

# CRITICAL HABITAT INTERDEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM



## Other Internally Prioritized Species (OIPS) project guidance

The Critical Habitat Interdepartmental Program (CHIP) may have additional funds available for projects targeting Other Internally Prioritized Species (OIPS). These species consist of high priority species for conservation which require targeted species-specific actions. Funding for OIPS CHIP projects is not guaranteed and depends on available funds.

### GUIDELINES FOR OIPS PROJECT PROPOSAL

- Fill out the preliminary assessment of CHIP project type available in the Excel document provided at the time of the Call for proposals to determine what type of CHIP project to submit.
- In order to be eligible for these OIPS specific additional funds, OIPS focused projects must only target OIPS.
- **All CHIP eligibility criteria apply to these projects and the project proposal process is the same as for regular CHIP projects, aside from a) needing to target OIPS only, and b) implementing species-specific targeted actions for these species. Projects targeting only 1 OIPS and projects without an ecosystem-based approach will not be penalized.**
- Use the Excel and Word documents as your project proposal provided in the CHIP Call for Proposals email. A CHIP Project Type Assessment tab is available in the Excel document to determine if you should be taking the OIPS CHIP project path.
- Follow the guidance below for information on priorities for funding and priority work for each species or species group.
- Species-specific actions and their benefits to the species must be clearly described in your project proposal.
- Necessary SARA permits will be required prior to the start of the activities they pertain to, when applicable. The CHIP Secretariat reserves the right to reject proposals for which required SARA permits are not obtained and valid.

### OIPS CHIP PROJECT CATEGORIES

OIPS are separated into 4 categories: Migratory birds, Endangered Bats, High Focus species and Other species.

1. **Should your project pertain to OIPS in more than one of the categories below, ensure to submit separate proposals for each OIPS category.**
2. **Proposals must be based on Funding Priorities for each species or species category, and must demonstrate how top priority work will be addressed.**



The tables below list all eligible OIPS per species category, and include the identified priorities for funding, as well as top priority work for each species or species group. Your project proposal(s) must describe how those priorities will be addressed for each species or species category and must rely on the species recovery document(s).

## Migratory birds

One OIPS CHIP project proposal can include multiple species of migratory birds, on multiple properties, as long as each species has species-specific targeted actions planned and the project takes place in the same geographic area. Should you target multiple species of migratory birds in different regions/provinces/territories, please submit one project proposal per area covered. Projects will not be penalized for targeting only 1 species of migratory birds.

MIGRATORY BIRDS	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
<b>FUNDING PRIORITIES</b>	<p><b>Top priority work:</b> Identify key gaps/needs in Schedule of Studies or from other conservation plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survival rates or determining causes of population declines;</li> <li>• Impacts on habitat and productivity;</li> <li>• Investigating and better understanding threats;</li> <li>• Identifying and addressing causes of mortality;</li> <li>• Activities to reduce key threats or activities likely to destroy critical habitat in Canada;</li> <li>• Activities to protect critical habitat or key sites in Canada (including roosts, stopover sites, etc.); also includes stewardship activities.</li> </ul>			
Bicknell's Thrush	Birds	QC, NB, NS, PE	Threatened	2
Burrowing Owl	Birds	BC, AB, SK, MB	Endangered	6; 7; 8; 10
Marbled Murrelet	Birds	BC	Threatened	10
Piping Plover (circumcinctus subspecies)	Birds	AB, SK, MB, ON	Endangered	5; 6; 8
Piping Plover (melodus subspecies)	Birds	QC, NB, NS, PE, NL	Endangered	1
Red Knot (rufa subspecies)	Birds	AB, MB, NB, NL, NT, NS, NU, ON, PE, QC, SK	Endangered	1; 2
Roseate Tern	Birds	QC, NB, NS	Endangered	1
Whooping Crane	Birds	AB, MB, SK, NT	Endangered	-
Chimney Swift	Birds	NU, SK, MB, ON, QC, NB, NS, PE, NL	Threatened	1; 2; 4; 5; 6

## Endangered Bats

One OIPS CHIP project can include multiple species of bats, on multiple properties in the same area, and species-specific actions can be the same for each bat species targeted. These projects will not be penalized for targeting only 1 species of bats.

ENDANGERED BATS	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
<b>FUNDING PRIORITIES</b>	<p><b><u>Top priority work:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying key gaps/needs that relate to the identification of maternity roosts as Critical Habitat (i.e., biophysical attributes/locations);</li> <li>• Reducing adult anthropogenic mortality (e.g., wind turbines and exclusions from buildings);</li> <li>• Reducing the impacts of White-nose Syndrome on infected and vulnerable populations.</li> </ul>			
Little Brown Myotis	Mammals (terrestrial)	AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NT, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT	Endangered	1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10; 11
Northern Myotis	Mammals (terrestrial)	AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NT, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT	Endangered	1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 9
Tri-colored Bat	Mammals (terrestrial)	NB, NS, ON, QC	Endangered	1; 2; 4; 5

## High Focus species

One OIPS CHIP project can include only one High Focus species, and species-specific actions must be planned for the species. Priority work for each High Focus species is identified in the table below.

