**Progress Report on Steps Taken for Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada** (April 2021 – September 2021)

December 2021



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#### DEPARTMENTAL MESSAGE

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Parks Canada Agency (PCA), have a core responsibility to protect, conserve and recover terrestrial species at risk and their critical habitat. This responsibility is shared with provincial and territorial governments. ECCC and PCA work cooperatively with the provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, other federal departments and agencies, and other partners and stakeholders to undertake conservation measures to recover species at risk and protect biodiversity at large.

A key tool for the protection of species at risk in Canada is the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Listing species under SARA and producing the required recovery documents allows for the refinement of long-term recovery objectives and strategies for each species at risk and their habitats. However, as more species are listed under SARA, it has become evident that a species by species approach to recovery is highly resource-intensive and can lead to uncoordinated, siloed actions that do not enable us to meet our collective species at risk requirement to the greatest extent possible. To best focus on recovery outcomes and undertake needed actions in an effective and timely manner, consensus has emerged on the need for a prioritized, multi-species, stewardship-based approach; one that is grounded in stronger multi-jurisdictional partnerships and engagement of all partners, notably Indigenous Peoples.

Since 2018, the Government of Canada has been collaborating with provinces<sup>1</sup>, territories, Indigenous Peoples, and other conservation partners to implement the <u>Pan-Canadian Approach</u> to <u>Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in Canada</u><sup>2</sup> (Pan-Canadian Approach). Under the Pan-Canadian Approach, conservation efforts are concentrated on shared priorities across Canada, focusing on a set of priority places, species, and sectors. These concerted efforts are bringing conservation partners together to collectively plan and implement stewardship actions on the ground to achieve better outcomes for species at risk.

11 federal-provincial-territorial priority places have been established that are hotspots for species at risk. These priority places cover nearly 30 million hectares (including ~2 million hectares of critical habitat for species at risk) with more than 320 species at risk (~147 of which have > 50% of their range included within the priority places). In the priority places, federal and provincial or territorial governments are working with Indigenous Peoples and stakeholders to develop conservation action plans that will identify key actions to address the greatest threats to species. These 11 priority places are complemented by a suite of Community-Nominated Priority Places (CNPP), which were identified through an open call for applications. In 2019-20, 1262 hectares were secured

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although the Government of Quebec is not implementing the Pan-Canadian Approach, the province is working complementarily with the federal government in setting priorities for the recovery of species, within existing bilateral mechanisms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/wildlife-plants-species/species-risk/pan-canadian-approach/species-at-risk-conservation.html</u>

and 88 km of shoreline and 8534 hectares were stewarded for species at risk through actions implemented by partners in the federal-provincial-territorial priority places. In the same period, 697 hectares were secured and 4114 hectares were stewarded for species at risk through actions implemented by partners through CNPP.

- Six priority species have been identified by federal-provincial-territorial governments: Barren-ground Caribou; Greater Sage-Grouse; Peary Caribou; Wood Bison; Woodland Caribou, Boreal population ("boreal caribou"); and Woodland Caribou, Southern Mountain population ("southern mountain caribou"). Priority species have large geographic ranges, an important ecological role on the national or regional scale, and many have high cultural, traditional and spiritual meaning for Indigenous Peoples. Together, the priority species' distributions cover over 576 million hectares of Canada, ~58% of Canada. By delivering conservation outcomes for targeted priority species, it is expected that we can achieve significant co-benefits for other species at risk, wildlife in general, and related biodiversity values.
- Three priority sectors have been identified: agriculture, forest sector and urban development. The Priority Sectors initiative addresses each of these sectors through a three-pronged approach:
  - supporting innovative sector projects that can lead to the protection and recovery of species at risk (such as integrating species at risk into sectoral plans, testing of decision support tools, assessing financial incentives and mechanisms)
  - creating a mechanism for collaboration with sectors; and
  - developing conservation action plans for species at risk with sector partners and stakeholders.

COVID-19 has resulted in delays in implementation of some projects on the ground, however ECCC, along with PCA, provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples and other partners will continue to advance species at risk conservation through implementation of the Pan-Canadian Approach and related policy and program improvements.

## INTRODUCTION

The purposes of SARA are to prevent wildlife species from being extirpated or becoming extinct, to provide for the recovery of wildlife species that are extirpated, endangered or threatened as a result of human activity, and to manage species of special concern to prevent them from becoming threatened or endangered. The responsibility for conservation of species at risk in Canada is shared by different levels of government. The Government of Canada first looks to the provinces and territories for the protection of terrestrial species' habitat on non-federally administered lands, whereas the federal government is responsible for critical habitat protection for all species on federal lands.

Under SARA, the Government of Canada is obliged to track and report on actions taken and measures put in place to protect identified critical habitat of species at risk. This responsibility is

found under section 63 of the Act. The department has published seven reports to date on the measures taken. This report focuses on information related to the critical habitat protection of terrestrial species at risk.

In addition to reporting on the implementation of SARA, federal, provincial and territorial governments have been implementing the Pan-Canadian Approach since 2018. This approach, now in its fourth year of implementation, is largely shifting from a single-species conservation approach to one that focuses on multiple species and ecosystems through a set of priority places, species, and sectors across Canada. This transformative approach is enabling conservation partners to work together to achieve better outcomes for species at risk. The Pan-Canadian Approach is also renewing relationships and strengthening collaboration between our governments and Indigenous Peoples, and other partners, including industry and non-governmental organizations.

In the spirit of the Pan-Canadian Approach, and of section 63 of SARA, this report provides a summary of steps and actions taken and underway by provincial, territorial and federal governments to contribute towards the protection of identified critical habitat for 248<sup>3</sup> terrestrial species at risk in Canada, an increase of 14 species since the previous report published on July 2021. (see Annex A). The report encompasses information related to species at risk critical habitat on federal and non-federal lands. Building on the previous seven publications<sup>4</sup>, this report focuses on steps and actions that have occurred within the reporting period of April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021. Since the first report (June 2019), 276 steps and actions have been taken to protect identified critical habitat for species at risk.

#### **REPORT FRAMEWORK / CATEGORY DEFINITIONS**

ECCC contacted provinces and territories to request that they report on steps and actions taken to contribute towards the protection of critical habitat on non-federally administered land. This request began with critical habitat as identified in federal recovery strategies or action plans for federally listed terrestrial species at risk. The report also includes information on other collaborative efforts as well as information on steps and actions taken on federal lands including input from PCA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The report provide a summary only for species at risk that are listed as Endangered or Threatened under SARA with critical habitat identified on non-federal land.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Three reports are related to critical habitat protection for the Woodland Caribou, Boreal population (*Progress* report on unprotected critical habitat for the Woodland Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou), Boreal population, in Canada - April 2018; Progress Report on Steps Taken to Protect Critical Habitat for the Woodland Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou), Boreal Population, in Canada; and <u>Progress Report on Steps Taken to Protect Critical Habitat for the Woodland Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou), Boreal Population, in Canada - June 2019</u>), and four multi-species reports for all other species with identified critical habitat on non-federal lands (<u>Report on Steps</u> Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada).

Guided by the Pan-Canadian Approach, steps or actions are organized in this report based on whether they relate to a single species, or relate to multi-species, priority places, or priority sectors. ECCC also summarized the input and categorized it into the type of step or action taken. The key categories of steps or actions are defined as follows:

- **Legislative or regulatory**: Steps taken related to the development or implementation of a wildlife/species at risk act or a regulation under existing legislation.
- **Policy**: Steps linked to the development or approval of a policy to apply a species at risk legislation or consider wildlife and species at risk in decision making.
- **Protected areas**<sup>5</sup>: Steps linked to the setting aside of land under an existing act or regulation for the purpose of regulating activities to reduce their adverse effects on habitat, or steps linked to the negotiation or establishment of a protected area.
- Agreements or easements: Steps linked to the negotiation or signature of a conservation agreement, under section 11 of SARA or under another applicable legislation (such as a *Conservation Easement Act*).
- Securement<sup>6</sup>: Voluntary setting aside, sale or purchase of land for the purpose of conservation and protection by a private landowner or a government, without the legal designation as a protected area.
- **Range and management planning**: Actions linked to the development and implementation of management plans and ranges plans.
- Control of Activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat (ALTDs): Any actions not already above captured which help control activities likely to result in the destruction of critical habitat for species at risk, when these activities are identified as such in the recovery strategy for the species.
- **Stewardship:** Habitat management actions which help maintain, restore or enhance the quality of habitat.

The list of species in each jurisdiction to which this report applies can be found in Annex A. This list represents all terrestrial species currently listed on Schedule 1 of SARA as threatened or endangered for which critical habitat has been identified in a final federal recovery strategy or action plan<sup>7</sup>.

The Yukon and Northwest Territories devolution agreements have given administration and control of large portions of land to the Yukon and Northwest Territories governments. This type of agreement is under negotiation for Nunavut. The federal government is working with the governments of the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Indigenous governments and organizations, and northern Wildlife Management Boards to develop a path forward for protection of critical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The following definition is under review

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The following definition is under review

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> As of September 30, 2021

habitat on devolved lands (also known as territorial lands) and will also look to do so with its counterparts in Nunavut through the devolution process.

# **1** PROTECTION OF CRITICAL HABITAT IN THE PROVINCES

For critical habitat occurring on non-federally administered lands in the provinces, the Government of Canada first looks to the laws of the provinces for the protection of terrestrial species' habitat. In the following sections, a summary of the applicable legislation is provided, followed by the different actions and measures put in place which reduce the risk of destruction of critical habitat.

# 1.1 British Columbia

## Status Summary

In British Columbia (B.C.), there are 97<sup>8</sup> species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal land and three species with federally identified critical habitat only on federal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A1). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, one new species (Western Painted Turtle, pacific coast population) has had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within B.C. No legislative changes were made during the reporting period; the summary of legislation is below.

