

Can't handle your pet anymore?
Be responsible and...



DON'T LET IT LOOSE!

Species sold by local and online pet stores are not native to Oregon, so it is important that you do not release these plants and animals into the environment. Many can survive and reproduce, becoming invasive quickly and displacing our native fish, wildlife, and plant species. If you have a pet that you can no longer care for, contact your local pet store, veterinary clinic or licensed wildlife rehabilitation facility, or contact the **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife** at (503) 947-6301 or odfw.info@state.or.us.

RELEASING ANIMALS AND PLANTS CAN HAVE UNINTENDED, YET VERY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES WHEN ANIMALS OR PLANTS REPRODUCE AND BECOME INVASIVE!

**THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU BUY A PET
AND NEVER RELEASE THEM INTO THE WILD!**



The **red-eared slider** is a common pet turtle native to the eastern U.S. that **outcompetes our native turtles**, like western pond turtles, for food, nesting, and other resources.



The **red swamp crayfish** is the **most invasive crayfish in the world** and it aggressively competes with Oregon's native signal crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*) for food and resources.



Even a **goldfish** can become invasive when released into the wild. These domesticated carp grow into voracious bottom-feeders, eating everything in their path including the eggs of our native, pond-breeding amphibians. They reproduce rapidly and can lay **40,000 eggs a year**, quickly overtaking ponds.



Bullfrogs will eat anything they can fit in their mouths, including baby turtles, birds, and native amphibians. **Bullfrogs can also be a carrier of the chytrid fungus** that affects other amphibians and is a contributor to many dwindling native amphibian populations around the world.



HAVE YOU SEEN AN INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE AREA? REPORT IT!

By reporting suspected invasive species in your area, you'll be contributing vital early detection information to the experts best able to stop the spread of invasives. To report suspected invasive species, call our **Invasive Species Hotline at 1-866-INVADER (1-866-468-2337)** or go to oregoninvasiveshotline.org to submit an electronic report.