

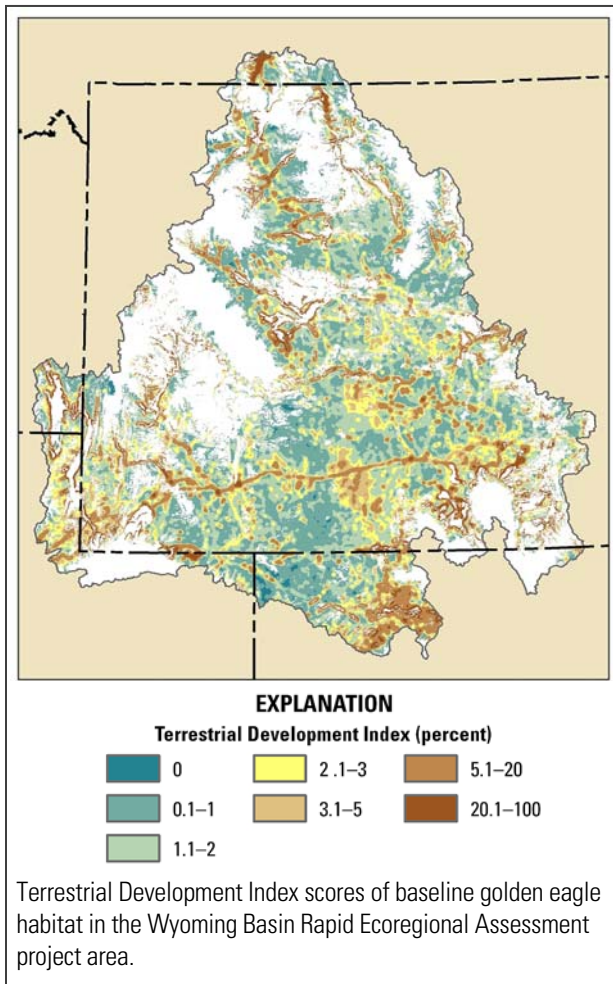
# Golden Eagle

## Management Questions

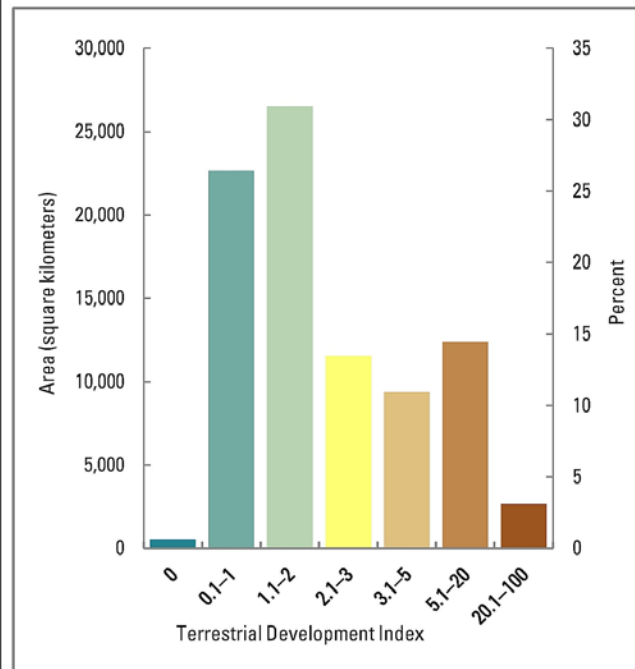
- Where is baseline golden eagle nesting habitat, and what is the total area?
- Where does development pose the greatest threat to baseline golden eagle habitat, and where are the relatively undeveloped areas? (Left map below)
- How has development fragmented baseline golden eagle habitat, and where are the large, relatively undeveloped patches?
- How has development affected structural connectivity of golden eagle habitat relative to baseline conditions?
- Where are potential barriers and corridors that may affect animal movements among relatively undeveloped habitat patches?
- Where are existing wind-energy facilities, and where are areas with high wind-energy potential in golden eagle habitat? (Top left map following page)