The Government of British Columbia does not currently have stand-alone species at risk legislation, and the purpose of most provincial land use legislation in B.C. is to manage industrial and commercial activities, including the environmental effects of those activities.

The *Ecological Reserve Act*, the *Park Act*, the *Wildlife Act*, the *Land Act* and their associated regulations include provisions that could, in some circumstances, result in an outcome that prohibits critical habitat destruction within ecological reserves, in conservancies or provincial parks, and in wildlife management areas respectively. However, the scope of lands covered by these Acts is limited, and, except within ecological reserves, there are discretions that may enable the authorization of activities likely to result in the destruction of critical habitat. The *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) and the *Oil and Gas Activities Act* and associated regulations include enforceable prohibitions, but the prohibitions only apply to forest harvesting activities, oil and gas activities, or range use practices under some circumstances, vary in their application depending on the specific land use designation, and have less restrictive provisions or exemptions for various types of operators.

On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation in B.C. may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Not previously reported, although it did not occur within this reporting period, Batwing Vinyl Lichen was added to the Annex A1 following the identification of critical habitat on non federal land.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment, please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on</u> <u>Steps Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Protected	Lewis's	On June 24, 2021, the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural
Areas	Woodpecker	Resource Operations and Rural Development established
	_	three new Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHA) by Order for
		Lewis's Woodpecker in the Selkirk Forest District covering
		197 ha.
Protected	Woodland	On April 22, 2021 and on July 21, 2021, B.C. established 35
Areas	Caribou	and 41 new WHAs by Order for southern mountain caribou in
	(Southern	the Mackenzie Forest District and in the Stuart Nechako
	Moutain	Forest District, respectively, covering 102,694 ha.
	population)	
Protected	Woodland	On June 18, 2021, B.C. renewed an interim moratorium on
Areas	Caribou	new resource development in parts of Northeastern B.C.,
	(Southern	which had been put in place on June 20, 2019 for a period of
	Mountain	two years. The moratorium, which was implemented to
	population)	protect important habitat while a long-term plan is developed
		through engagement with local communities, stakeholders and
		First Nations, will be in place for another two years, or until
		the associated <i>Environment and Land Use Act</i> , FRPA, and
		Mineral Tenure Act orders are repealed.
Protected	Western	During this reporting period, several new WHAs were
Areas	Rattlesnake	established, for a total of 1,358 hectares.
	Great Basin	
	Gophersnake	
Control of	Oregon	B.C. continues Bullfrog control efforts at Morris Valley,
Activities	Spotted Frog	within critical habitat polygon for Oregon Spotted Frog
Likely to		covering approximately six hectares. In June-July 2021, three
Result in		surveys were completed and nine male bullfrogs were
		removed. Work funded by Habitat Stewardship Program (held
		by the Fraser Valley Conservancy) and the Ministry of

Steps and actions taken for specific species

Destruction of		Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural
critical habitat		Development (FLNRORD) in-kind/base funds.
		Development (I'LINKOKD) m-Kinu/base funus.
Regulatory or	Marbled	FLNRORD is proposing to establish:
Legislative	Murrelet	
	(MAMU)	<ol> <li>the MAMU Order, which will contribute towards the protection of an additional 60,000 ha of MAMU nesting habitat (hereafter suitable habitat) on provincial Crown land on Vancouver Island and the South Coast; and</li> <li>the MAMU Notice, which will guide the establishment of WHA under FRPA and Old-Growth Management Areas under the Land Act.</li> </ol>
		The proposed MAMU Order and MAMU Notice apply to the area identified as suitable habitat in Schedule 2 through Schedule 6 of the MAMU Order. The majority of suitable habitat is old growth forest.
		The province has completed Indigenous consultation and public review and comment. It is anticipated that this will go to the decision maker in the next few weeks. The information is available here:
		https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/crown-land- water/land-use-planning/proposed-land-use-objectives- regulation-orders
		Schedules 2-6: Maps of Marbled Murrelet Nesting Habitat (Suitable Habitat) within Crown Land:
		<ul> <li>North Island - Central Coast Natural Resource District (PDF, 3.7MB)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Campbell River Natural Resource District (PDF, 5.1MB)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>South Island Natural Resource District (PDF, 4.9MB)</li> <li>Cariboo-Chilcotin Natural Resource District and Sunshine Coast Natural Resource District (PDF, 4.0MB)</li> <li>Sea to Sky Natural Resource District and Chilliwack</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Sea to Sky Natural Resource District and Chilliwack Natural Resource District (PDF, 3.9MB)</li> </ul>

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Control of Activities Likely to Result in Destruction of critical habitat Protected Areas / Securement	Batwing Vinyl Lichen Coastal Giant Salamander Coastal Scouler's Catchfly Deltoid Balsamroot Balsamroot Dun Skipper (western population) Howell's Triteleia Little Brown Howell's Triteleia Little Brown Maoun's Maoun's Meadowfoam Marbled Murrelet Northern Goshawk <i>laingii</i> subspecies Oregon Forestsnail Oregon Forestsnail Oregon Forestsnail Oregon Spotted Frog Pacific Water Shrew Phantom Orchid Poor Pocket Moss Purple Sanicle Rigid Apple Moss	<ul> <li>Within the Southwestern British Columbia Priority Place, in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, multi-year funding under the Canada Nature Fund supported provincial government and Environmentalism Non-Governmental Organization (ENGO) partners in implementing projects that collectively targeted 27 species at risk with identified critical habitat. These projects include steps that aim at reducing activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat, including:</li> <li>Three projects that maintained and improved habitat values within existing conservation lands in BC's Lower Mainland, the Gulf Islands, and the East coast of Vancouver Island, undertaking activities such as invasive plant species control and removal, and managing human recreational pressures. Collectively, these actions have maintained habitat quality of over 4,000 ha of conservation land, which includes critical habitat for 17 species at risk. All three of these projects are multi-year funding agreements and will continue until 2023.</li> <li>Other beneficial actions include securement, planning and prioritization to support ongoing and future securement of additional areas of highest-value habitat for species at risk, including critical habitat. For example:</li> <li>Two new securements (7.4 ha) were completed and three additional securements were in negotiation (51.7 ha), all of which are expected to be completed in fiscal year 2021-22. These additions will expand the network of conserved lands benefitting species at risk within British Columbia's Gulf Islands.</li> <li>Sites were prioritized for conservation action within Garry Oak ecosystems on Vancouver Island, and in the eastern Fraser Valley, by incorporating species at risk values and critical habitat. Identified sites will be targeted for stewardship and securement actions during the remainder of this multi-year project, which continues until 2023.</li> </ul>

	Cond work or -	
	Sand-verbena	
	Moth	
	Sharp-tailed	
	Snake	
	Streambank	
	Lupine	
	Tall Bugbane	
	Tall Woolly-	
	heads	
	Taylor's	
	Checkerspot	
	Townsend's	
	Mole	
	Vancouver	
	Island	
	Marmot	
	Western	
	Painted	
	Turtle	
	(pacific coast	
	population)	
	Yellow	
	Montane	
	Violet	
	praemorsa	
	subspecies	
Control of	Behr's	Not previously reported, although it did not occur within the
Activities	Hairstreak	April 2021-September 2021 period, within the Dry Interior
Likely to	Branched	British Columbia Priority Place, in the 2020-2021 fiscal year;
Result in	Phacelia	funding under the Canada Nature Fund supported provincial
Destruction of	Desert	government, local government, and ENGO partners in
critical habitat	Nightsnake	implementing projects that collectively targeted 17 species at
	Grand	risk with identified critical habitat.
	Coulee Owl-	These projects include steps that aim at reducing activities
	clover	likely to result in destruction of critical habitat. For example,
	Great Basin	2 collaborative conservation and management planning
	Gophersnake	projects started in the 2019-20 fiscal year and continued in
	Great Basin	2020-21. Actions occurring in 2020-21 include:
	Spadefoot	
L	*	

Stewardship	Half-moon Hairstreak Lewis's Woodpecker Little Brown Myotis Nugget Moss Pallid Bat Rusty Cord- moss Sage Trasher Western Rattlesnake Western Tiger Salamander (Southern Mountain population) Williamson's Sapsucker Yellow- breasted Chat <i>auricollis</i> subspecies (Southern Mountain population)	<ul> <li>Signage and fencing were installed to control recreational usage in the south Okanagan valley. BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development staff worked with Osoyoos Indian Band members worked together to collect field data and cultural assessments, which will form the basis of future collaborative management of these sites.</li> <li>BC Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development staff provided technical training to Skeetchestn staff and community members, field data was collected and a draft species at risk management plan for Skeetchestn traditional territory was updated. This work lays the foundation for improved collaborative management of the area in future years.</li> <li>Other beneficial actions include securement and planning and prioritization to support ongoing and future securement, such as:         <ul> <li>The securement of a 60.9-hectare parcel of private land near Okanagan Falls, British Columbia, in spring 2021, which includes identified critical habitat for seven species (60.9 ha of critical habitat for seven species): Western Rattlesnake, Great Basin Gophersnake, Desert Nightsnake, Pallid Bat, Lewis's Woodpecker, Western Tiger Salamander, and Great Basin Spadefoot. This critical habitat will now be protected from incompatible agricultural use and development.</li> <li>The incorporation of connectivity corridors for wildlife into the City of Kelowna's Official Community Plan (OCP). As of March 2021, two corridors have been included in a draft OCP for the city. These corridors overlap identified critical habitat for four species at risk. The corridor areas will be targeted for stewardship action and securement during the remainder of this agreement, which continues until 2023.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Control of Activities	Hairstreak	April 2021-September 2021 period; Priority Places Initiative funding is used to support priority species at risk recovery

