

# Procyon lotor

*This species is not complete.*

January 17, 2014 by Amber Lankford

Author(s) Expertise: 2

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

Sensitivity Score : 22 Low

## 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 : 2 Poor

## Confidence Score

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

Overall User Ranking: 1 Low

**Author Expertise:**

2

**Common Name:**

Raccoon

**Is this Species completed:**

No

**Taxonomy**

This is a description of the whole group

**Scientific Name:**

*Procyon lotor*

**Geography:**

Idaho

**Realm:**

Terrestrial

**Kingdom:**

Animal

**Phylum:**

Chordata

**Class:**

Mammalia

**Order:**

Carnivora

**Family:**

Procyonidae

**Genus:**

*Procyon*

**Global Rank:**

G5 (1996)

**Rounded Global Rank:**

G5 - Secure

**IUCN:**

Least Concern ver 3.1 (2008)

**US Endangered Species Act Code:**

Not listed

**Species Element Code:**

AMAJE02010

Generalist/Specialist

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

1(generalist)

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

4 Good

Physiology

**Species' physiological sensitivity:**

2

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

3 Fair

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

temperature

**Please describe any specific physiological sensitivities:**

Raccoons are somewhat sensitive to cold winter temperatures and lose a substantial amount of body weight over winter and spring. Body temperature remains unchanged year round.

**Citations:**

Gehrt, S.D. 2003. Raccoon: Procyon lotor and allies. Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation, 2nd ed. Editors: Feldhammer, G.A., B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore Maryland.

Life History

**Species' reproductive strategy:**

4

**Confidence in your assessment of the species' reproductive strategy:**

4 Good

**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?:**

3-4

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

1

**Citations:**

Gehrt, S.D. 2003. Raccoon: *Procyon lotor* and allies. *Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation*, 2nd ed. Editors: Feldhammer, G.A., B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.

Sensitive Habitats

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

4 Good

**Level of philopatry:**

high

**Comments:**

Tend to avoid cropland, grassland, and pastures. Typically found in habitats with more vertical structure, particularly along riparian areas. Female philopatry is high such that the mother may share part of her home range with her adult daughters (Waser and Jones 1983)

**Citations:**

Gehrt, S.D. 2003. Raccoon: *Procyon lotor* and allies. *Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation*, 2nd ed. Editors: Feldhammer, G.A., B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.  
Waser, P.M., and W.T. Jones. 1983. Natal philopatry among solitary mammals. *Quarterly Review of Biology* 58:355-390.

Dispersal Ability

**Maximum annual dispersal distance:**

25-50km

**Confidence in maximum annual dispersal distance:**

2 Poor

**Within the context of dispersal distance above, do barriers to dispersal exist?:**

1 None

**Confidence in barriers to dispersal exists:**

2 Poor

**Citations:**

Gehrt, S.D. 2003. Raccoon: Procyon lotor and allies. Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation, 2nd ed. Editors: Feldhammer, G.A., B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.

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

Disease

**Comments:**

Because of their affinity to use riparian habitats, raccoons occasionally must cope with flooding. In most cases individuals will remain within their territory, regardless of flooding.

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Gehrt, S.D. 2003. Raccoon: Procyon lotor and allies. Wild Mammals of North America: Biology, Management, and Conservation, 2nd ed. Editors: Feldhammer, G.A., B.C. Thompson, and J.A. Chapman. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.

Ecological Relationships

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

forage

hydrology

**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?:**

1 (not sensitive)

**Comments:**

Prey sources associated with riparian systems may be more strongly impacted by climate than other food sources, but the raccoon is a broad generalist and may not be adversely impacted.

Interacting non-climatic stressors

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

1 not at all

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

3 Fair

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

direct human conflict (including harvesting)

**Comments:**

Raccoon's regularly use urban and suburban areas that brings them into conflict with humans

Overall User Ranking

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

1 (low sensitivity)

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

4 Good

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**Source URL (retrieved on 2018-10-16 08:20):** <http://climatechangesensitivity.org/species/procyon-lotor>

**Links:**

[1] <http://climatechangesensitivity.org/printpdf/902>