lands

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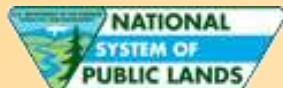
Nancy Benton  
Project Manager  
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# Optimizing Conservation of Rare and Endangered Species on BLM Lands

## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

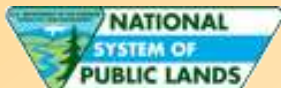
- BLM mission overview
- NatureServe analysis for BLM
- How BLM will utilize analysis results



# Federal Land Policy and Management Act

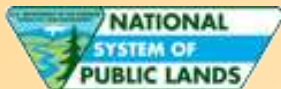
Section 102 (a) (8) “the public lands will be managed in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and atmosphere, water resources and archeological values...”

Section 102 (a)(12) “the public lands shall be managed in a manner which recognizes the Nation’s need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber and fiber from public lands...”



# BLM's Multiple Use Mission

- 700M acres of mineral estate (250M acre split estate)
  - 5% US oil production
  - 41% geothermal production
  - 45% US coal production
- 18,000 grazing permits on 160M acres
- 57M annual recreation visits
- 26M acre National Landscape Conservation System
- 31,000 wild horses and burros
- 50MBF timber harvested annually



# BLM Fish and Wildlife Authorities

- Sikes Act (1970)

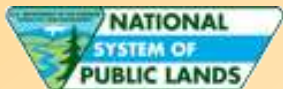
Directs BLM to develop and implement comprehensive programs which provide adequate protection for species of fish, wildlife and plants considered threatened or endangered

- Endangered Species Act (1973)

Directs that all federal agencies shall utilize their authorities for carrying out programs for conservation of endangered species

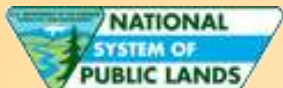
- Federal Land Management and Policy Act (1976)

Specifies that fish and wildlife development and utilization is one of six principal or major use of public lands

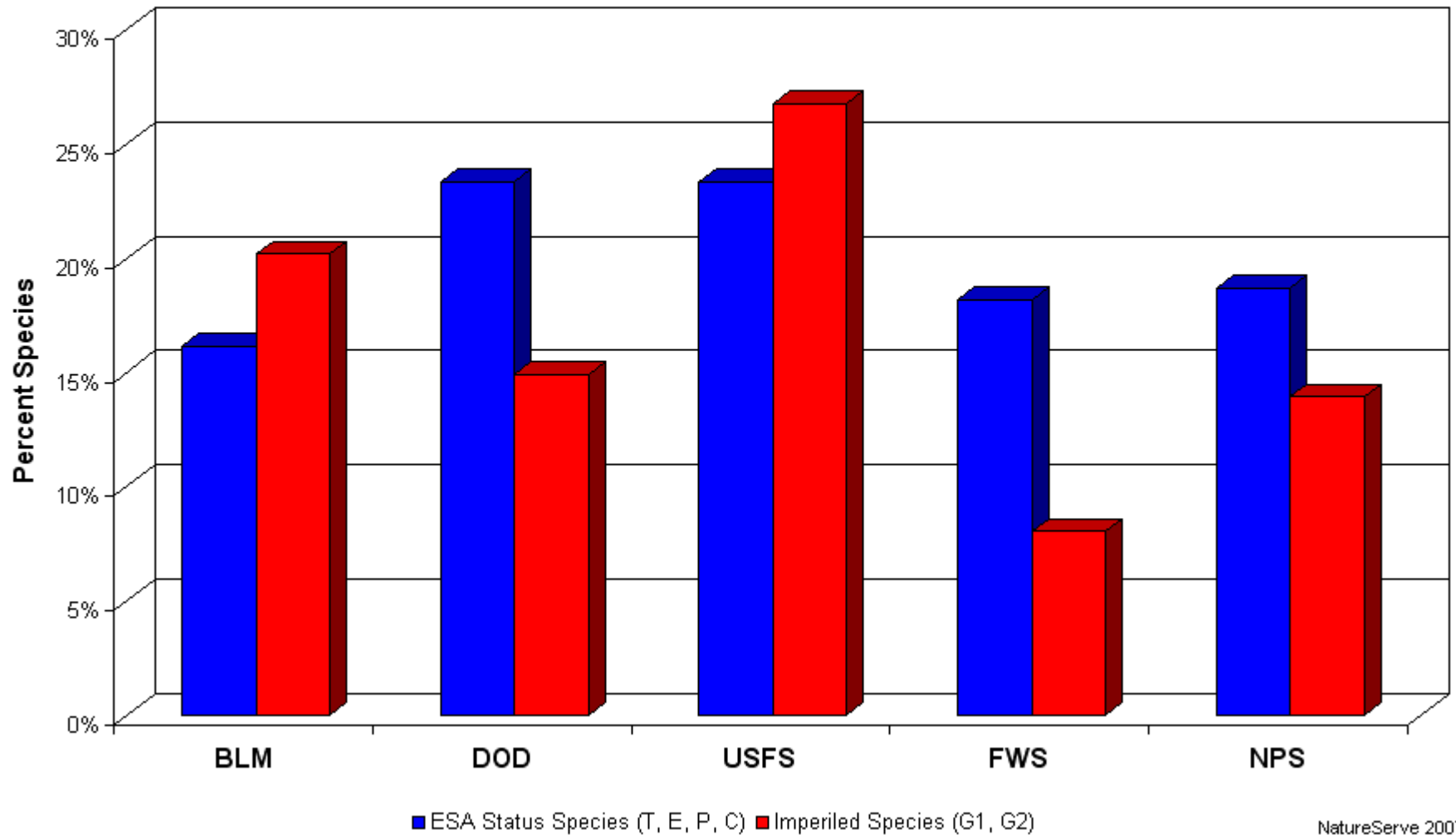


# Comparative Analysis of Species on Federal Lands

GIS-based analysis comparing natural heritage locational data for imperiled and endangered species with a coverage of federal land holdings (the USGS Federal Lands Data Layer) for five major federal agencies: DoD, BLM, USFS, FWS, NPS.