Likely to	Branched	actions within the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Priority
Result in	Phacelia	Places. Within British Columbia's two Priority Places, in the
Destruction of	Coastal Giant	2019-2020 fiscal year, Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)
critical habitat	Salamander	funding supported a variety of partners in undertaking
entieur nuonut	Desert	activities such as conservation prioritization and planning,
	Nightsnake	habitat enhancement and restoration, habitat securement, and
	Dun skipper	mitigation of threats to species at risk at their habitat. Projects
	(western	targeted 34 species at risk with identified critical habitat.
	(western population)	While activities were not constrained to critical habitat, many
	Grand	activities implemented actions from recovery plans, or
	Coulee Owl-	
	clover	controlled activities likely to destroy critical habitat, such as:
		• Development and publication of Best Management
	Great Basin	Practices for road construction and maintenance in
	Gophersnake Great Basin	British Columbia.
		• Maintenance of existing provincial and ENGO/land-
	Spadefoot Half-moon	trust conservation lands throughout the Southwestern
		BC Priority Place, including invasive species removal,
	Hairstreak	habitat enhancement, and visitor management.
	Lewis's	• Extensive conservation planning to identify key areas
	Woodpecker	for action (including critical habitat) in future years of
	Little Brown	the program.
	Myotis Maaawa'a	Other beneficial actions include securement, such as the
	Macoun's	securement of a 105-hectare parcel of private land near Grand
	Meadowfoam	Forks, British Columbia, in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, which
	Nugget Moss	contains identified critical habitat for three species: Western
	Oregon	Rattlesnake (105 ha); Great Basin Gophersnake (105 ha); and
	Forestsnail	Great Basin Spadefoot (31.8 ha). This critical habitat will
	Oregon	now be protected from incompatible development,
	Spotted Frog	agricultural use, and recreational impacts.
	Pacific Water	5
	Shrew	
	Pallid Bat	
	Phantom Orahid	
	Orchid	
	Poor Pocket	
	Moss	
	Purple	
	Sanicle	
	Rigid Apple	
	Moss	

Rusty Cord-
moss
Sage Trasher
Sade-verbena
Moth
Sharp-tailed
Snake
Streambank
Lupine
Tall bugbane
Tall Woolly-
heads
Taylor's
Checkerspot
Townsend's
Mole
Western
Rattlesnake
Western
Tiger
Salamander
(Southern
Mountain
population)
Williamson's
Sapsucker
Yellow-
breasted Chat
auricollis
subspecies
(Southern
Mountain
population)

## 1.2 Alberta

#### **Status Summary**

In Alberta, there are 22 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands and three species with federally identified critical habitat only on federal lands to which

this report relates (see Annex A2). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Alberta. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The Government of Alberta does not have stand-alone species at risk legislation. The *Wildlife Act* and its *Wildlife Regulation* cover 12 SARA listed species (see Annex A2 for details) and are the primary provincial legislative tools that address wildlife management in Alberta. The *Wildlife Act* does not contain prohibitions against the destruction of habitat, but it enables the minister to make regulations respecting the protection of wildlife habitat and endangered species.

The Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves, Natural Areas and Heritage Rangelands Act, the *Provincial Parks Act* and the Willmore Wilderness Park Act include provisions on critical habitat destruction in wilderness areas, ecological reserves, wildland provincial parks, and within Willmore Wilderness Park respectively. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation, such as the *Public Lands Act* and the Public Lands Administration Regulation, may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Securement Stewardship	Greater Sage-Grouse <i>urophasianus</i> subspecies	The Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) continues to restore cropland back to native grassland at ACA's Silver Sage Conservation Site (~971 hectares), which is located in the Greater Sage-Grouse Range. In spring 2021, approximately 81 hectares of cropland was reseeded to native grassland. This restoration program is ongoing. ACA completed a Habitat Conservation Strategy on a new property (~65 hectares) within Greater Sage-Grouse range, of which ~49 hectares are identified as critical habitat for Greater Sage-Grouse.
Securement	Greater Sage-Grouse <i>urophasianus</i> subspecies	ACA has undertaken a number of actions to promote and enhance stewardship of species at risk habitats, including long-term securement of critical habitat within Alberta. On April 13, 2021, ACA received title (fee-simple purchase) for

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

Loggerhead	the Manyberries Creek Conservation Site in South Eastern
Shrike	Alberta. Of the 64.7 hectares parcel, 48.4 hectares are
excubitorides	identified as critical habitat for Greater Sage-Grouse.
subsppecies	
Little Brown Myotis	

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Stewardsip	Multiple Species	A total of ~5,250 new hectares of land were assessed under MULTISAR (Multiple Species at Risk) planning tools (i.e., Conservation Strategies or Management Plans), and 22,127 hectares of land were reassessed. Field work plans were altered in 2021 due to the ongoing health emergency, with work on some properties deferred until 2022. The MULTISAR program is delivered by the Prairie Conservation Forum and Alberta Conservation Association. As of summer 2021, a total of 226,946 hectares have had a Conservation Strategy (220,963 hectares across 65 landholders) or Management Plan (5,983 hectares across nine landholders) have been completed. In total, over 86,783 hectares have had either assessments for species at risk (63,250 hectares over 83 landholders) or Best Management Plans (23,533 hectares over 22 landholders) applied. Overall, approximately 270 individual habitat improvements have taken place with MULTISAR plans applied to a total acreage of 313,810 hectares and 179 landholders. ACA's MULTISAR program collaborates with producers to create Habitat Conservation Strategies on the following amount of critical habitat
		<ul> <li>Tiny Cryptantha: 211 hectares</li> </ul>
		• Western Spiderwort: 20 hectares
		• Smooth Goosefoot: 104 hectares
		• Small-flowered Sand Verbena: 91 hectares
		• Soapweed & Yucca Moths: 180 hectares
		• Greater Sage-grouse <i>urophasianus</i> subspecies: 18,616 hectares, of which 49 hectares are new in 2021

Stewardship	Multiple	The Alberta Environmental Farm Plan
	Species	(https://www.albertaefp.com/efp-program/) released a new
		chapter on habitat management to increase producers'
		awareness about species at risk and provide information on
		actions that may be taken to maintain or enhance habitat
		(https://www.albertaefp.com/efp-program/program-
		updates/habitat-management/).
		The new Alberta Habitat & Biodiversity Assessment Tool
		(HBAT) can help producers enhance and maintain these
		habitats through careful planning of farm management and
		stewardship practices in a way that makes sense for their
		operation. The goal is for Alberta producers to know which
		potential species at risk they may have on their land and how
		to make simple changes that will conserve them and their
		habitats.
		For the time period between April 1, 2021 to September 30,
		2021, the total cost of development and implementation of
		HBAT was approximately \$26,500. Please note, the project
		was funded 50 percent by the Government of Canada and the
		remaining 50 percent was matched by the Government of
		Alberta.
All	Multiple	No content on the steps and actions taken for priority places
	species	was provided for this reporting period.

#### 1.3 Saskatchewan

#### **Status Summary**

In Saskatchewan, there are 21 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on nonfederal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A3). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Saskatchewan. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The Government of Saskatchewan does not have stand-alone species at risk legislation. Rather, *The Wildlife Act, 1998* and its *Wild Species at Risk Regulations,* covering nine SARA listed species (see Annex A3) are the primary provincial legislative tools that can address wildlife habitat and species at risk in the province. The Act allows for the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make regulations that designate an area of the province for protection of wildlife and their habitat, however, the Act also includes provisions to authorize activities in these areas. *The* 

*Wild Species at Risk Regulations* is the only regulation that includes provisions regarding species at risk; however, the prohibitions are limited.

*The Provincial Lands Act, 2016* and *The Conservation Easement Act* include provisions on critical habitat destruction in Ecological Reserves, Representative Area Ecological Reserves and on land that is under a crown conservation easement, respectively. However, the scope of lands covered under these Acts is limited and there are specific provisions associated with each designated reserve and easement. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment, please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on</u> <u>Steps Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

SPECIES	DETAILS
Woodland	Consistent with commitments made in the conservation
Caribou	agreement under section 11 of SARA between Canada and
(Boreal	Saskatchewan for boreal caribou, work on range planning is
population)	underway.
	During this reporting period, the Final SK2 West Range Plan
	was approved by the provincial Minister and will be posted
	on the Ministry's Woodland Caribou webpage. ECCC
	assessed the plan for consistency with ECCC's Range Plan
	Guidance for Woodland Caribou, Boreal population. The
	draft SK2 East Range Plan has been prepared and will be
	made available for public review. Following completion of
	the SK2 East plan, ECCC will assess the three final SK2
	sub-range plans together to determine whether, at the range-
	level, they outline a clear, credible path to achieving 65%
	undisturbed habitat to support a self-sustaining local
	population.
	Woodland Caribou (Boreal

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
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Policy	Multiple	The Water Security Agency (WSA) started the review
	Species	process in August 2020 to identify potential gaps in policies
	~ F · · · · ·	and regulatory programs protecting SAR and Critical
		Habitat. WSA is piloting a screening process for SAR based
		on provincially coordinated occurrence data. Based on this
		information Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit and the
		Drainage approval processes will be including appropriate
		management activities including set back distances and/or
		timing restrictions as a recommendation or condition of
		approval. Continued improvements will be made to ensure
		processes are backed by appropriate science, policy and
		streamlined procedure.
		WSA has scheduled completion of a wetland mitigation
		plan for fall 2023. This plan will have implications for
		protection and consideration of species at risk and habitat.
		Ministry of Agriculture to grant an exception to the
		requirement that a dugout must be 1/3 larger to qualify for
		Farm Ranch and Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP)
		funding if there is critical habitat considerations. The
		exemption supports grazing distribution beneficial to
		species at risk. The exemption will be granted on a case by
		case basis upon discussions between Agriculture and
		Environment. The FRWIP eligibility guidelines indicate
		dugout expansions must increase the overall dugout volume
		by 1/3 to avoid rebating dugout "clean outs". Dugout clean
		outs are not new water source developments and typically
		involve an excavator removing built up silt from a dugout
		bottom/sides to maintain the existing dugout, considered
		regular maintenance/good practice.
		Final Caribou Habitat Management Areas <sup>9</sup> tier 1, 2 and 3
		areas have been finalized in the SK2 Central (July 2019)
		and SK2 West (October 2020) caribou administrative areas
		with the approval of the range plans. Proposed caribou

