



## BLUE OAK WOODLAND FACT SHEETS

Oaks and other hardwoods are found on over 21 million acres in California, occurring in 48 of the state's 58 counties.

Oak woodlands are the key to California's biodiversity, providing food, shelter and nesting opportunities for wildlife.

- There are about 110 species of birds that breed in California's oak woodlands, although only a fraction of these are common.
- Another 60 or so species use oak woodlands outside the breeding season, either as winter visitors or as migrants

In addition there are:

- 105 mammal species,
- 58 amphibians and reptiles, and
- An estimated 5,000 species of insects use oak woodlands.

Approximately 80% of hardwood rangelands are in private ownership, therefore wildlife conservation will depend in large part on the activities of private landowners.

Oaks preserve water quality and increase water availability in California, by filtering runoff.

Healthy perennial oak grasslands provide excellent protection from erosion, and produce a much lower fire fuel load potential.

Oak trees, like all trees, help maintain air quality by taking in carbon dioxide and giving off oxygen