

Coalition sues to protect spotted frog

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The Oregon spotted frog is one of 286 species languishing without the protection of the Endangered Species Act, according to a coalition of conservation groups that filed a formal 60-day notice of intent to sue the Bush administration for failing to make "expeditious progress" protecting known imperiled species.

The Oregon spotted frog is found in Oregon, California, Washington and British Columbia in wetlands from sea level to at least 5,500 feet.

The species now is absent from as much as 90 percent of its former range, including all of California.

The report and notice call for an agreement and comprehensive plan to list all 286 species during the next five years.

Groups filing the notice include Center for Biological Diversity, Biodiversity, Conservation Alliance, Center for Native Ecosystems, Colorado Native Plant Society, Forest Guardians and Utah Environmental Congress.