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Caribou Habitat Management Areas are management areas that have been tiered based on relative use by caribou and current habitat condition (level of disturbance). Each tier level (1, 2, or 3) has its own management objectives and strategies (habitat retention, restoration, management).

		habitat management areas have been identified for the SK2 East caribou administrative area.
Policy	Multiple Species	Saskatchewan has developed <i>A Protected and Conserved</i> <i>Areas Roadmap</i> which will guide future protected and conserved area establishment in the province. The Roadmap was approved for public release in September 2021. Prioritization of future protected and conserved areas will consider the importance of conserving SAR habitat. Not previously reported, although it did not occur within the April 2021 – September 2021 period; the Ministry of Agriculture's Lands Branch's <i>Interim Improvement</i> <i>Guidelines</i> (developed January 2020) were finalized as <i>Written Authorization Guidelines</i> in March of 2021. These ensure that construction and decommissioning of all agricultural improvements (dugouts, fences, etc.) on agricultural Crown land undergo a review for potential impact on critical habitat and species at risk and lessees must receive written authorization before proceeding.
Protected Areas	Multiple Species	Saskatchewan has established a protected area in the Lobstick Lake area (approx. 100,000 ha). A regulation amendment of <i>The Representative Area Ecological Reserve</i> <i>Regulation</i> under <i>The Provincial Lands Act</i> was required to finalize the protection status. Saskatchewan continues to work with all levels of government, Indigenous communities, industry and other land users. A number of proposed protected and conserved areas are currently in varying stages of completion. Four Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas have been proposed by Yathi Nene in Taiga Shield Ecozone in northern Saskatchewan.
Agreements or Easements	Multiple Species	In May 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture signed a contribution agreement with Canada for a multi-year research and evaluation project on opportunities to enhance critical habitat protection for multiple species at risk on Crown agricultural leases within the South of Divide.

All	Multiple	No content on the steps and actions taken for priority places
	species	was provided for this reporting period.

#### 1.4 Manitoba

#### **Status Summary**

In Manitoba, there are 20<sup>10</sup> species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A4). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species has had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Manitoba. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The *Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act* (ESEA) covers 19 SARA listed species with Critical Habitat identified on non-federal lands (see Annex A4) and is the primary provincial legislative tool to protect species at risk and their habitat on non-federal lands. In general, the ESEA includes prohibitions against destroying, disturbing or interfering with the habitat of listed endangered or threatened species. However, the ESEA includes exemptions for developments and licenses under *The Environment Act*. Manitoba has not required proponents to apply for exemption under the ESEA for development projects licensed under *The Environment Act*. The ESEA also includes provisions for designating endangered or threatened ecosystems as protected through ecosystem preservation zones, which would apply to any overlapping critical habitat. However, as of September 2021, no ecosystem preservation zones had been designated.

Additionally, the *Ecological Reserves Act* and the *Provincial Parks Act* includes provisions on critical habitat destruction in ecological reserves, and certain zones within provincial parks. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No new steps and actions were taken for specific species during this reporting period.

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Not previously reported, although it did not occur within this reporting period, Piping Plover *circumcinctus* subspecies was added to the Annex A4 following the identification of critical habitat on non federal land.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No new steps and actions were taken for multiple species or priority sectors during this reporting period.
All	Multiple species	No content on the steps and actions taken for priority places was provided for this reporting period.

Steps and actions taken related to multiple species, priority places and priority sectors

#### 1.5 Ontario

#### **Status Summary**

In Ontario, there are 95 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands and two species with federally identified critical habitat only on federal land to which this report relates (see Annex A5). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, one new species (Northern Barrens Tiger Beetle) has had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Ontario. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

Habitat protection under Ontario's *Endangered Species Act* (ESA) is in place for 171 species at risk in Ontario, 92 of which are part of the 95 terrestrial species with critical habitat identified on non-federal lands in the province (see Annex A5). Under the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* (CFSA), forest operations in Crown forests are exempt from certain prohibitions of the ESA provided the forest operations are conducted in accordance with an approved forest management plan. Impacts to species at risk as a result of forest operations are managed through requirements under the CFSA framework. Western Chorus Frog (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence - Canadian Shield population) (not currently listed under ESA), Golden-winged Warbler (currently listed Special Concern under the ESA) and Red-headed Woodpecker (currently listed Special Concern under the the only three species with final critical habitat in Ontario that do not currently receive any direct habitat protection under the ESA.

On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The Red-headed Woodpecker has recently been re-assessed by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO) as Endangered. In accordance with the ESA, the Species at Risk in Ontario list will be amended to reflect this classification on or by January 27, 2022, at which time automatic protections for the species and its habitat will come into effect. This will be reflected in future reports.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment, please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on</u> <u>Steps Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Policy Range and Management Planning	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)	<ul> <li>Under the Ontario Forest Management Guide for Boreal Landscapes, the requirements for the management of boreal caribou habitat through space and time, including through the development of a Dynamic Caribou Habitat Schedule, continued to be incorporated into forest management plans that intersect with boreal caribou ranges. Individual management plans are at various stages of completion depending on plan renewal schedules. Within the reporting period, the following forest management plan was approved:</li> <li>Kenogami Forest</li> </ul>

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Stewardship	Multiple species	The provincial species at risk stewardship program (SARSP) is continuing to provide support to 55 stewardship projects that support the protection and recovery of the Province's species at risk. Since April 2021, those projects have reported the restoration or enhancement of 630 hectares of species at risk habitat and, through outreach and education initiatives, were able to create over 300,000 outreach impressions on the public.
Regulatory or Legislative	Multiple species – to be determined Five species have been proposed: Bobolink	The province of Ontario has taken steps during this reporting period towards enabling the use of the Species at Risk Conservation Fund (Fund) that was introduced through changes to the ESA in 2019. Once fully enabled, the Fund would provide a new option for proponents that are authorized to undertake activities that impact select species at risk, where instead of completing beneficial actions for species impacted by those activities, proponents will have the option of contributing to a fund that allows the agency to pool the resources and determine how best to implement

	Eastern Meadowlark Barn Swallow Whip-poor- will Blanding's Turtle (populations occurring within the Ontario shield ecozone)	long-term, large-scale and strategic protection and recovery activities that benefit eligible species. Under this approach, proponents would still be required to take action to avoid and minimize impacts on species at risk and their habitats. On September 17, 2021, a new provincial agency was established in regulation to administer the Fund. The remaining steps to enable use of the Fund are currently under consideration, including the species that would be eligible for the Fund option.
Stewardship	Multiple species, including: Spotted Turtle Fowler's Toad Piping Plover <i>circumcinctus</i> subspecies Least Bittern Prothonotary Warbler Blanding's Turtle (Great Lakes/St. Lawrence population) Spiny Softshell Bent Spike- rush (Great Lakes Plains population) Queensnake Little Brown Myotis	<ul> <li>Federal, Provincial and Territorial Priority Place</li> <li>Within the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Long Point</li> <li>Walsingham Forest Collaborative continued the implementation of conservation actions in the Long Point</li> <li>Walsingham Forest Priority Place as identified in the Integrated Conservation Action Plan.</li> <li>Stewardship actions that help maintain or enhance the quality of habitat include the following multi-year activities: <ul> <li>Invasive species management for <i>Phragmites australis</i> in coastal wetlands and upland habitat on private and public lands.</li> <li>Managing, restoring, improving, and protecting habitat on marginal agricultural land through conservation agreements.</li> <li>Enhancement of existing tallgrass prairie, oak savannah and oak woodland communities using prescribed burns, invasive species control and conifer thinning.</li> <li>Engaging public and private landowners to provide protection to species at risk forest bird habitat according to identified Best Management Practices.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Northern	
Myotis	
Tri-coloured	
Bat	
Acadian	
Flycatcher	
Jefferson	
Salamander	
Eastern	
Foxsnake	
(Carolinian	
population)	
Gray Ratsnake	
(Carolinian	
population)	
Red-headed	
Woodpecker	
American	
Badger	
jacksoni	
subspecies	
Golden-	
winged	
Warbler	
Bird's-foot-	
violet	
Virginia	
Goat's-rue	
Eastern	
Flowering	
Dogwood	
Yellow-	
breasted Chat	
Spotted	
Wintergreen	
American	
Chestnut	
Cucumber	
Tree	

	Longe	
	Large	
	Whorled	
	Pogonia	
	Round-leaved	
	Greenbrier	
Stewardship	Multiple	Community-nominated Priority Places
	species, including: Blanding's Turtle (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population) Eastern Foxsnake (Great Lakes/St. Lawrence population) Massasauga (Great Lakes/St. Lawrence population)	<ul> <li>Not previously reported, although it did not occur within the April 2021-September 2021 period, ECCC supported the continued implementation of conservation actions in the Georgian Bay Biosphere Region Community Nominated Priority Place with funding in 2020-2021. Stewardship actions that help maintain or enhance the quality of habitat implemented include:</li> <li>Hosting workshops with municipalities and First Nation Communities related to SAR protection and conservation integration in land use planning.</li> <li>Working with municipality to draft policies, regulations, and implementation options related to SAR and land use planning.</li> </ul>
	Spotted Turtle	
Stewardship	Multiple	Community-nominated Priority Places
	species, including: Blanding's Turtle Spotted Turtle Wood Turtle	Not previously reported, although it did not occur within the April 2021-September 2021 period, ECCC supported the continued implementation of conservation actions in the Land Between Bioregion Community Nominated Priority Place with funding in 2020-2021. Stewardship actions that help maintain or enhance the quality of habitat implemented include:
		<ul> <li>Installing and monitoring turtle fencing for candidate tunnel sites.</li> <li>Negotiating with municipalities and neighboring landowners for installation and permits for turtle road mortality mitigation.</li> </ul>

#### 1.6 Quebec

#### **Status Summary**

In Quebec, there are 33 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A6). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, one new species (Northern Barrens Tiger Beetle) has had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Quebec. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

In Quebec, the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* (LEMV) covers 29 SARA listed species (see Annex A6) and designates species as threatened or vulnerable. The LEMV also anticipates the creation of a List of Species Likely to be Designated Threatened or Vulnerable. Essentially preventive in nature, the List of Species Likely to be Designated Threatened or Vulnerable is an administrative and educational tool aimed at halting, or even reversing, the decline of species. However, there is no obligation to designate or protect habitats necessary for the survival or recovery of a species. In addition, although the LEMV and the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (LCMVF) apply in principle to both private and public lands, the *Regulation respecting wildlife habitats* (RHF) limits the designation of wildlife habitats to land in the domain of the State, therefore limiting protection of habitat of at-risk wildlife species. However, steps are being taken to modernize the RHF and review these provisions.

