

# Mephitis mephitis

*This species is not complete.*

February 3, 2014 by Amber Lankford

Author(s) Expertise:

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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	3 Fair
Physiology		
Life History	3 Medium	3 Fair
Habitat		3 Fair
Dispersal Ability		
Disturbance Regimes	3 Medium	2 Poor
Ecology		
Non-Climatic		
Other (weight)		

Sensitivity Score : 10 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 : 1 Very Poor

## Confidence Score

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

Overall User Ranking:

**Common Name:**

Striped skunk

**Is this Species completed:**

No

Taxonomy

This is a description of the whole group

**Scientific Name:**

*Mephitis mephitis*

**Geography:**

Idaho

**Realm:**

Terrestrial

**Kingdom:**

Animal

**Phylum:**

Chordata

**Class:**

Mammalia

**Order:**

Carnivora

**Family:**

Mephitidae

**Genus:**

*Mephitis*

**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:**

AMAJF06010

**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:**

3 Fair

**Comments:**

The species consumes a wide variety of prey species and is capable of living in a wide variety of habitats.

**Citations:**

Reid, F. & Helgen, K. 2008. *Mephitis mephitis*. In: IUCN 2013. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2013.2. <[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)>. Downloaded on 03 February 2014.

**Life History****Species' reproductive strategy:**

3

**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)

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

4-8

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

1

**Comments:**

Polygamous

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

3 Fair

**Comments:**

Found across a wide variety of habitats from open plains, woods and deserts. Individuals may prefer forest edge habitat and are abundant on agricultural lands. This species makes

use of urban and sub-urban habitats

**Citations:**

Reid, F. & Helgen, K. 2008. Mephitis mephitis. In: IUCN 2013. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2013.2. <[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)>. Downloaded on 03 February 2014.

Disturbance Regimes

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

3 somewhat 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:**

Disease

**Please describe the disturbance regimes upon which the species is sensitive (frequency, timing, severity, duration):**

Striped skunks are susceptible to rabies and the subsequent control efforts

**Citations:**

Reid, F. & Helgen, K. 2008. Mephitis mephitis. In: IUCN 2013. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2013.2. <[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)>. Downloaded on 03 February 2014.

Interacting non-climatic stressors

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

direct human conflict (including harvesting)

**Comments:**

Striped skunks are hunted and trapped in Idaho.

**Citations:**

IDFG. 2014. Game species information: Trapping species - Fur bearers. Idaho Department of Fish and Game. <<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/hunt/?getpage=113>> Accessed 3 February 2014

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[1] <http://climatechangesensitivity.org/printpdf/903>