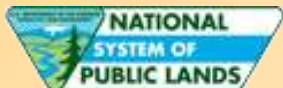
## Distribution of Endangered and Imperiled Species on Federal Agency Lands



# Current Analysis of Conservation Target Species on BLM Lands

## PURPOSE:

- National and regional scale analyses position BLM to be more effective in determining agency-wide conservation priorities
- Analyses included all species ranked as imperiled or critically imperiled by NatureServe, regardless of current legal status – can help BLM get ‘ahead of the curve’ to prevent listings
- Analyses to help BLM better understand the rangewide conservation status (global ranks) of species designated as bureau sensitive by BLM State Directors
- For both imperiled and federally listed species, analyses can help BLM better understand the relative importance of BLM lands in providing habitat for these species



# Methods



- NatureServe assembles a nationally consistent dataset of precise localities (“element occurrences”) for endangered and imperiled species, which is collected through regular data exchanges with all of the state heritage programs.
- We used this nationally aggregated occurrence dataset as the basis for our analysis of species distributions on BLM lands.

# Methods

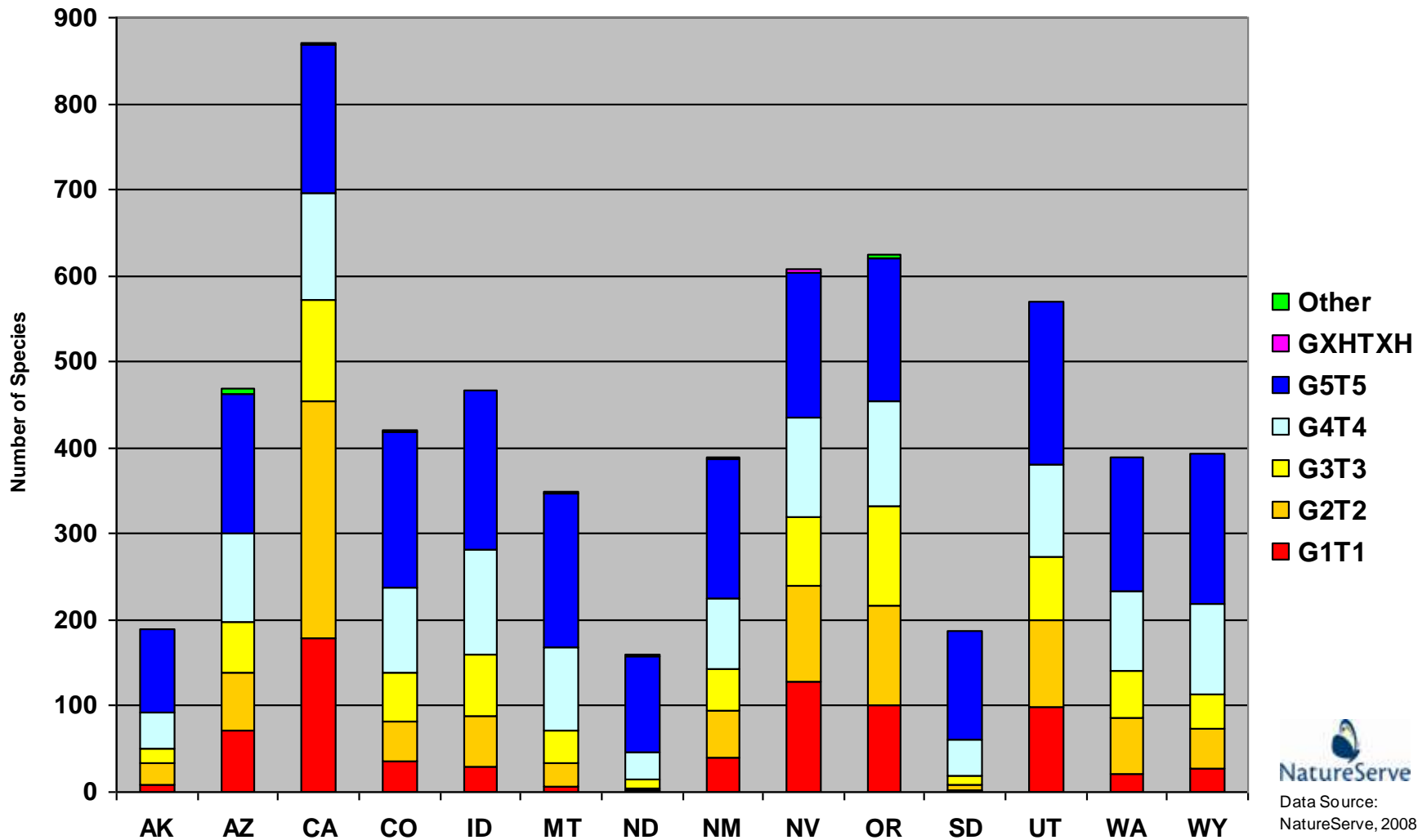


Preparation of BLM lands buffered layer: Buffered BLM lands layer by 2km.