In addition, Quebec has several tools available to create different types of protected areas. The designation of protected areas is an element of the Quebec Government's strategy to promote sustainable development and the protection of biodiversity, including species at risk. However, with few exceptions, the areas of critical habitat covered by protected areas are generally very small except for the Green-scaled willow for which 100% of the critical habitat is in the Gaspésie national park established under the *Parks Act*. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS

Recovery	Woodland	As part of the restored habitat areas project, the Société des
Actions	Caribou	établissements de plein air du Québec dismantled 4 km of
	(Boreal	roads in the Charlevoix region in 2021. In the project on the
	population)	vast suitable area (VEP) of Manouane in Saguenay-Lac-
		Saint-Jean, 37 km of roads were dismantled in
		summer 2021.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Stewardship	Forked Three- awned Grass White Wood Aster False Hop Sedge American Ginseng Bicknell's Thrush Purple Twayblade Van Brunt's Jacob's-ladder Allegheny Mountain Dusky Salamander (Appalachian population) Wood Turtle Blunt-lobed Woodsia	<ul> <li>Not previously reported, although it did not occur within the April 2021-September 2021 period, the following elements are part of the progress report on the implementation of the administrative agreement concerning the protection of threatened or vulnerable plant and animal species and other biodiversity elements in Quebec's forests in 2020–2021 (between several provincial departments). The next update of protected sites under the administrative agreement will take place in winter 2022. To date, concrete activities that have been completed include:</li> <li>Knowledge acquisition efforts, which have raised the number of plant and animal species sites under administrative protection (under the agreement concerning the protection of threatened and vulnerable species) to 2,973;</li> <li>Implementation of a pilot project for an enhanced forest management plan for forest producers with private woodlands. This project is part of the joint programming between the Quebec Department of Forests, Wildlife and Parks (MFFP) and ECCC under the Cooperation Agreement for the Protection and Recovery of Species at Risk in Quebec 2012–2022, signed by the Governments of Quebec and Canada. The project focuses on the Montérégie and Lanaudière regions, but it could have applications for other regions across Quebec. It covers all species at risk with critical habitat in private forests that are affected by forest management activities.</li> </ul>

Stewardship Securement Control of Activities Likely to Result in Destruction of critical habitat	All Threatened and Vulnerable wildlife species	A partnership agreement between MFFP and the Fondation de la Faune du Québec provided funding for 32 projects between April 2019 and September 2021 to enhance habitat protection and reduce the impact of certain threats on the viability of populations of species at risk.
Securement Control of Activities Likely to Result in Destruction of critical habitat	Forked Three- awned Grasss White Wood Aster Gulf of St. Lawrence Aster False Hop Sedge American Water-willow Northern Myotis Whip-poor- will Victorin's Gentian Horned Grebe (Magdalen Islands population) Purple Twayblade Golden- winged Warbler Least Bittern Piping Plover <i>melodus</i> subspecies Western Chorus Frog (Great Lakes/ St. Lawrence –	<ul> <li>In 2020–2021, the Canada Nature Fund provided funding for 12 projects in the St. Lawrence Lowlands (SLL), the priority place in Quebec identified under the Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation. It also financed two other projects in community-nominated priority places in Quebec, i.e., the Magdalen Islands and the Northern Green Mountains. All of these, except one, are multi-year projects and involve a wide range of partners. The critical habitat of some 20 species could benefit from the various conservation actions taken under these projects. The projects include:</li> <li>Outreach efforts, which in some cases resulted in the acquisition of important lands for species at risk and, where possible, critical habitat (85.2 hectares of valuable habitat for several species at risk, including critical habitat for the Least Bittern, were acquired in the SLL by a non-profit organization [NPO] in the second year of a four-year project);</li> <li>Management measures for activities likely to destroy critical habitat (in the first year of a three-year project, 440 m of problematic access routes were blocked to prevent all-terrain vehicles from entering sensitive ecosystems in Outaouais, including critical habitat for the Blanding's Turtle); and</li> <li>The development of strategies to engage and mobilize private forest producers in efforts to conserve species at risk on their lands in the SLL (first year of a two-year project aimed at integrating</li> </ul>

Canadian	species at risk conservation issues into producers'
Shield	forest management plans).
population)	
Allegheny	
Moutain	
Dusky	
Salamander	
(Appalachian	
population)	
Roseate Tern	
Wood Turtle	
Spiny	
Softshell	
Blanding's	
Turtle (Great	
Lakes/St.	
Lawrence	
population)	

#### 1.7 New Brunswick

#### **Status Summary**

In New Brunswick, there are 13 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on nonfederal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A7). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within New Brunswick. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The *Species at Risk Act* (NB SARA) is the primary provincial legislative tool that can protect critical habitat for species at risk on non-federal lands. It replaced the New Brunswick *Endangered Species Act* (NB ESA) in 2013. Schedule A of the NB SARA contains the species that were transferred from the NB ESA and kept the status they had under the NB ESA, including species that were listed as Endangered. Of the 13 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat in New Brunswick, eight species of Schedule A may receive habitat protection through transitional provisions of the NB SARA up until they are removed from Schedule A (see Annex A7). To be removed from Schedule A, the species must be listed and regulations provide that the prohibitions under section 28 apply<sup>12</sup>. Section 28 of the NB SARA states that no person shall kill, harm, harass, take, possess, buy, sell or trade an individual of a listed species at risk. Section 28 only applies to listed extirpated, endangered, or threatened species. Once listed, the NB SARA provides the Government of New Brunswick with the power to protect species at risk critical habitat by regulation or by order but only at the discretion of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> For more information, please refer to the Act: <u>http://laws.gnb.ca/en/showfulldoc/cs/2012-c.6//20210621</u>

Minister. To date no species has been listed under the NB SARA, and therefore no regulations have been made or orders issued in respect to the designation or protection of species at risk critical habitat under this Act.

The NB SARA and the *Protected Natural Areas Act* include provisions for species at risk critical habitat within Protected Natural Areas. Additionally, the *Parks Act* includes prohibitions against activities that could result in the destruction of species at risk critical habitat, though limited.

Under the *Conservation Easements Act*, individual easements could include prohibitions against activities likely to result in the destruction of species at risk critical habitat. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple	No new steps and actions were taken for specific species
	species	during this reporting period.

#### Steps and actions taken related to multiple species, priority places and priority sectors

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple	No new steps and actions were taken for multiple species,
	species	priority places or priority sectors during this reporting period.

#### 1.8 Prince Edward Island

#### **Status Summary**

In Prince Edward Island (PEI), there is one species at risk with federally identified critical on non-federal lands habitat to which this report relates (see Annex A8). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within PEI. There have been no modifications to legislation which applies to species at risk within this reporting period.

The *Wildlife Conservation Act* is the primary provincial legislative tool that can protect critical habitat for species at risk on non-federal lands. The Act provides the Government of Prince Edward Island with the power to protect the critical habitat of species at risk that have been designated (at the discretion Lieutenant Governor in Council) as a threatened or endangered species. To date, no regulations have been made under the *Wildlife Conservation Act* to designate a species at risk. Species at risk critical habitat could also, potentially, be protected on private land under an agreement with a private landowner which may impose a covenant or easement on the private landowner's land. Unlike stand-alone easement legislation, which tends to be enforced under common law, such an agreement appears to be enforceable under the *Wildlife Conservation Act*.

The *Natural Areas Protection Act* includes provisions for species at risk critical habitat that occurs within natural areas designated under the Act. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation, such as the *Planning Act*, may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No content on the steps and actions taken for specific species was provided for this reporting period.

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

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Stens and actions taken related	1 to militinie checiec	nriarity nigees and	nriarity sectors
Steps and actions taken related	i to munipic species	$\mu$	priority sectors

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No content on the steps and actions taken for multiple species was provided for this reporting period.
All	Multiple species	No new steps and actions were taken for priority places and priority sectors during this reporting period.

#### 1.9 Nova Scotia

#### Status Summary

In Nova Scotia, there are 15 species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on nonfederal lands and one species with federally identified critical habitat only on federal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A9). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Nova Scotia. Details on the Royal Assent of the *Biodiversity Act* are found below.

The *Endangered Species Act* (NS ESA) covers all 15 SARA listed species (see Annex A9) and is the primary provincial legislative tool that can protect habitat for species at risk on non-federal lands. The Act has prohibitions against the destruction of residence such as nests or hibernacula, including dwellings that are anthropogenic structures. The Act also provides the mechanism (through regulation or an order) to list prohibitions against the destruction of species at risk critical habitat on non-federal lands. However, no regulations or orders protecting species at risk critical habitat have been issued under this Act.

