

Neovison vison

This species is not complete.

December 17, 2013 by Amber Lankford

Author(s) Expertise: 1

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Sensitivity Factor	Sensitivity 1 - 7 (one being least sensitive, seven being most sensitive)	Confidence 1 - 5 (one being least sensitive, five being most sensitive)
Generalist/Specialist	2 Medium-Low	2 Poor
Physiology	4 Medium-High	2 Poor
Life History	4 Medium-High	3 Fair
Habitat	7 Extremely High	2 Poor
Dispersal Ability	2 Medium-Low	2 Poor
Disturbance Regimes	2 Medium-Low	2 Poor
Ecology	3 Medium	2 Poor
Non-Climatic	5 High	2 Poor
Other (weight)		

Sensitivity Score : 53 Medium

Sensitivity Score

$100 * [(0.5 * (\text{Dispersal Distance} + \text{Dispersal Barriers}) + \text{Disturbance Regimes} + (0.5 * \text{Generalist/Specialist}) + \text{Physiology} + (0.5 * \text{Life History}) + \text{Sensitive Habitats} + \text{Ecology} + \text{Non-Climatic Stressors} + (\text{Other} * \text{Weight}) / 49 + (7 * \text{Weight})]$

Note: if Sensitive Habitats are identified, this factor automatically gets a value of seven, otherwise it remains zero.

Confidence Score : 1 Very Poor

Confidence Score

The Confidence Score is an average of the Confidence column above.

Overall User Ranking: 3 Medium

Author Expertise:

1 (low)

Common Name:

American mink

Is this Species completed:

No

— Taxonomy —

This is a description of the whole group

Scientific Name:

Neovison vison

Geography:

Idaho

Realm:

Terrestrial

Kingdom:

Animal

Phylum:

Chordata

Class:

Mammalia

Order:

Carnivora

Family:

Mustelidae

Genus:

Neovison

Global Rank:

G5 (1996)

Rounded Global Rank:

G5 - Secure

IUCN:

Least Concern ver 3.1 - 2008

— Generalist/Specialist —

Broadly, where does this species fall on the spectrum of generalist to specialist? :

2

Confidence in your assessment of the degree to which the species is a generalist or specialist:

2 Poor

Please further describe the relationships that make the species more of a specialist:

Forages primarily in proximity to water

Comments:

Very adaptable, consumes a wide variety of prey.

Citations:

Burgess, S.A., and J.R. Blder. 1980. Effects of stream habitat improvements on invertebrates, trout populations, and mink activity. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 44:871-880.

Physiology

Species' physiological sensitivity:

4

Confidence in how physiologically sensitive the species is to climate change:

2 Poor

Please specify whether or not this species is physiologically sensitive to one or more of the following:

temperature

Please describe any specific physiological sensitivities:

Long tubular body shape (higher surface area to volume ratio) makes this species more susceptible to extreme temperatures.

Citations:

Lariviere, S. 2003. Mink. In: *Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation*. 2nd Ed. Editors: Feldhamer, G.A, B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Life History

Species' reproductive strategy:

4

Confidence in your assessment of the species' reproductive strategy:

3 Fair

Is the species polycyclic, iteroparous, or semelparous?:

Iteroparous (reproduces in successive cycles--characteristic of K-strategists)

Average length of time to reproductive maturity:

1 year

How many surviving young can an individual produce during a single reproductive event under optimal conditions?:

4

How many reproductive events can an individual undergo in a single year under optimal conditions?:

1

Citations:

Lariviere, S. 2003. Mink. In: Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation. 2nd Ed. Editors: Feldhamer, G.A, B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Sensitive Habitats

Depends on the following sensitive habitat types:

Coastal Lowlands/Marshes/Estuaries/Beaches

Wetlands/Vernal Pools

Seeps/Springs

Confidence in whether the species depends on the listed sensitive habitat types:

2 Poor

Comments:

Strongly associated with availability to water and associated aquatic prey. Found along streams and rivers as well as large wetlands and open water with irregular shorelines.

Citations:

Lariviere, S. 2003. Mink. In: Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation. 2nd Ed. Editors: Feldhamer, G.A, B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Dispersal Ability

Maximum annual dispersal distance:

25-50km

Confidence in maximum annual dispersal distance:

3 Fair

Confidence in barriers to dispersal exists:

1 Very Poor

Please select the types of barriers relevant to dispersal:

Road (Highway)

Road (Arterial)

Citations:

Northcott et al. 1974. Dispersal of mink in insular Newfoundland. Journal of Mammalogy 55:243-248. Lariviere, S. 2003. Mink. In: Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation. 2nd Ed. Editors: Feldhamer, G.A, B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Disturbance Regimes

How sensitive is this species to one or more disturbance regimes:

2 slightly sensitive

Confidence in how sensitive is this species on one or more disturbance regimes:

2 Poor

Please check all disturbance regimes upon which the species is sensitive:

Flooding

Drought

Ecological Relationships

Please specify which of the following (if any) are sensitive to climate change for this species:

habitat

Confidence in how sensitive the species is to other effects of climate change on its ecology:

2 Poor

Which types of climate and climate-driven changes in the environment affect these aspects of the species' ecology?:

precipitation

How sensitive is this species? ecological relationships to the effects of climate change?:

3

Interacting non-climatic stressors

To what degree do other, non-climate-related threats, to the species make it more sensitive to climate change?:

5

Confidence in the degree to which non-climate-related threats affect the species' sensitivity to climate change:

2 Poor

Please check all of the stressors that make the species more sensitive to climate change:

direct human conflict (including harvesting)

pollution

Comments:

Species is very sensitive to pollution. As top predators they accumulate toxins and heavy metals. They have a low tolerance for mercury intoxication. Presence of other heavy metals has led to parasitism, low body mass, low population densities and morphological abnormalities. Due to their sensitivity, they are sometimes used as bio-indicators of environmental toxicity levels

Citations:

Lariviere, S. 2003. Mink. In: Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation. 2nd Ed. Editors: Feldhamer, G.A, B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Overall User Ranking

In your opinion, how would you rank the overall sensitivity of this species to climate change?:

3

Confidence in your overall assessment of the sensitivity of this species to climate change:

1 Very Poor

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[1] <http://climatechangesensitivity.org/printpdf/895>