



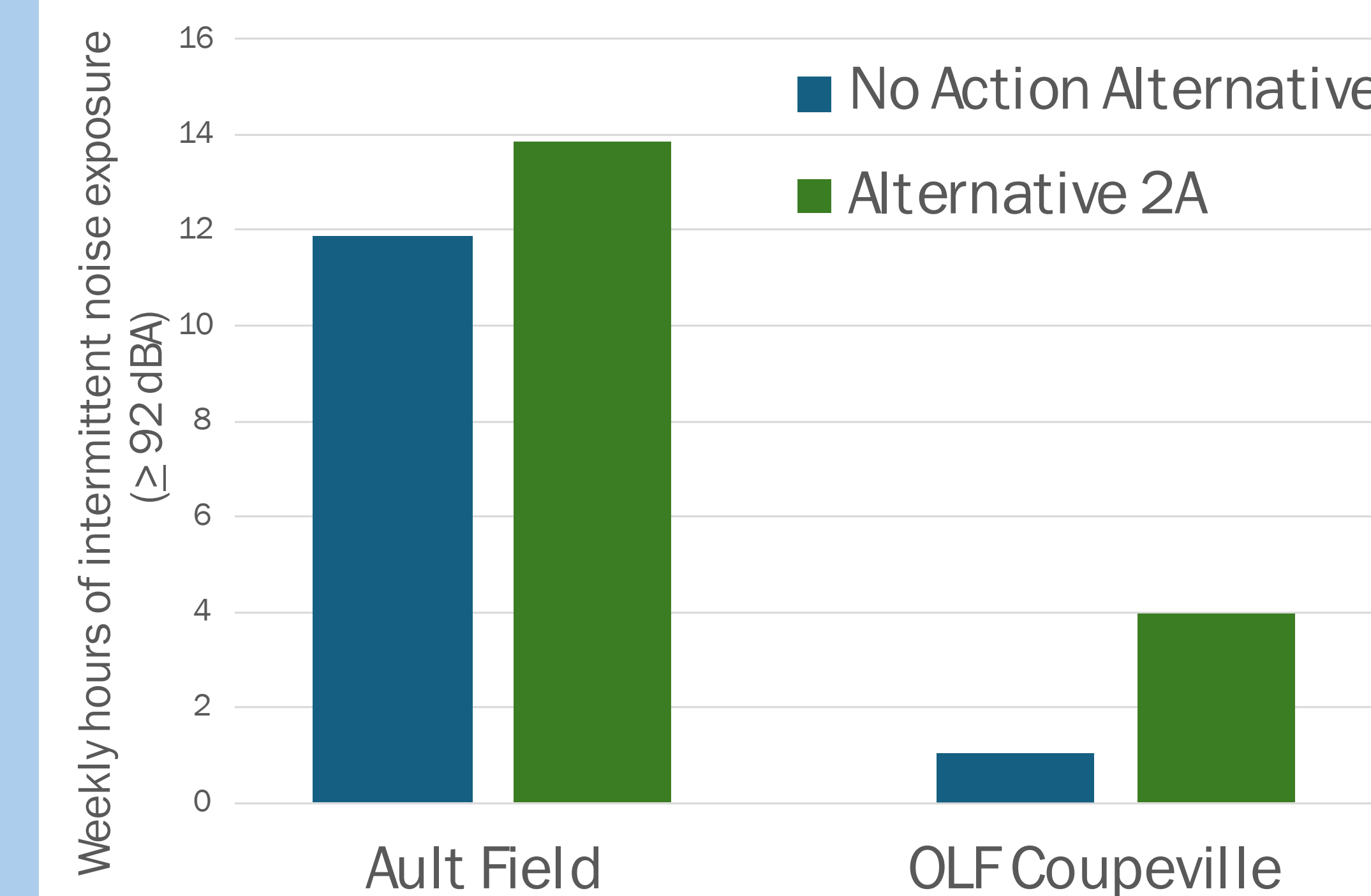
Noise Impacts on Bird Species



Objectives

- The amended analysis clarifies and expands on the analysis in the 2018 Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding the potential noise impacts of the proposed action on birds and incorporates species-specific information focusing on four at-risk species: the American white pelican, sandhill crane, common loon, and tufted puffin.
- The Navy selected these birds for further analysis because they are classified by the State of Washington as endangered, threatened, or sensitive and each has the potential to be present on or around Whidbey Island and within a 92 dBA contour area corresponding to the threshold for harm.
- This analysis does not address species analyzed previously in the 2018 Final EIS including marbled murrelet, spotted owl, streaked horned lark, and eagles.