The NS ESA, the Wilderness Areas Protection Act, the Brothers Islands Wildlife Management Regulations (under the Wildlife Act), the Provincial Parks Act, the Conservation Easements Act and the Special Places Protection Act include provisions for species at risk critical habitat. On non-federal lands, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No content on the steps and actions taken for specific species was provided for this reporting period.

#### Steps and actions taken for specific species

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
CATEGORY Stewardship Control of Acttivities Likely to Result in Destruction of critical habitat	SPECIES All Annex A9 species (excluding Bicknell's Thrush)	DETAILS Within the Kespukwitk/ Southwest Nova Scotia Priority Place and through support of the Canada Nature Fund, the Kespukwitk Conservation Collaborative (18 partners including Indigenous, academic, non-government, provincial and federal government departments), is working collaboratively toward better outcomes for species at risk. Through this multi-species, ecosystem-based conservation approach in the Kespukwitk/ Southwest Nova Scotia Priority
		Place for species at risk, critical habitat for up to 14 species

Agreements or Easements	<ul> <li>(all Annex A9 species at risk, with the exception of Bicknell's Thrush) could benefit from priority conservation actions implemented through the Priority Place.</li> <li>Not previously reported, although it did not occur within the April 2021-September 2021 period; examples of actions that were implemented in the 2020-2021 year include:</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Engaging community groups, land trusts, government agencies and other key partners in recovery activities (e.g., reduce threat of nest gulls; reduce impacts of road maintenance) to enhance and protect critical habitat for Eastern Mountain Avens</li> <li>Collaborative efforts to examine and expand the provincial Wetland of Special Significance (WSS) layer, improving the protection of critical habitat for wetland dependent species through application of the Nova Scotia Wetlands Conservation Policy</li> </ul>

### 1.10 Newfoundland and Labrador

#### **Status Summary**

In Newfoundland and Labrador, there are ten species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A10). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Newfoundland and Labrador. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The Newfoundland and Labrador *Endangered Species Act* (NFL ESA) covers ten SARA listed species (see Annex A10) and is the primary provincial legislative tool that can protect critical habitat for species at risk on non-federal lands. The Act enables the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make an order to set aside an area of land to be protected as species at risk critical habitat. However, no orders have been issued for species at risk under the NFL ESA.

The *Wilderness and Ecological Reserves Act* and the *Provincial Parks Act* both include provisions for species at risk critical habitat within Ecological Reserves and Provincial Parks respectively. On non-federal land, some provisions in other pieces of legislation may be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the provincial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>. The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

There are no Pan-Canadian Approach FPT Priority Places within this province.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Range &	Woodland	Consistent with commitments made in the conservation
Management	Caribou	agreement under section 11 of SARA between Canada and
Planning	(Boreal	Newfoundland and Labrador for boreal caribou, a work plan
	population)	was developed and a framework to initiate range planning has
		been drafted.

Steps and actions taken for specific species

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No content on the steps and actions taken for multiple species was provided for this reporting period.
All	Multiple species	No new steps and actions for priority sectors were taken durgin this reporting period.

# 2 PROTECTION OF CRITICAL HABITAT IN THE TERRITORIES

For critical habitat occurring on non-federally administered lands and in respect of the spirit of devolution agreements in the territories, the Government of Canada first looks to the laws of the territory for the protection of terrestrial species' habitat. In the following sections, a summary of the applicable legislation is provided, followed by the different actions and measures put in place which reduce the risk of destruction of critical habitat, as reported by the territorial governments.

# 2.1 Yukon

## **Status Summary**

In Yukon, there is one species at risk with identified critical habitat on non-federal lands to which this report related (see Annex A11). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within the Yukon. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The Yukon has no stand-alone legislation protecting species at risk; however, certain activities impacting individuals of wildlife species are regulated under the *Wildlife Act*. On territorial

lands, some provisions in various territorial acts can be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

For more details on the territorial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

There is no critical habitat on non-federal land in this Pan-Canadian Approach FPT Priority Places within this territory.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Agreement or Easements	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)	Consistent with commitments made in the conservation agreement under section 11 of SARA between Canada, Yukon, the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun and the Gwich'in Tribal Council for boreal caribou, fieldwork was completed during summer 2021 for the development of a lichen map that will identify high priority areas for critical habitat protection in the Yukon portion of the NT1 range. The map is on track for March 2022 delivery. In addition, Yukon is continuing work with the Northwest Territories on range delineation and on identifying important areas for protection.
		L

## Steps and actions taken for specific species

## Steps and actions taken related to multiple species, priority places and priority sectors

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No new steps and actions were taken for multiple species or priority sectors during this reporting period.

## 2.2 Northwest Territories

## **Status Summary**

In Northwest Territories (NWT) there is one species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands and one species with critical habitat identified only on federal lands to which this report related (see Annex A12). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within NWT.

The Government of NWT's primary legislation for protecting species at risk, their *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* (NWT SARA), applies to Woodland Caribou (Boreal population). The Act has the authority to make regulations to protect critical habitat, however no such regulations have been put in place.

Protected areas in NWT can prevent some disturbance due to human activity in certain critical habitat, while 'candidate areas' may have interim protection through land withdrawals or land use plans. Moreover, regional land use plans contribute to conservation of species at risk habitat in the NWT in certain areas. Approved land use plans are implemented through comprehensive land claim agreements and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

For more details on the territorial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

There are no Pan-Canadian Approach FPT Priority Places within this territory.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Range &	Woodland	Consistent with commitments made in the conservation
Management	Caribou	agreement under section 11 of SARA between Canada and
Planning	(Boreal	the Northwest Territories for boreal caribou, work on range
	population)	planning is underway. An interim Wek'èezhii boreal caribou
		range plan was released on August 18, 2021 for public
		review and comment until October 1, 2021. The plan was
		also submitted to the Wek'eezhi1 Renewable Resources
		Board as a management proposal in accordance with Section
		12.5.1 of the Tłįchǫ Agreement.

### Steps and actions taken for specific species

### Steps and actions taken related to multiple species and priority sectors

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple	No new steps and actions were taken for multiple species or
	species	priority sectors during this reporting period.

## 2.3 Nunavut

### Status Summary

In Nunavut, there are two species at risk with federally identified critical habitat on non-federal lands to which this report relates (see Annex A13). From April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021, no new species have had critical habitat identified on non-federal lands within Nunavut. There have been no modifications to species at risk legislation within this reporting period.

The *Wildlife Act* is the main legislative tool that can specifically protect habitat for species at risk. In general, the *Wildlife Act* provides prohibitions against the destruction of species at risk critical habitat on public lands. However so far, no species are listed under the Nunavut *Wildlife Act*. On public lands the *Territorial Parks Act* includes prohibitions against activities on critical habitat, and some provisions in various territorial acts can be used to prohibit specific activities likely to result in destruction of critical habitat.

In addition, the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) leads the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP), an obligation under the Nunavut Agreement. Trough its provisions, the NLUP is another legislative tool that could support the protection of critical habitat if supported as such by the three approving Parties (Government of Canada, Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated). In July 2021, NPC released a new version of the draft NLUP, which can be found on <u>NPC Public Registry</u>.

For more details on the territorial legislative assessment please refer to the 2019 <u>Report on Steps</u> <u>Taken and Protection of Critical Habitat for Species at Risk in Canada</u>.

The following section highlights the actions taken for species at risk critical habitat protection within the designated reporting period.

There is no Pan-Canadian Approach FPT Priority Places within this territory.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple	No content on the steps and actions taken for specific
	species	species was provided for this reporting period.

## Steps and actions taken for specific species

#### Steps and actions taken related to multiple species and priority sectors

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
All	Multiple species	No content on the steps and actions taken for multiple species was provided for this reporting period.
All	Multiple species	No new steps and actions were taken for priority sectors during this reporting period.

# **3** OTHER COLLABORATIVE AND FEDERAL PROTECTION OF CRITICAL HABITAT

## Steps and actions taken specifically for priority species under the Pan-Canadian Approach

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Agreements	Woodland	On August 13, 2021, a draft conservation agreement for
or Easements	Caribou	boreal caribou under section 11 of SARA between Canada,
	(Boreal	Mikisew Cree First Nation and Athabasca Chipewyan First
	population)	Nation was posted on Canada's Species at Risk Public
		Registry for a 30-day public comment period.