HIGH FOCUS SPECIES	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
Spotted Owl ( <i>caurina</i> subspecies)	Birds	BC	Endangered	10
<b>FUNDING PRIORITIES</b>	<p><b><u>Top priority work:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for critical habitat protection efforts;</li> <li>• Support for the Spotted Owl captive breeding and reintroduction program in BC;</li> <li>• Support for the operational Barred Owl control program;</li> <li>• Promoting habitat stewardship, expanding silvicultural guidelines, and implementing monitoring and research activities.</li> </ul>			
Western Chorus Frog, Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Canadian Shield population	Amphibians	QC, ON	Threatened	4
<b>FUNDING PRIORITIES</b>	<p><b><u>Top priority work:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing legal or stewardship measures and supporting Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) at the local and landscape levels to increase population size, the areas of occupied habitat and connectivity, and reduce the impact of threats;</li> <li>• Restoring or creating habitats to promote the recolonization (natural or via the reintroduction of individuals) of portions of the historical range and increase connectivity between local populations;</li> <li>• Developing and implementing standardized annual surveys and monitoring created or restored habitats in order to determine population trends, monitor threats, and clarify the area occupied by the GLSLCS population;</li> <li>• Establishing partnerships to implement training/outreach/restoration/reintroduction/research programs and projects.</li> </ul> <p><u>Note: All projects and activities MUST respect existing protection and emergency order prohibitions in place (s.58 and s.80) where they apply.</u></p>			
Monarch*	Arthropods	AB, BC, MB, NB, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK	Special Concern (under consideration for status change) COSEWIC status: Endangered	1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9

<p><b>FUNDING PRIORITIES</b></p>	<p><b><u>Examples of top priority work:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research to clarify the biophysical attributes necessary to support essential aspects of the species' life cycle;</li> <li>• Creation, restoration, enhancement, management and mapping of herbicide and pesticide-free suitable habitat for breeding, nectaring and staging;</li> <li>• Tagging/monitoring, behaviour and physiology research to address knowledge gaps in Monarch ecology;</li> <li>• Research on threats to Monarch and its habitat;</li> <li>• Research and monitoring of existing milkweed populations.</li> </ul> <p><u>Note: As there is no published Recovery Strategy yet for this species, the management plan or action plans as well as provincial recovery documents can be used to support proposed project activities.</u></p>
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\*Despite not meeting all requirements, the Monarch has been added as a High Focus species.

## Other species

One OIPS CHIP project proposal can include one or multiple species of Other species, on multiple properties, as long as each species has species-specific targeted actions planned and the project takes place in the same geographic area. Should you target multiple species of Other species in different regions/provinces/territories, please submit one project proposal per area covered. Projects will not be penalized for targeting only 1 species in this category.

OTHER SPECIES	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
<b>Caribou, Atlantic-Gaspésie population</b>	<b>Mammals (terrestrial)</b>	<b>QC</b>	<b>Endangered</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Why at risk?</b>	Logging and wood harvesting, excessive predation, transportation and service corridors, biological resource use, residential and commercial development, energy production and mining, invasive and problematic species.			
<b>Top priority work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaking landscape-level planning that considers current and future Gaspésie caribou habitat requirements;</li> <li>• Increasing and maintaining the quantity/quality of suitable habitat;</li> <li>• Increasing/stabilizing adult survival and calf survival;</li> <li>• Monitoring/reducing disturbance.</li> </ul>			
<b>Poweshiek Skipperling</b>	<b>Arthropods</b>	<b>MB</b>	<b>Endangered</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Why at risk?</b>	Habitat loss through the conversion of prairie to cultivated or non-native grassland, habitat degradation (prescribed and wildfires, prolonged or chronic over-grazing, succession, and haying).			
<b>Top priority work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtaining accurate population and distribution data;</li> <li>• Identifying life and feeding history;</li> <li>• Developing conservation guidelines;</li> <li>• Determining the effects of prairie management practices on survival and abundance.</li> </ul>			
<b>Vancouver Island Marmot</b>	<b>Mammals (terrestrial)</b>	<b>BC</b>	<b>Endangered</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Why at risk?</b>	Native predators, ecosystem modification from post-logging forest succession, habitat loss from climate change.			
<b>Top priority work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat protection and restoration;</li> <li>• Private land stewardship;</li> <li>• Captive breeding;</li> <li>• Population augmentation;</li> <li>• Reintroduction/translocation of captive-bred species;</li> <li>• Monitoring.</li> </ul>			
<b>Whitebark Pine</b>	<b>Vascular plants</b>	<b>BC, AB</b>	<b>Endangered</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Why at risk?</b>	White Pine Blister Rust, climate change, fire and fire suppression, and Mountain Pine Beetle.			

<b>Top priority work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the frequency of trees that have resistance to White Pine Blister Rust;</li> <li>• Improving mapping and inventory data in order to meet objectives and address other threats.</li> </ul>			
<b>Northern Goshawk (laingi subspecies)</b>	<b>Birds</b>	<b>BC</b>	<b>Threatened</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Why at risk?</b>	Habitat loss caused by continued logging of low-elevation, old growth coniferous forest and anticipated short rotation times in forest harvest, over-browsing by introduced species resulting in reduced prey availability.			
<b>Top priority work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discovering or managing habitat for additional home ranges;</li> <li>• Developing approaches to mitigate human induced mortality;</li> <li>• Genetic analysis;</li> <li>• Refining population and distribution objectives;</li> <li>• Refining Population Viability Analysis in alignment with the recovery strategy.</li> </ul>			

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