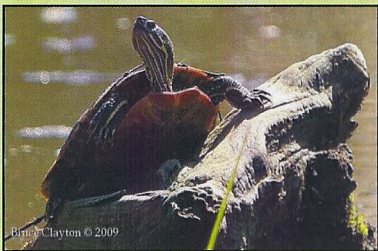


Turtle Identification

The native Western Painted Turtle is often confused with the Red-eared Slider, an introduced (non-native) species which occurs on the south coast of B.C. Watch for these key differences.

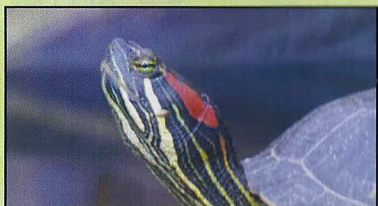
The plastron (underside) of the Western Painted Turtle is red and there are no red markings on the neck or face (below).



The plastron of the Red Eared Slider is yellow and its shell is high-domed (below).



Look for a red ear mark on the head to help identify a turtle as a Red Eared Slider (below)



TURTLE TALK

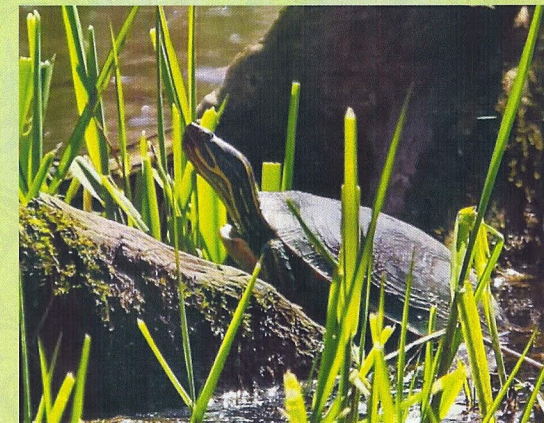
The Western Painted Turtle's diet changes with age and season. Young Western Painted turtles mainly eat aquatic insects, snails and tadpoles. As they get older these turtles add aquatic plants to their menu.

Female turtles lay 6 to 23 eggs between late May and early July and the hatchlings usually overwinter in the nest, emerging the following spring. The temperature of the nest determines whether the egg hatches as a female or male; warmer nests produce females and cooler nests produce males.

Painted Turtles can live up to 50 years in ideal conditions.

YOU CAN HELP

The Western Painted Turtle



Chrysemys picta bellii

Join Us

To report turtle sightings, volunteer with habitat enhancement efforts, or join our landowner stewardship program, contact the South Coast Western Painted Turtle Recovery Project

Email: WPTRecovery@gmail.com

Phone: 604-817-7246 or 778-833-2417



Canada



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