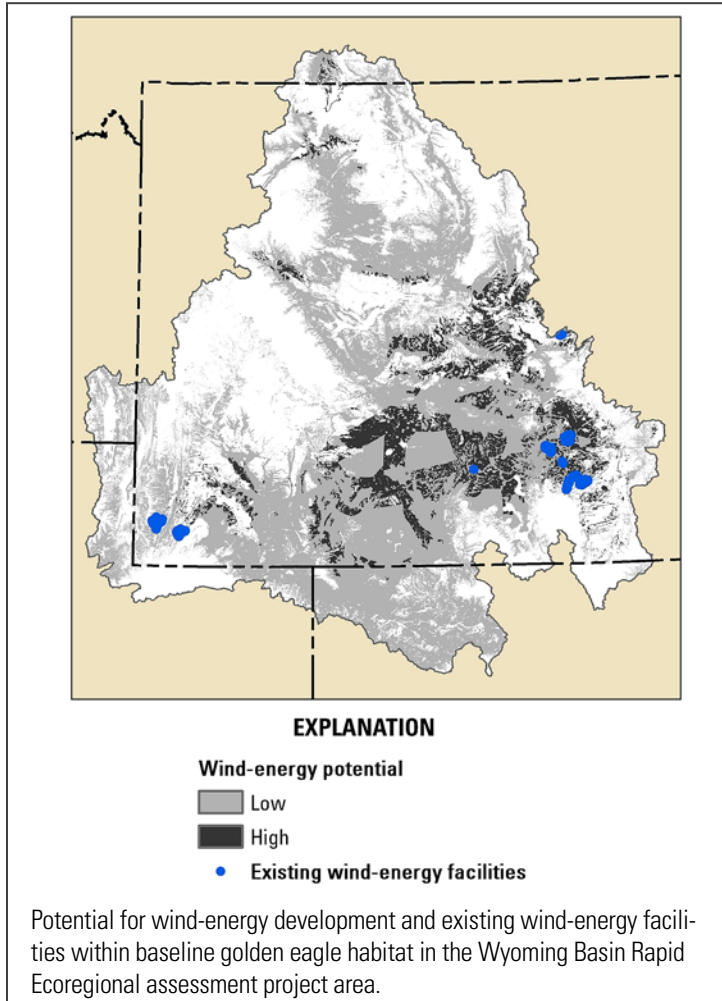


Photo credit: Aldis Garvso, Mountain Post-Digital Imaging.



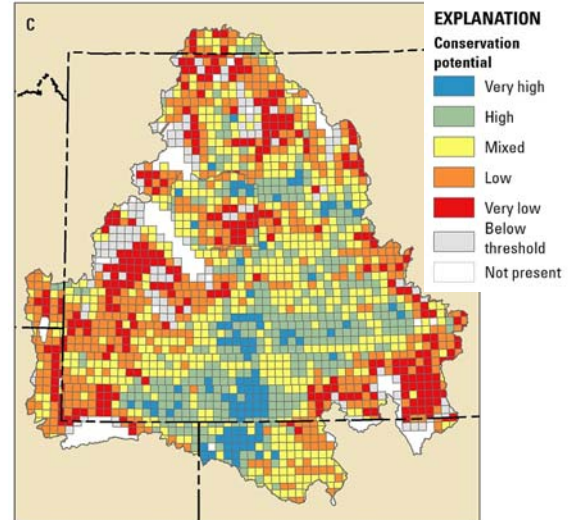
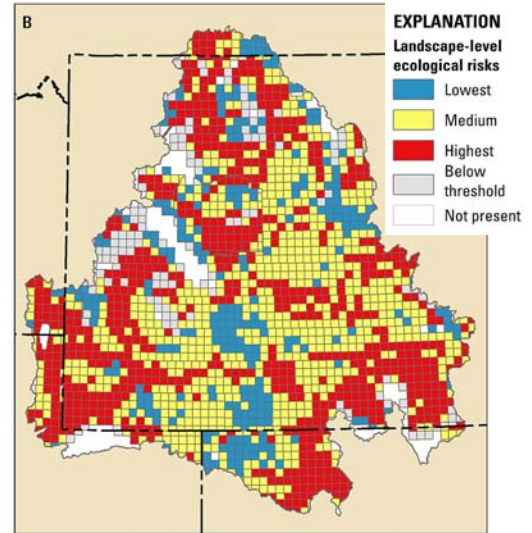
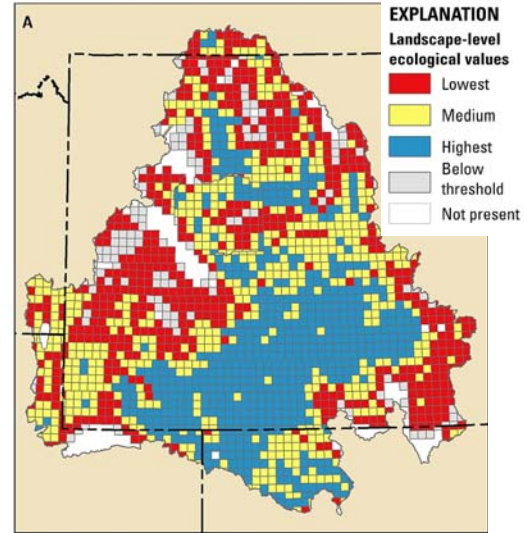
- Where have recent fires occurred in baseline golden eagle habitat, and what is the total area burned per year?
- How does risk from development vary by land ownership for golden eagle habitat?
- Where are the townships with the greatest landscape-level ecological values? (Top right map following page)
- Where are the townships with the greatest landscape-level risks? (Center right map following page)
- Where are the townships with the greatest conservation potential? (Bottom right map following page)





### Summary

Golden eagle nesting habitat is widely distributed throughout much of central and southern Wyoming and adjacent areas of Idaho, Utah, and Colorado. Agricultural conversion, roads, and energy development have cumulatively led to habitat loss, increased fragmentation, and decreased structural connectivity of golden eagle habitat. Golden eagles, however, may respond differently to different types of development, depending on time of year. They are especially sensitive to disturbance at their nest sites; therefore development that causes high levels of human activity may lead to a reduction in nesting productivity. Golden eagle collisions with vehicles along highways are also a concern. Golden eagles are especially vulnerable to mortality from wind turbines and 16 percent of their habitat within the Basin occurs in regions with high wind development potential. The majority of the golden eagle nesting habitat in the Basin is managed by the Bureau of Land Management.



(A) Landscape-level ecological values, (B) ecological risks, and (C) conservation potential of townships with golden eagle habitat.