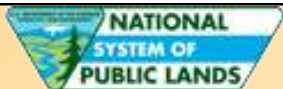
Preparation of NatureServe Element Occurrence (EO) layer and intersect: Exported EO polygons from NatureServe's Central 'Biotics' database for all EOs with ranks of G1, G2, T1, T2 or with USESA status.

Ran intersect with the EO layer and the buffered BLM lands layer.

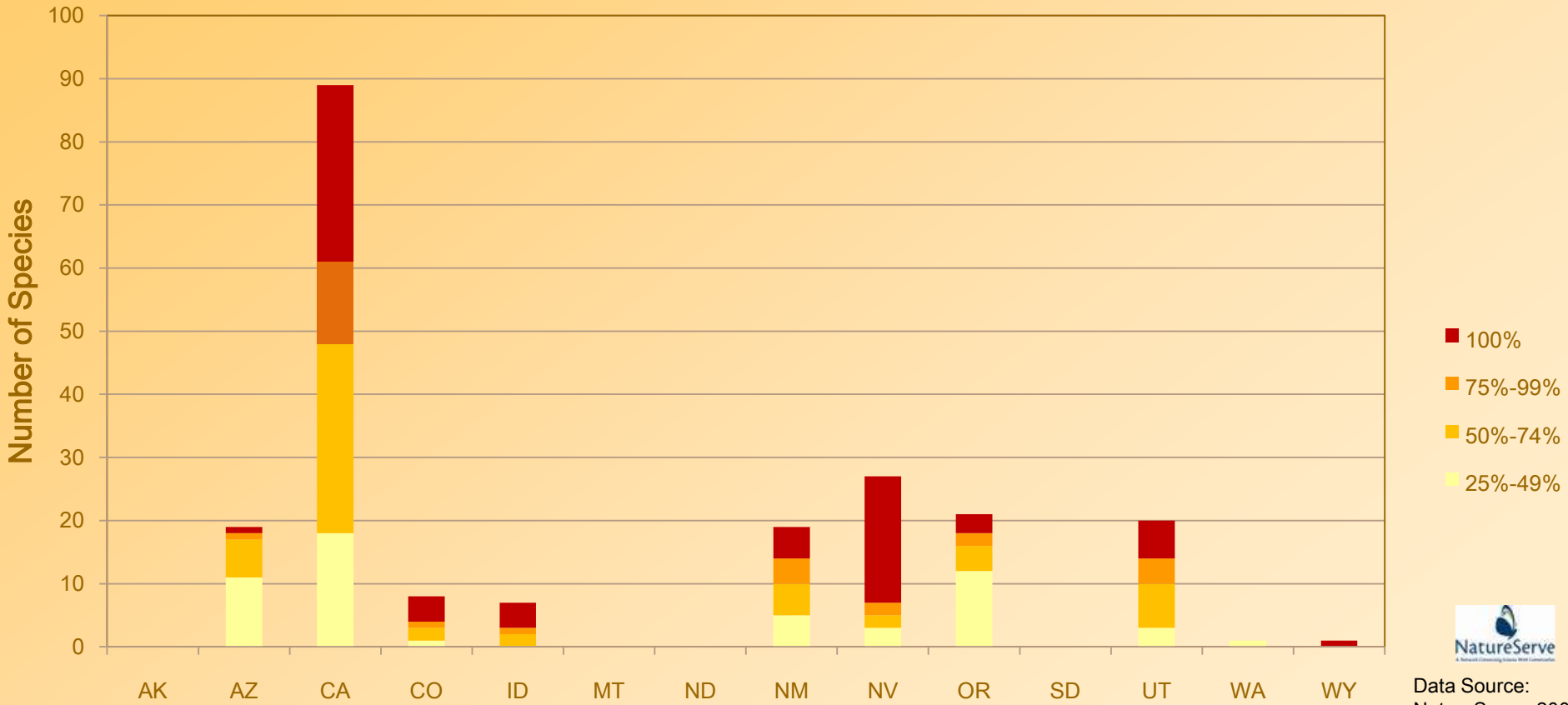
## BLM Bureau Sensitive Species - Totals by Global Rank by State



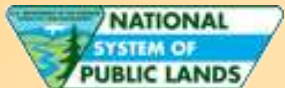
NatureServe  
Data Source:  
NatureServe, 2008