## Other collaborative efforts for steps and actions related to multiple species.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
Stewardship	Multiple species	<ul> <li>Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP)</li> <li>In 2021-2022 the Habitat Stewardship Program allocated \$3.6M in funding to 76 projects that may directly or indirectly benefit the critical habitat of multiple species. Conservation actions supported include but are not limited to:</li> <li>Habitat protection, including protection of SAR nests using exclosures and enclosures.</li> <li>Habitat improvement through vegetation planting, invasive species control and prescribed burns.</li> <li>Threat abatement including mitigation fencing to reduce turtle road mortality and recreation management.</li> <li>Conservation planning,</li> <li>Community outreach and education through workshops, social media, and brochure distribution.</li> <li>Conducting capture-mark-recapture surveys and monitoring to assess presence/absence of SAR, suitable habitat, and extent of invasive species.</li> <li>Forming partnerships for information sharing and coordinating approaches to SAR conservation.</li> </ul>

Stewardship	Multiple species	<ul> <li>Aboriginal Fund for Species at risk (AFSAR)</li> <li>In 2021-2022 the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk allocated \$2,217,935 in funding to 49 projects that may directly or indirectly benefit the critical habitat of multiple species. Conservation actions supported include but are not limited to:</li> <li>Habitat restoration and improvement (including prescribed burns to improve tallgrass prairie habitat and invasive species management for <i>Phragmites australis</i>).</li> <li>Education and outreach on species at risk BMPs for threat mitigation.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Surveys, inventories and monitoring for species at risk.</li> <li>Documentation and geographic information system (GIS) mapping of Traditional Environmental Knowledge (TEK/ATK) of target species at risk and their habitat.</li> </ul>
Stewardship	Multiple species	<ul> <li>Indigenous Partnerships Initiatives (IPI)</li> <li>In 2021-2022 the Indigenous Partnerships Initiatives allocated \$5,245,350 in funding to 43 projects that may directly or indirectly benefit the critical habitat of multiple species. Conservation actions supported include but are not limited to:</li> <li>Protection and recovery of species at risk and their habitats</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>habitats.</li> <li>Conservation/action planning for SAR informed by Indigenous knowledges</li> <li>Surveys, inventories, and monitoring of species at risk.</li> <li>Documentation and GIS mapping of Indigenous knowledge of Boreal caribou herds and their habitat</li> </ul>

### 4 PROTECTION OF CRITICAL HABITAT ON FEDERAL LAND

The Government of Canada relies on provisions of SARA to legally protect critical habitat on federal lands. There are three tools available for use under SARA: description in the *Canada Gazette* [s.58(2)]; protection statements [s.58(5)(b)]; and, orders [s.58(5)(a)]. A description of critical habitat in the *Canada Gazette* applies to species at risk found in federally protected areas (including National Wildlife Areas, Migratory Bird Sanctuaries, and National Parks). A protection statement included in the public registry can also be used to describe how critical habitat is protected. The government can also make use of orders under specific sections of SARA for the protection of critical habitat not legally protected by provisions in, or measures under, this or any other Act of Parliament. In addition to regulatory tools mentioned above the CWS also takes a stewardshhip approach to support critical habitat protection on federal lands. The Critical Habitat Interdepartmental Program (CHIP), established in 2020, is managed by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) of ECCC. This program provides funding to federal departments, agencies, and Crown corporations for projects aimed at the recovery of Canada's species at risk through the restoration and conservation of their critical habitat<sup>13</sup> on federally owned or administered lands.

PCA is responsible for species on lands under its administration. Critical habitat on lands and waters administered by PCA are also provided protection by PCA legislation and regulation. The following section summarizes the actions and measures taken by both ECCC and PCA for the protection of critical habitat for terrestrial species at risk. This section includes information on the April 2021 to September 2021 timeframe.

CATEGORY	SPECIES	DETAILS
SARA ss. 58(2) Description in the Canada Gazette	Western Painted Turtle, pacific coast population	In August 2021, ECCC led the completion of a description of critical habitat for Western Painted Turtle, pacific coast population published in the <i>Canada Gazette Part I</i> .
(Legislative or regulatory)		
SARA ss. 58(2) Description in	Red-headed Woodpecker	In April 2021, Parks Canada Agency led the completion of a description of critical habitat for Red-headed Woodpecker published in the <i>Canada Gazette Part I</i> .

### Steps and actions taken for specific species

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Critical habitat means the habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of a listed wildlife species and that is identified as the species' critical habitat in the recoveyr strategy or in an action plan for the species (S.C. 2002, e.29).

Badger jeffersoniiSepter projectsubspeciesmulti- AmericanGinsengprojectBlunt-lobeband twWoodsiahabitaBurrowingof SAOwlbetweeCoastal45 SAScouler'sfollow	April 2020 to March 2021, and April 2021 to ember 2021, the CHIP contributed funding to nine cts and eight projects, respectively. Six of these were -year projects. All of these critical habitat protection
(Legislative or regulatory)American BadgerFrom Better jeffersonii subspecies Multi- American Ginseng Blunt-lobebFrom 	ember 2021, the CHIP contributed funding to nine cts and eight projects, respectively. Six of these were -year projects. All of these critical habitat protection
or regulatory)AmericanFromStewardshipAmericanFromBadgerSeptejeffersoniiprojectsubspeciesmulti-AmericanprojectGinsengBlunt-lobebBlunt-lobeband twWoodsiahabitatBurrowingof SAOwlbetweeCoastal45 SAScouler'sfollow	ember 2021, the CHIP contributed funding to nine cts and eight projects, respectively. Six of these were -year projects. All of these critical habitat protection
or regulatory)AmericanFromStewardshipAmericanFromBadgerSeptejeffersoniiprojectsubspeciesmulti-AmericanprojectGinsengBlunt-lobebBlunt-lobeband twWoodsiahabitatBurrowingof SAOwlbetweeCoastal45 SAScouler'sfollow	ember 2021, the CHIP contributed funding to nine cts and eight projects, respectively. Six of these were -year projects. All of these critical habitat protection
StewardshipAmericanFromBadgerSeptejeffersoniiprojectsubspeciesmulti-AmericanprojectGinsengBlunt-lobebBlunt-lobeband twWoodsiahabitaBurrowingof SAOwlbetweeCoastal45 SAScouler'sfollow	ember 2021, the CHIP contributed funding to nine cts and eight projects, respectively. Six of these were -year projects. All of these critical habitat protection
IBadger jeffersonii subspecies American Ginseng Blunt-lobebSepter project multi- project and tw Woodsia Burrowing Owl Coastal Scouler's follow	ember 2021, the CHIP contributed funding to nine cts and eight projects, respectively. Six of these were -year projects. All of these critical habitat protection
Catchfly Dense Spike- primrose Desert Nightsnake Foothill Sedge Furbish's Lousewort Great Basin Gophersnake Great Basin Spadefoot Half-moon Hairstreak Kellogg's Rush Lewis's Woodpecker Little Brown Myotis Macoun's Meadowfoam Northern Myotis Oregon Spotted Frog Pacific Water Shrew Pallid Bat	cts were implemented by six government departments wo Crown corporations. The projects covered the ats of 34 species at risk (SAR) listed under Schedule 1 JRA during fiscal year 2020–2021, and 41 SAR een April 2021 and September 2021, for a total of AR over two years. The projects contributed to the wing initiatives: identification of potential critical habitats for SAR, with the aim of obtaining potential protection under SARA; recovery of SAR through habitat restoration activities, e.g., removal of invasive species and monitoring the status of sensitive and critical habitat; raising awareness among the public and specific communities regarding identified critical habitat; surveys of SAR populations in identified critical habitat; and reintroduction of SAR into identified critical habitat;

Describe Constants
Purple Sanicle
Rigid Apple
Moss
Rusty Cord-
moss
Sage Thrasher
Sharp-tailed
Snake
Showy Phlox
Tri-coloured
Bat
Western
Harvest
Mouse <i>dychei</i>
subspecies
Western
Rattlesnake
Western Tiger
Salamander
(Southern
Mountain
population)
Western
Yellow-
bellied Racer
White
Meconella
Williamson's
Sapsucker
Yellow
Montane
Violet
praemorsa
subspecies

## ANNEX A – LISTS OF SPECIES WITH CRITICAL HABITAT IDENTIFIED ON PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

### A1 – Species with critical habitat identified in British Columbia

**Batwing Vinyl Lichen** Bear's-foot Sanicle Bearded Owl-clover Behr's Hairstreak Blue-grey Taildropper Bog Bird's-foot Trefoil **Branched Phacelia Brook Spike-primrose** California Buttercup Cliff Paintbrush Coast Microseris Coastal Giant Salamander Coastal Scouler's Catchfly Coastal Vesper Sparrow Contorted-pod Evening-primrose **Deltoid Balsamroot Dense-flowered Lupine** Dense Spike-primrose Desert Nightsnake Dromedary Jumping-slug Dun Skipper (Western population) Dwarf Sandwort\*\* Dwarf Woolly-heads (Southern Mountain population) Edwards' Beach Moth Foothill Sedge Fragant Popcornflower Golden Paintbrush Grand Coulee Owl-clover Gray's Desert-parsley Great Basin Gophersnak Great Basin Spadefoot Half-moon Hairstreak Haller's Apple Moss Howell's Triteleia Kellogg's Rush

Oregon Spotted Frog Pacific Water Shrew Pallid Bat Phantom Orchid Poor Pocket Moss Porsild's Bryum Prairie Lupine **Purple Sanicle Rayless Goldfields Rigid Aple Moss** Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog Rosy Owl-clover **Rusty Cord-moss** Sage Thrasher Sand-verbena Moth Scarlett Ammannia Seaside Birds-foot Lotus\*\* Seaside Bone Seaside Centipede Lichen\*\* Sharp-tailed Snake Short-rayed Alkali Aster Showy Phlox Slender Collomia Slender Popcornflower Small-flowered Lipocarpha Small-flowered Tonella Smooth Goosefoot Southern Maidenhair Fern Spalding's Campion Spotted Owl, caurina subspecies **Stoloniferous Pussytoes** Streambank Lupine Tall Bugbane Tall Woolly-heads Taylor's Checkerspot Toothcup (Southern Mountain population)

Lemmon's Holly Fern	Townsend's Mole
Lewis's Woodpecker	Vancouver Island Marmot
Lindley's False Silverpuffs	Victoria's Owl-clover
Little Brown Myotis	Water-plantain Buttercup
Macoun's Meadowfoam	Western Painted Turtle (Pacific Coast
Marbled Murrelet	population)
Mexican Mosquito-fern	Western Rattlesnake
Mormon Metalmark (Southern Mountain	Western Tiger Salamander (Southern Mountain
population)	population)
Mountain Holly Fern	White Meconella
Muhlenberg's Centaury	Williamson's Sapsucker
Northern Goshawk, laingi subspecies	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)
Northern Leopard Frog (Rocky Mountain	Woodland Caribou (Southern Mountain
population)	population)
Northern Myotis	Yellow-breasted Chat, auricollis subspecies
Northern Saw-whet Owl, brooksi subspecies	(Southern Mountain population)
Nugget Moss	Yellow Montane Violet praemorsa subspecies
Oregon Forestsnail	
**Species with critical habitat identified only o	n federal lands.

