

Species at Risk Act (SARA) Consultation, Cooperation
and Accommodation Project

Pacific Region Species Pre-Listing
Consultation Session:

Participant Summary Report

Created by:

The Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER)



CIER

Centre for Indigenous
Environmental Resources

Acknowledgments

The Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER) and Environment and Climate Change Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service (ECCC-CWS) would like to thank the participants that attended the virtual Pacific Region Species Pre-Listing Session as part of the *Species at Risk Act (SARA) Consultation, Cooperation, and Accommodation* Project.

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Introduction

This multi-year project facilitates Indigenous communities' and organizations' participation in ECCC-CWS listing and recovery planning processes for terrestrial species-at-risk as part of implementation of the federal *Species-at-Risk Act* (SARA). Each region focuses their resources on an area of study and development that maximizes efforts for each species (see the [regional lists](#)).

CIER's role is to support a range of activities between Indigenous communities and organizations, and ECCC-CWS on developing recovery documents, sharing knowledge and language, addressing threats to terrestrial species-at-risk survival and recovery, and land use planning for species-at-risk on reserve lands and within traditional territories.

As part of the project, CIER facilitated a Species Pre-Listing Session on February 9th, 2022. This session provided an overview of the species listing and consultation process as well as an overview of the species that are currently included in ECCC's pre-listing consultations. This session was organized to give Indigenous communities and organizations an opportunity to comment on the impacts of the potential listing changes for these species. There were 24 attendees from Indigenous communities and organizations from across BC. The following provides a brief summary of the presentations and discussion.

Session Overview and Materials

Undiné Thompson is a Senior Consultation Biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Climate Change Canada, in Delta, BC. Undiné provided a high-level overview of the purpose of the *Species-at-Risk Act* (SARA), the steps involved in "listing" a species under SARA, and the listing consultation process. Undiné also provided an overview of the six (6) species currently undergoing pre-listing consultations (i.e., Batch 19 species) in BC, as well as the Recovery Documents that are currently in the engagement and consultation periods.

Materials related to this session are available to download [online](#).

Discussion Summary

The following are some of the comments or questions that came up during these sessions.

- Are there any fungi species that have been listed under SARA yet in BC?
 - *Response:* Not yet, but anyone can put a species forward to COSEWIC for assessment. If there is enough information available for that species, it can eventually be listed under SARA. Some fungi species may have been put forward to COSEWIC in the past couple of years, but COVID has delayed the COSEWIC assessment schedule.
- Are there any species that ECCC is planning to start looking more closely at in the near future that we should start putting our attention towards?
 - *Response:* Yes, the management plan for Wolverine needs to be drafted and Fisher (boreal population) is likely going to be put forward to COSEWIC in the near future.
- ECCC and CIER are working on organizing an American Badger workshop before the end of March 2022. You should receive an invitation for that soon, but if you are interested in attending, please let us know and we will make sure that you are on the invitation list.
- As a community or Nation, if we have developed our own Recovery Strategy for a species in our territory, what steps would we take to have that information included in the federal recovery strategy for the species? Speaking in relation to a Northern Goshawk recovery strategy being developed for the subspecies that occurs in Haida Gwaii.
 - *Response:* COSEWIC needs to assess the species first, then they provide listing recommendations to the federal government to be SARA-listed. Then the federal government works with communities and Nations to develop the federal recovery strategy. There is support for Nations preparing recovery documents for species that are at risk and we can look to see how we can work together on this moving forward.