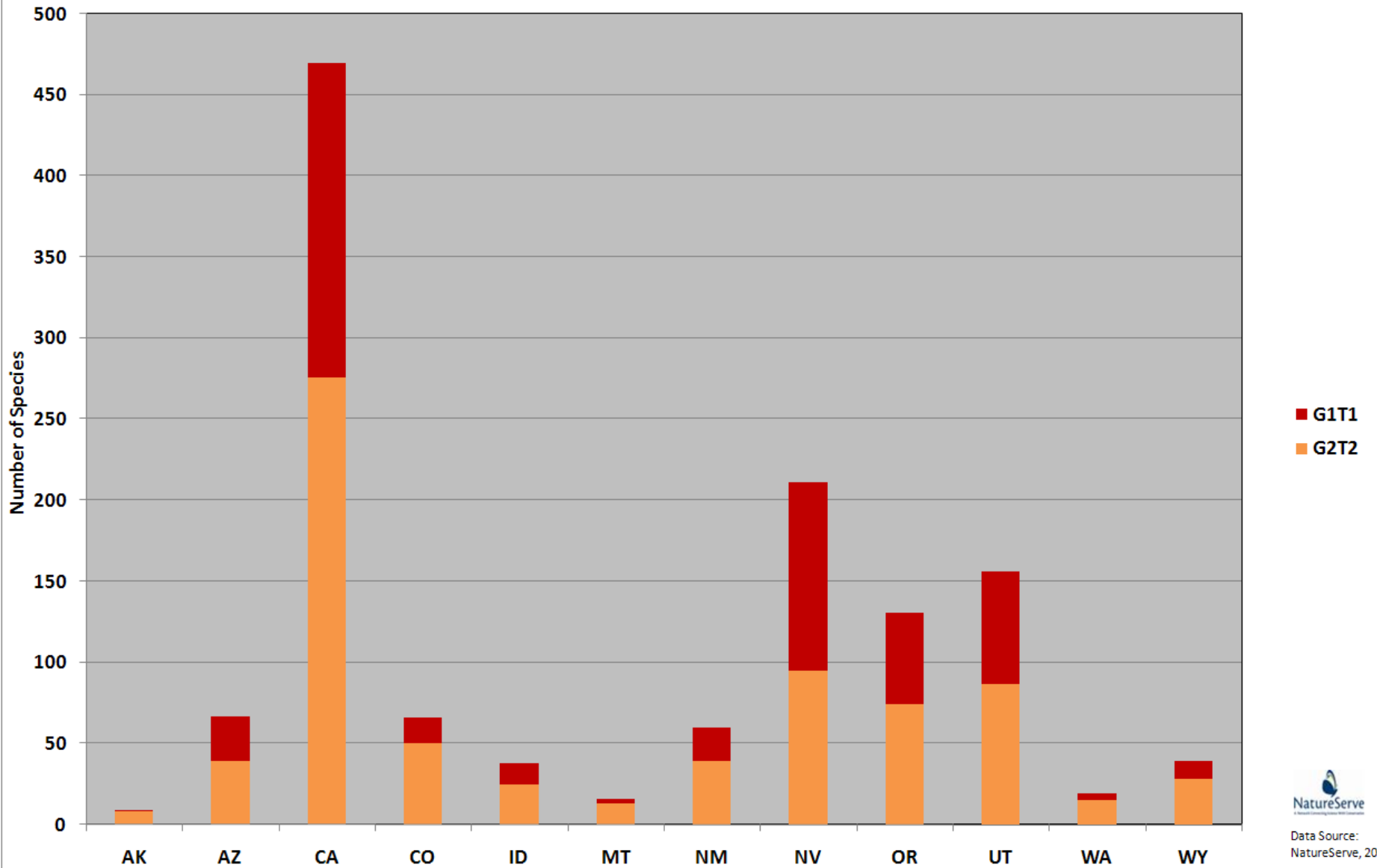
# Percentage of Known Habitat for Listed Species on BLM Lands, by State



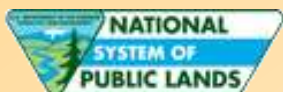
Data Source:  
NatureServe, 2008



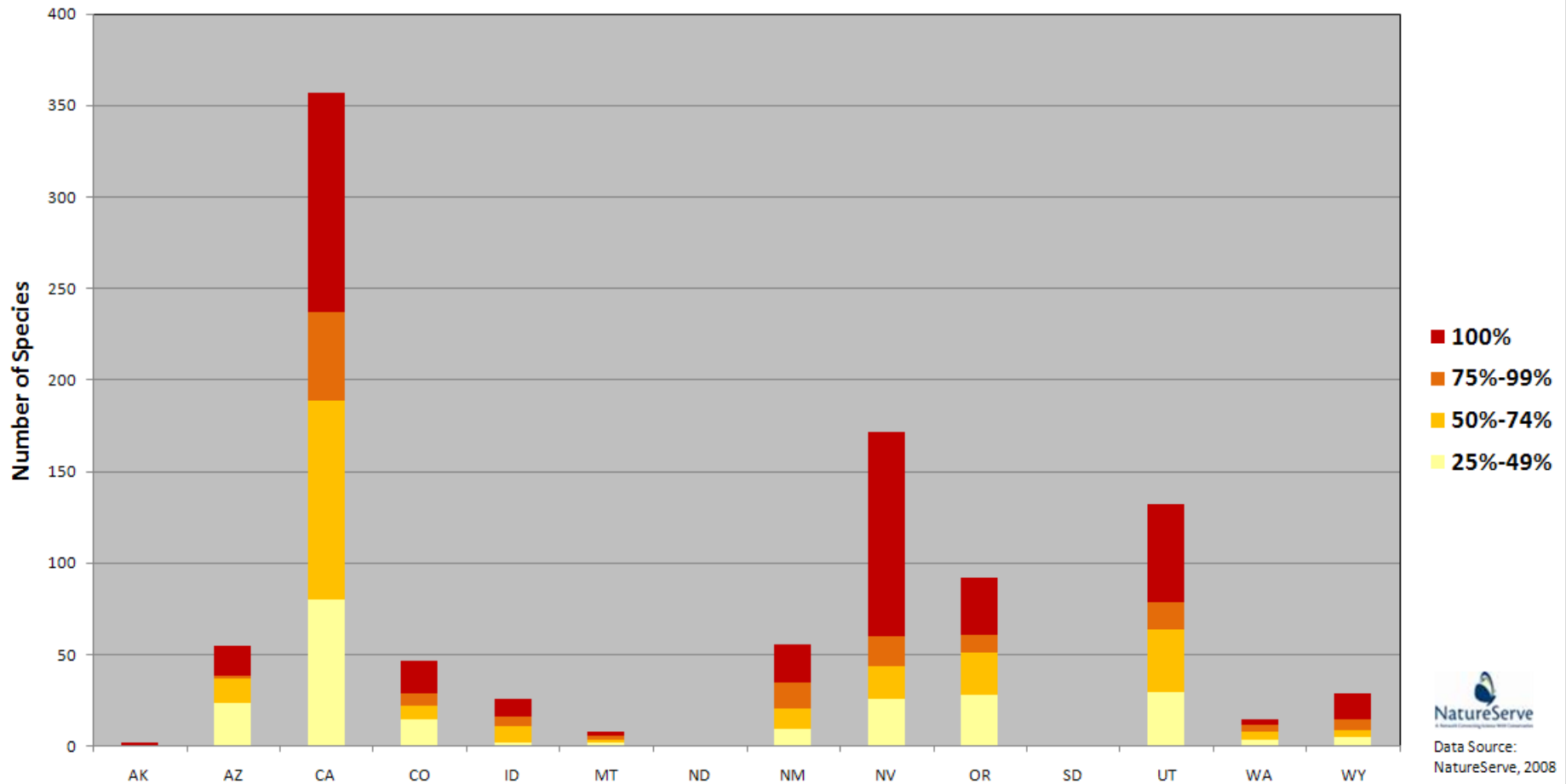
2.2: Species at Risk (rare, but not federally listed) on BLM Lands, by state