Exposure of Birds to Disturbance-Level Growler Noise
Proposed Action vs. No Action Alternative



From NAS Whidbey Island Complex EA-18G "Growler" Draft Amended Analysis Table 2-5

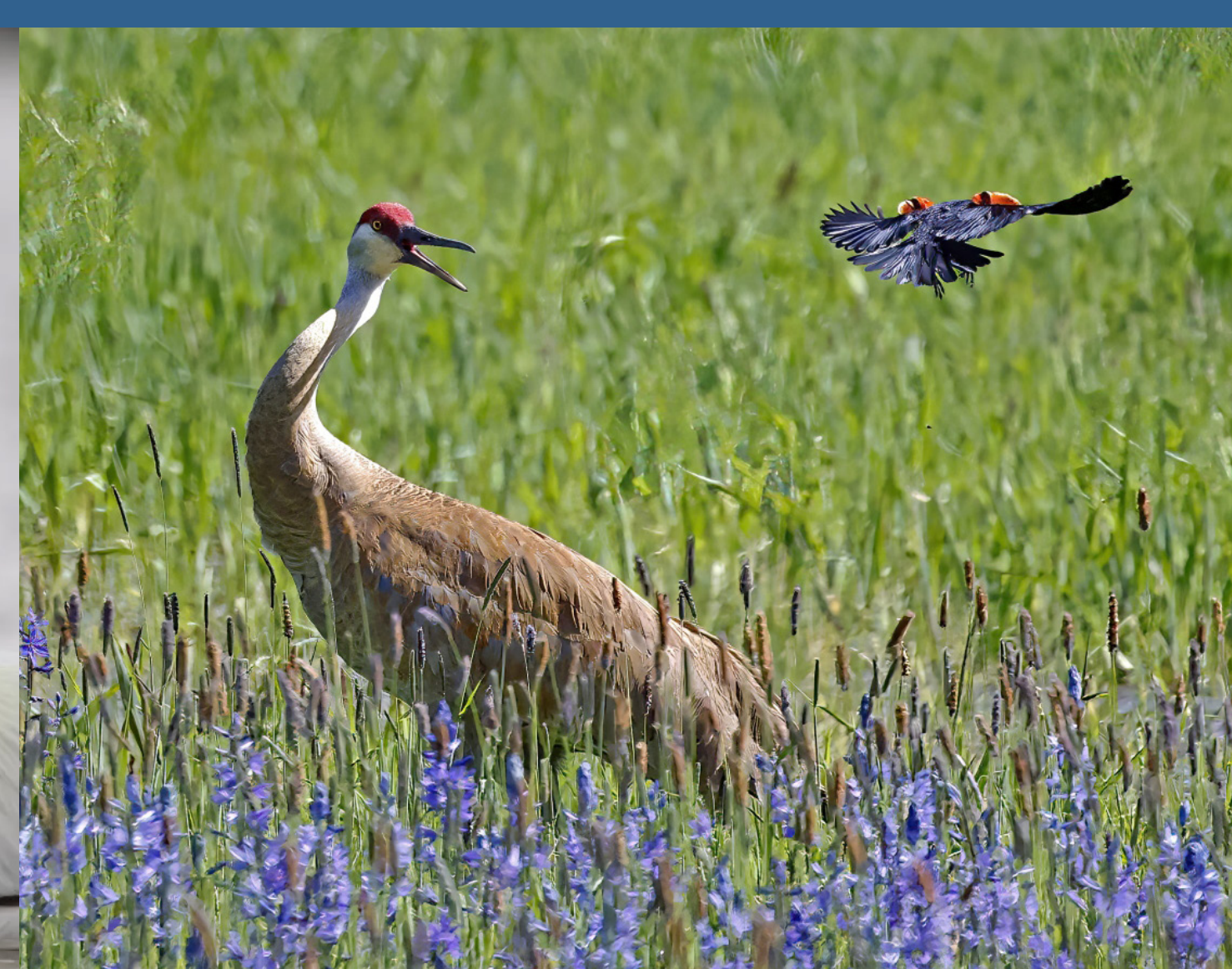
American White Pelican



WA State-Sensitive

Uncommon during migration and summer; regularly occurs at Crockett Lake

Sandhill Crane



WA State-Sensitive

Rare during nonbreeding season, only six eBird sightings in the past decade

Common Loon



WA State-Endangered

Common during nonbreeding season in nearshore marine habitats

