

# Western Pond Turtle

**Habitat:** marshes, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes on the west coast of USA and Mexico

**Size:** 8 inches long  
1-1½ pounds

**Lifespan:** up to 50 years

**Eats:** insects, crayfish, fish, frogs, algae, lily pods, cattail roots, and aquatic invertebrates

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These turtles are quick to hide underwater or in silt so they are hard to see in the wild.

They grow slowly and may not lay their first eggs until they are 10-12 years old. They bury their eggs close to the water and leave them to hatch on their own.