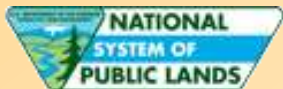
Data Source:  
NatureServe, 2008



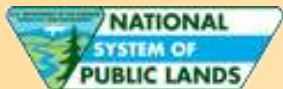
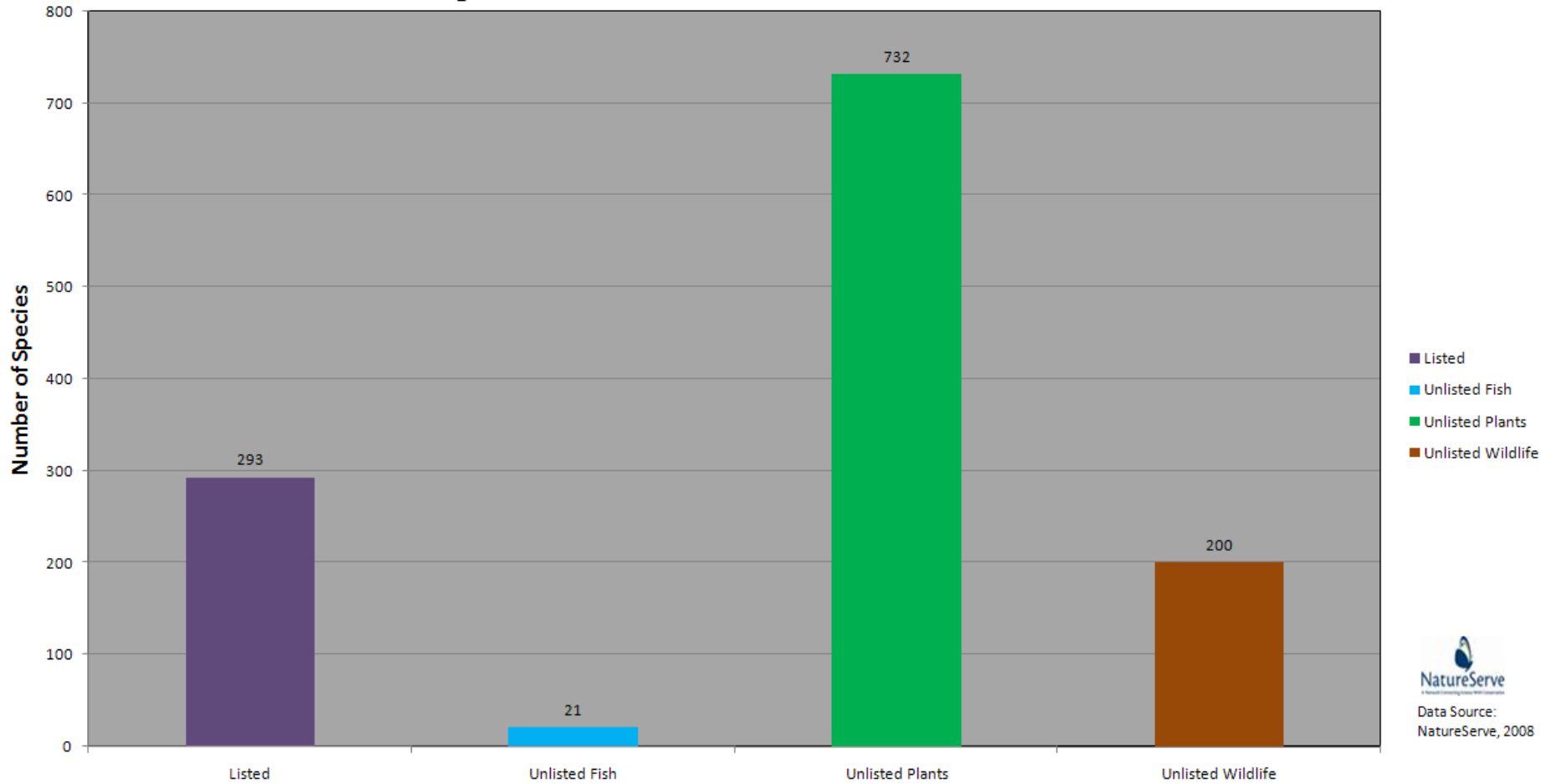
3.1: Percentage of all known habitat for rare and listed species on BLM lands, by state