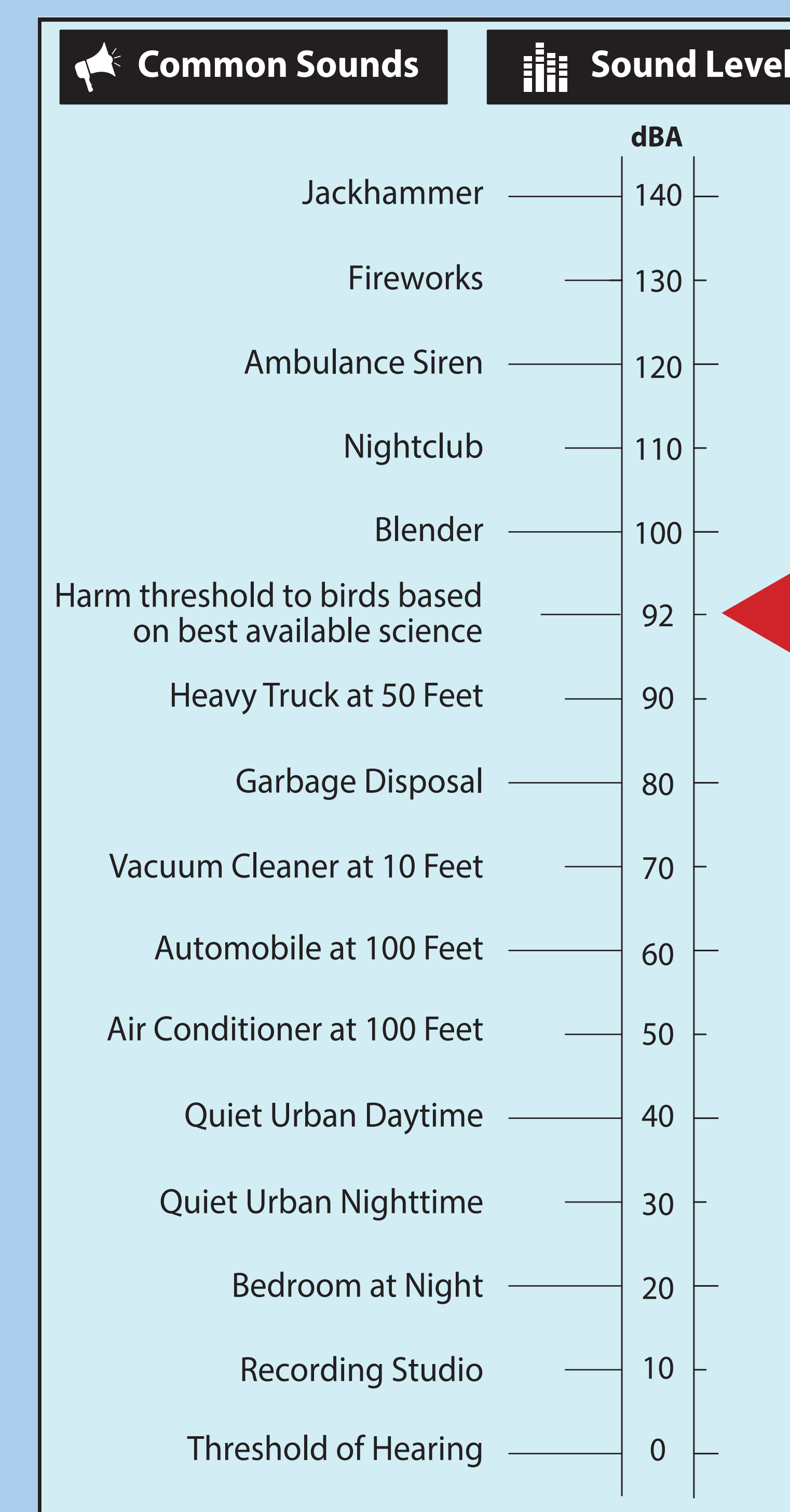
Tufted Puffin



WA State-Endangered

Absent during winter; only species that breeds in the study area (on Smith Island)

Sound Levels from Typical Sources



Conclusions

- The Proposed Action is not likely to result in significant adverse effects on State-listed species or their habitats from aircraft noise.
- Proposed Action noise impacts would be intermittent in frequency and would not disturb normal behaviors of birds to a degree that would cause significant effects on populations.