## A2 - Species with critical habitat identified in Alberta

Banff Springs Snail**	Porsild's Bryum*
Bolander's Quillwort**	Red Knot, rufa subspecies (Tierra del
Dusky Dune Moth	Fuego/Patagonia population)
Five-spotted Bogus Yucca Moth	Slender Mouse-ear-cress*
Gold-edged Gem	Small-flowered Sand-verbena*
Greater Sage-Grouse, urophasianus	Smooth Goosefoot
subspecies*	Soapweed*
Greater Short-horned Lizard*	Tiny Cryptantha*
Little Brown Myotis	Western Harvest Mouse <i>dychei</i> population**
Loggerhead Shrike, excubitorides	Western Spiderwort*
subspecies	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)*
Non-pollinating Yucca Moth	Woodland Caribou (Southern Mountain
Northern Myotis	population)*
Ord's Kangaroo Rat*	Yucca Moth
Piping Ployer, <i>circumcinctus</i> subspecies*	

Piping Plover, *circumcinctus* subspecies\*\* Species listed provincially under Alberta's *Wildlife Regulations*, prescribed as eitherendangered or threatened –species by the Department.

\*\*Species with critical habitat identified only on federal lands.

## A3 - Species with critical habitat identified in Saskatchewan

Black-footed Ferret*	Piping Plover, circumcinctus subspecies*
Burrowing Owl*	Red-headed Woodpecker
Chestnut-collared Longspur	Red Knot, rufa subspecies (Tierra del
Dusky Dune Moth	Fuego/Patagonia population)
Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer	Slender Mouse-ear-cress*
Gold-edged Gem	Small-flowered Sand-verbena*
Greater Sage-Grouse, urophasianus	Smooth Goosefoot
subspecies*	Sprague's Pipit
Greater Short-horned Lizard	Swift Fox*
Loggerhead Shrike, excubitorides	Tiny Cryptantha*
subspecies	Western Spiderwort*
Mountain Plover	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)

\* Species listed provincially under the Saskatchewan *Wild Species at Risk Regulations* as threatened, endangered or extirpated wild species at risk.

## A4 - Species with critical habitat identified in Manitoba

Dusky Dune Moth*	Red Knot, rufa subspecies (Tierra del
Gattinger's Agalinis*	Fuego/Patagonia population) *
Gold-edged Gem*	Rough Agalinis*
Golden-winged Warbler*	Small White Lady's-slipper*
Least Bittern*	Smooth Goosefoot*
Little Brown Myotis*	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid*
Northern Myotis*	Western Silvery Aster*
Piping Plover circumcinctus subspecies	Western Spiderwort*
Poweshiek Skipperling*	Whip-poor-will*
Red-headed Woodpecker*	White Flower Moth*
	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)*

\* Species listed provincially as endangered or threatened species under the ESEA regulations.

### A5 – Species with critical habitat identified in Ontario

Acadian Flycatcher*	Juniper Sedge*
Allegheny Mountain Dusky Salamander	Kentucky Coffee-tree*
(Carolinian population)*	Kirtland's Warbler**
American Badger, jacksoni subspecies*	Lakeside Daisy *
American Chestnut*	Large Whorled Pogonia*
American Columbo*	Least Bittern*
American Gingseng*	Little Brown Myotis*
American Water-willow*	Loggerhead Shrike, migrans subspecies *

**Bashful Bulrush\*** Bent Spike-rush (Great Lakes Plains population)\* Bird's-foot Violet\* Blanding's Turtle (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population)\* Bluehearts\* Blue Racer\* Blunt-lobed Woodsia\* **Bogbean Buckmoth\*** Branched Bartonia\* Butler's Gartersnake\* Cherry Birch\* Colicroot\* Cucumber Tree\* Deerberry\* **Dense Blazing Star\* Drooping Trillium\*** Dwarf Hackberry\* Eastern Flowering Dogwood\* Eastern Foxsnake (Carolinian population)\* Eastern Foxsnake (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population)\* Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid\* Eastern Prickly Pear Cactus\* Engelmann's Quillwort\* False Hop Sedge\* False Rue-anemone\* Five-lined Skink (Carolinian population)\* Forked Three-awned Grass\* Fowler's Toad\* Gattinger's Agalinis\* Goldenseal\* Golden-winged Warbler Gray Ratsnake (Carolinian population)\* Gray Ratsnake (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population)\* Grev Fox\* Heart-leaved Plantain\* Hill's Thistle\*

Massasauga, Carolinian population\* Massasauga, Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population\* Nodding Pogonia\* Northern Barrens Tiger Beetle\* Northern Myotis\* Pale-bellied Frost Lichen\* Pink Milkwort\* Piping Plover, circumcinctus subspecies\* Prothonotary Warbler\* Purple Twayblade\* Oueensnake\* Rapids Clubtail\* Red-headed Woodpecker Red Knot, rufa subspecies(Tierra del Fuego/Patagonia population) \* Red Mulberry\* Round-leaved Greenbrier (Great Lakes Plains population)\* Rusty-patched Bumble Bee\* Scarlett Ammannia \* Slender Bush-clover\* Small-flowered Lipocarpha \* Small-mouthed Salamander\* Small White Lady's-slipper \* Small Whorled Pogonia \* Spiny Softshell\* Spoon-leaved Moss\* Spotted Turtle\* Spotted Wintergreen\* Toothcup (Great Lakes Plains population)\* Tri-coloured Bat\* Virginia Goat's-rue\* Virginia Mallow\* Western Chorus Frog (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence - Canadian Shield population) Western Silvery Aster\* Whip-poor-will\* White Wood Aster\* Wild Hyacinth\*

Hine's Emerald*	Willowleaf Aster*
Hoary Mountain-mint*	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)*
Horsetail Spike-rush**	Wood Poppy*
Hungerford's Crawling Water Beetle*	Wood Turtle*
Jefferson Salamander*	Yellow-breasted Chat virens subspecies*

\* Species provincially listed as endangered or threatened, and receiving some habitat protection under the Ontario ESA.

\*\*Species with critical habitat identified only on federal lands.

### A6 – Species with critical habitat identified in Quebec

Allegheny Mountain Dusky Salamander	Northern Barrens Tiger Beetle*
(Appalachian population)	Northern Myotis
American Gingseng*	Piping Plover, melodus subspecies*
American Water-willow*	Purple Twayblade
Bicknell's Thrush*	Red-headed Woodpecker*
Blanding's Turtle (Great Lakes / St.	Red Knot, rufa subspecies(Tierra del
Lawrence population)*	Fuego/Patagonia population) *
Blunt-lobed Woodsia*	Roseate Tern*
False Hop Sedge*	Spiny Softshell*
Forked Three-awned Grass*	Tri-coloured Bat*
Golden-winged Warbler*	Van Brunt's Jacob's ladder*
Green-scaled Willow*	Victorin's Gentian*
Gulf of St- Lawrence Aster*	Western Chorus frog (Great lakes St-Lawrence
Horned Grebe (Magdalen Islands	population-Canadian Shield population)*
population)*	Whip-poor-will*
Least Bittern*	White Wood Aster*
Little Brown Myotis	Woodland Caribou (Atlantic-Gaspesie
Maritime Ringlet*	population)*
Mountain Holly Fern*	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)*
	Wood Turtle*
	•

\* Species designated as Threatened or Vulnerable under the *Act respecting Threatened or Vulnerable Species* (LEMV) or listed as a species likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable under the LEMV.

### A7 – Species with critical habitat identified in New Brunswick

Bicknell's Thrush	Northern Myotis*
Cobblestone Tiger Beetle*	Piping Plover, <i>melodus</i> subspecies*
Furbish's Lousewort*	Tri-coloured Bat*
Gulf of St- Lawrence Aster*	Van Brunt's Jacob's-ladder

Least Bittern Little Brown Myotis\* Maritime Ringlet\*

Whip-poor-will Wood Turtle

\* Species provincially listed as endangered in Schedule A of the *New Brunswick Species at Risk Act*.

## A8 – Species with critical habitat identified in Prince Edward Island

Piping Plover, melodus subspecies

## A9 – Species with critical habitat identified in Nova Scotia

Bicknell's Thrush*	Piping Plover, <i>melodus</i> subspecies*
	riping riover, metodus subspecies
Blanding's Turtle (Nova Scotia population)*	Plymouth Gentian*
Boreal Felt Lichen (Atlantic population)*	Roseate Tern*
Eastern Mountain Avens*	Sable Island Sweat Bee**
Eastern Ribbonsnake (Atlantic population)*	Thread-leaved Sundew*
Little Brown Myotis*	Tri-coloured Bat*
Northern Myotis*	Vole Ears lichen*
Pink Coreopsis*	Wood Turtle*
* Species provincially listed as endangered or t	hreatened wildlife species under the Nova Scotia

\* Species provincially listed as endangered or threatened wildlife species under the Nova Scotia *Endangered Species Act*.

\*\*Species with critical habitat identified only on federal lands.

## A10 – Species with critical habitat identified in Newfoundland and Labrador

American Marten (Newfoundland	Northern Myotis*
population)*	Piping Plover, melodus subspecies*
Barrens Willow*	Porsild's Bryum*
Fernald's Braya*	Vole Ears lichen*
Little Brown Myotis*	Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)*
Long's Braya*	

\*Species provincially listed as endangered or threatened under the Newfoundland and Labrador *Endangered Species Act*.

## A11 – Species with critical habitat identified in Yukon

Woodland Caribou (Boreal population)

## A12 – Species with critical habitat identified in the Northwest Territories

Woodland Caribou (Boreal population) Whooping Crane\*\*

\*\*Species with critical habitat identified only on federal lands.

## A13 – Species with critical habitat identified in the Nunavut

Ivory Gull

Red Knot, *rufa* subspecies (Tierra del Fuego/Patagonia population)