NatureServe  
Data Source:  
NatureServe, 2008

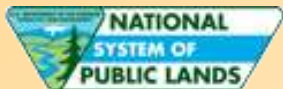


**3.3: Numbers of listed and unlisted plants and wildlife with greater than 25% all known occurrences on BLM lands**

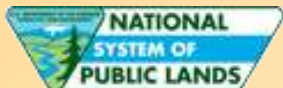
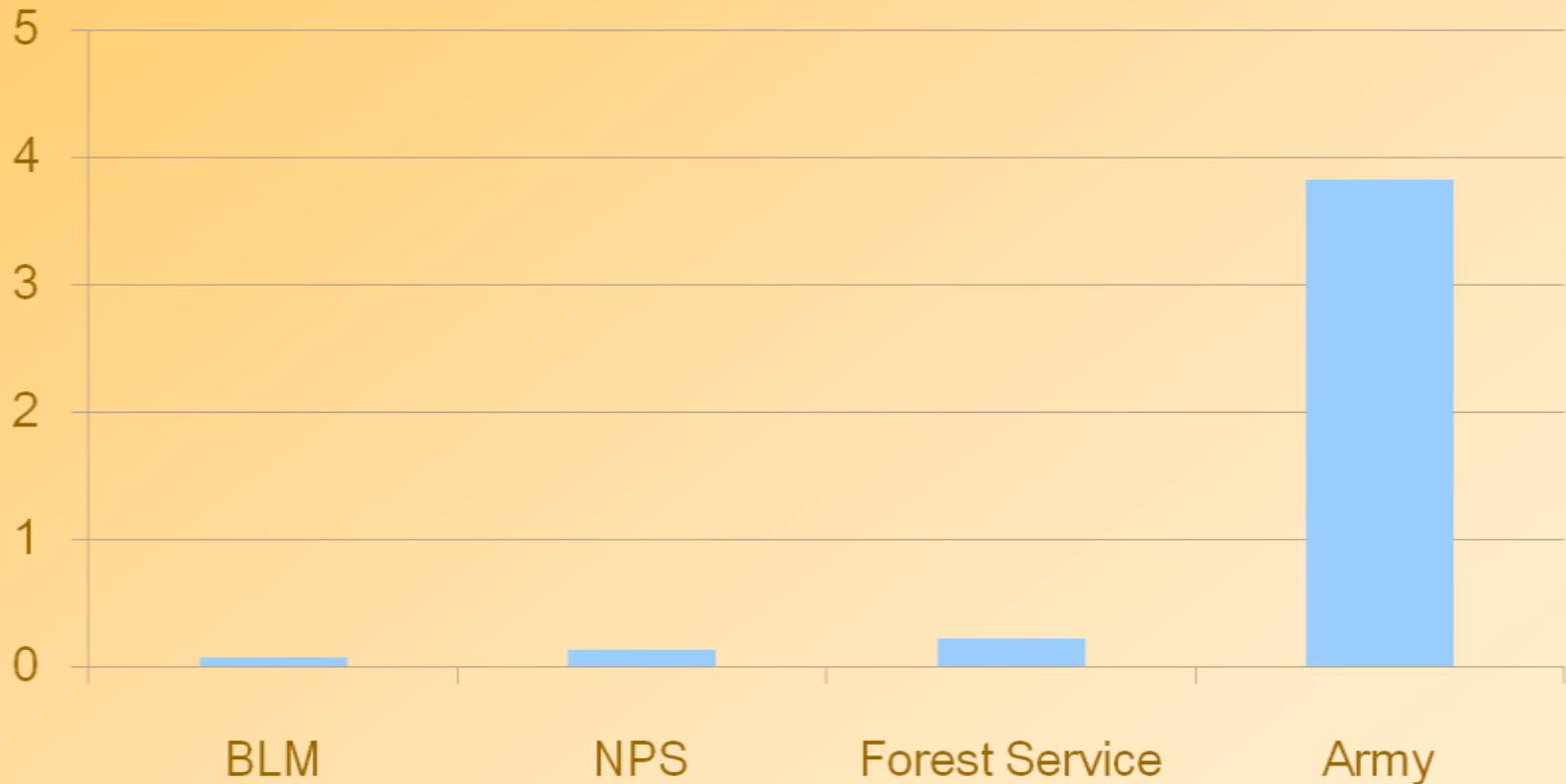


# BLM Recovery Tasks

- 5629 recovery tasks identified for BLM in approved recovery plans
- 1200 Priority 1 recovery tasks identified for BLM in approved recovery plans
  - 4% of assigned tasks are complete
  - 53% of assigned tasks are not started

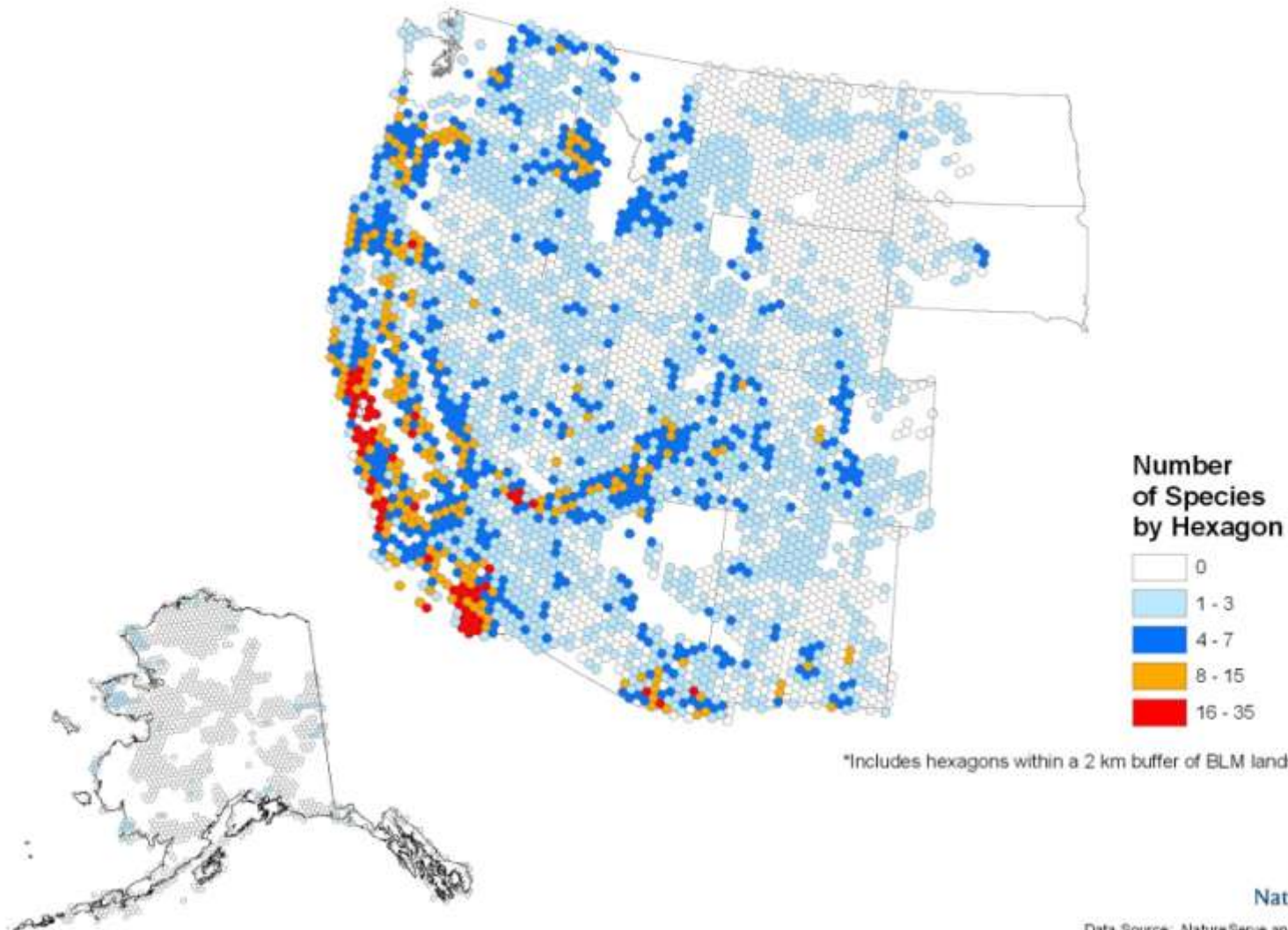


# 2006 Endangered Species Funding for Select Land Management Agencies (Expenditure per Acre)



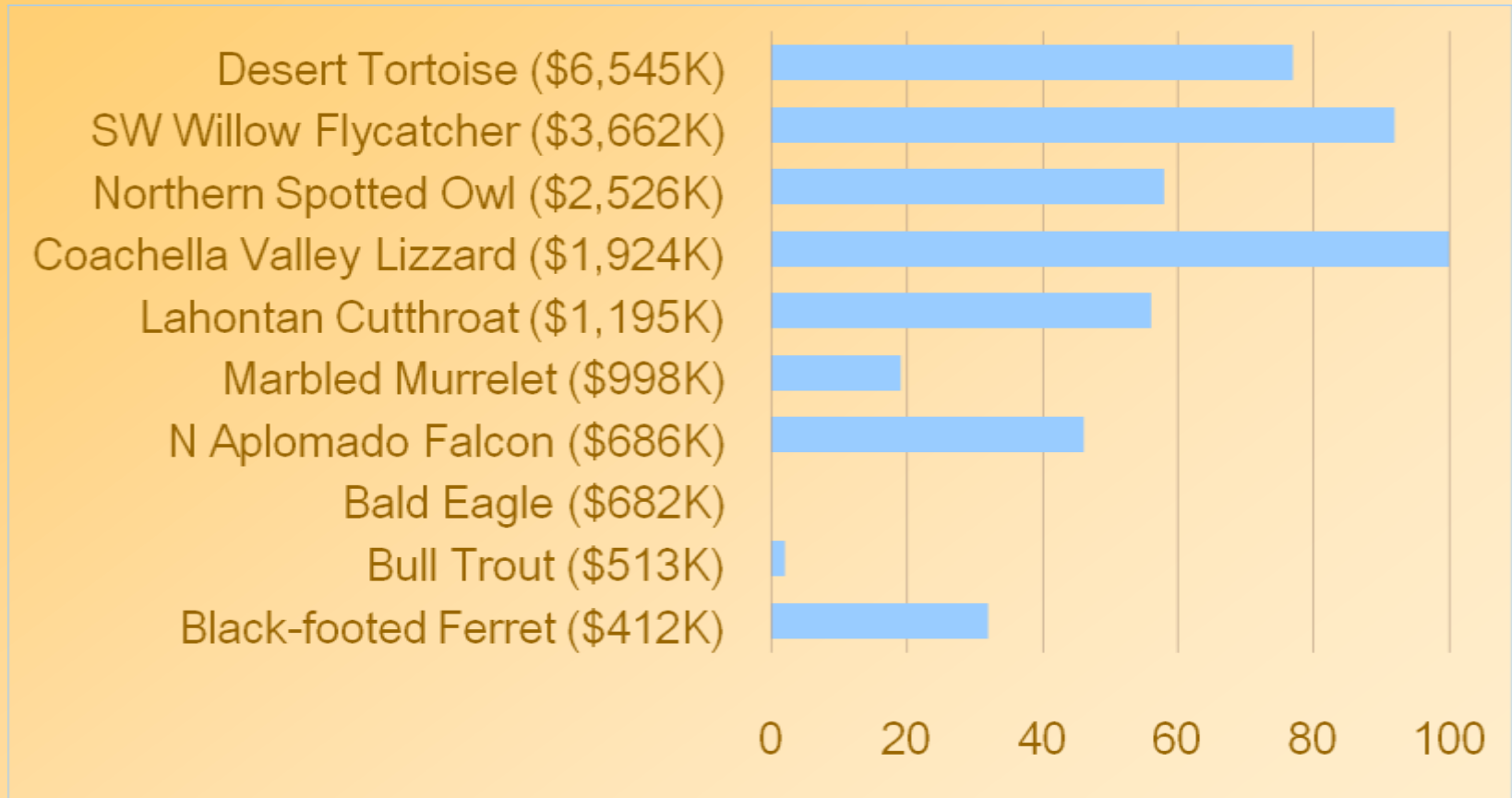
# Strategic Planning Decisions

Hot Spots for Critically Imperiled and Imperiled or Federally Listed Species on BLM Lands\*



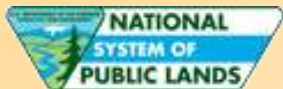
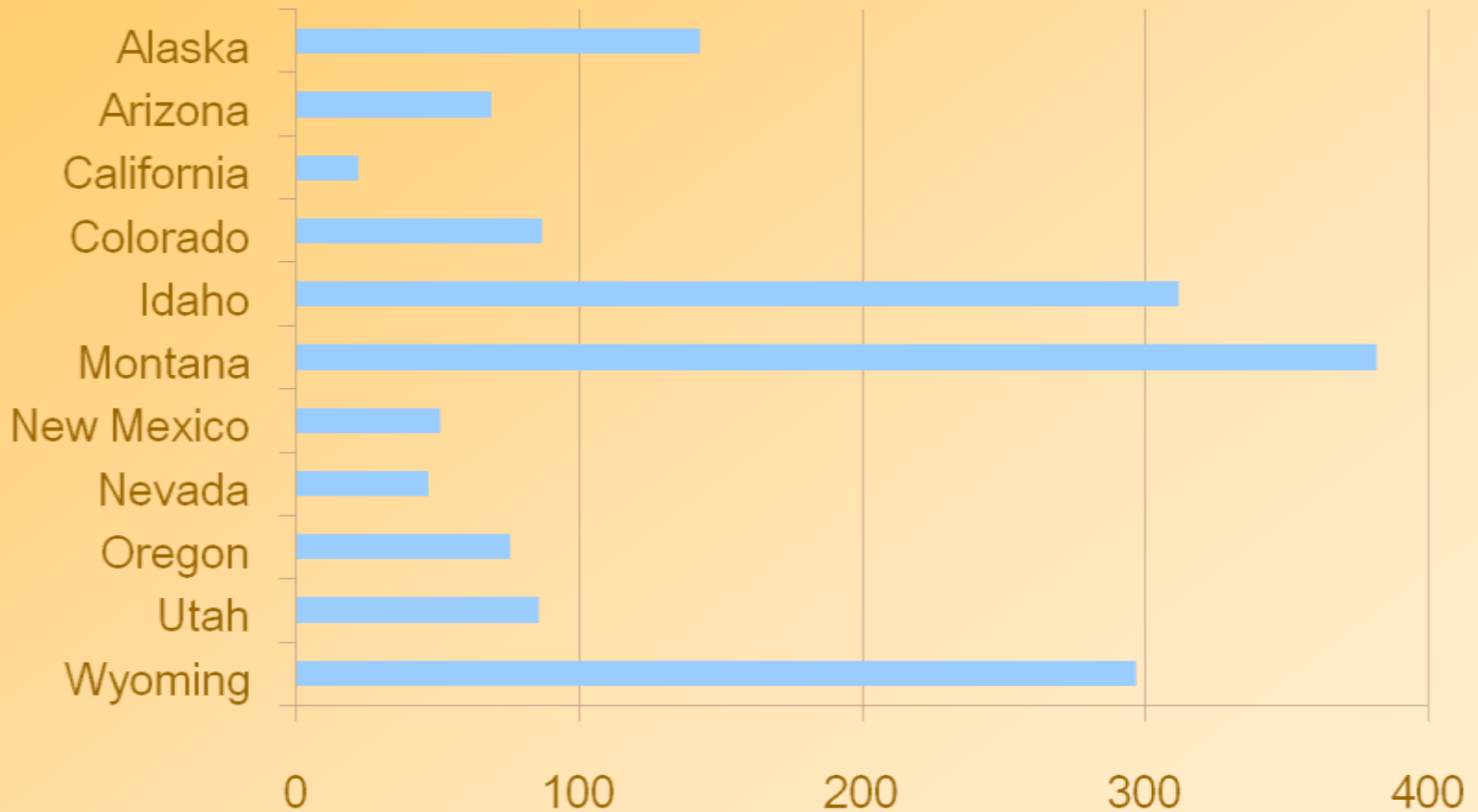
# Strategic Funding Allocation by Species

(Percent Element of Occurrence on BLM lands for Listed Species with Greatest FY08 BLM Expenditures)



# Strategic Funding Allocation

(FY08 Funding per Listed Species- Thousands)



# Questions ?

