



Development of the Management Plan for Wolverine in Canada

Part of the

Species At Risk Act Consultation, Cooperation, and Accommodation Project

With support from the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service – Prairie Region



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

MDT-AB	AGENDA
10:00 am	Welcome, Introductions, Purpose
10:20 am	Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Word Cloud- we invite you to share the name of wolverine in your language ○ Wolverine Assessment and Status ○ Overview of a Management Plan
10:35 am	Wolverine Distribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summary of the information ECCC currently has ➤ Open discussion on Wolverine Distribution
11:15 am	Wolverine Population Abundance and Trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summary of the information ECCC currently has ➤ Open discussion on Wolverine Population Abundance and Trends
12:00	Lunch Break (45 mins)
12:45 pm	Threats to the Wolverine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Open discussion on Threats to the Wolverine
1:45 pm	Conservation Measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Open discussion on Wolverine Conservation Measures
2:55 pm	Workshop Wrap-Up and Closing Comments

Introductions



Wendy Eskowich – Consultation Biologist

Engagement Process for the Wolverine
draft Management Plan



Michelle Sawatzky – Wildlife Biologist

Key sections of the Wolverine draft
Management Plan

SARA Overview

Status – How “at risk” is the Wolverine?



NOT AT RISK or No longer at Risk

THE SARA PROCESS: WHERE IS WOLVERINE AT?

Species are re-assessed every 10 years



Assessed as SC in 2014

Prelisting consultations LISTED as SC in 2018

We are here now. Engaging with HTOs, WMBs, Indigenous groups and P/T

Management Plan Sections

- **Species Information**
 - Population distribution & abundance, species needs
- **Threats**
 - Description of threats
- **Management Objectives**
- **Broad Strategies & Conservation Measures**
 - Actions underway, recommendations
- **Measuring Progress**

Management Plan



Purpose of this workshop

- Share the information CWS has on Wolverine
- Seek feedback and input from Indigenous partners on specific sections of the Management Plan
- To deepen our understanding of wolverine to improve their wellbeing and prevent them from becoming more at risk



Word Cloud Activity

**What word comes to mind
when you think of Wolverine?**

Would you also like to share the name for
wolverine in your language?

Cultural significance & perspectives

- Would you like to share anything regarding the cultural or spiritual significance of wolverine to your people?
- Would you like to share about your culture's past and/or current relationship with wolverine?

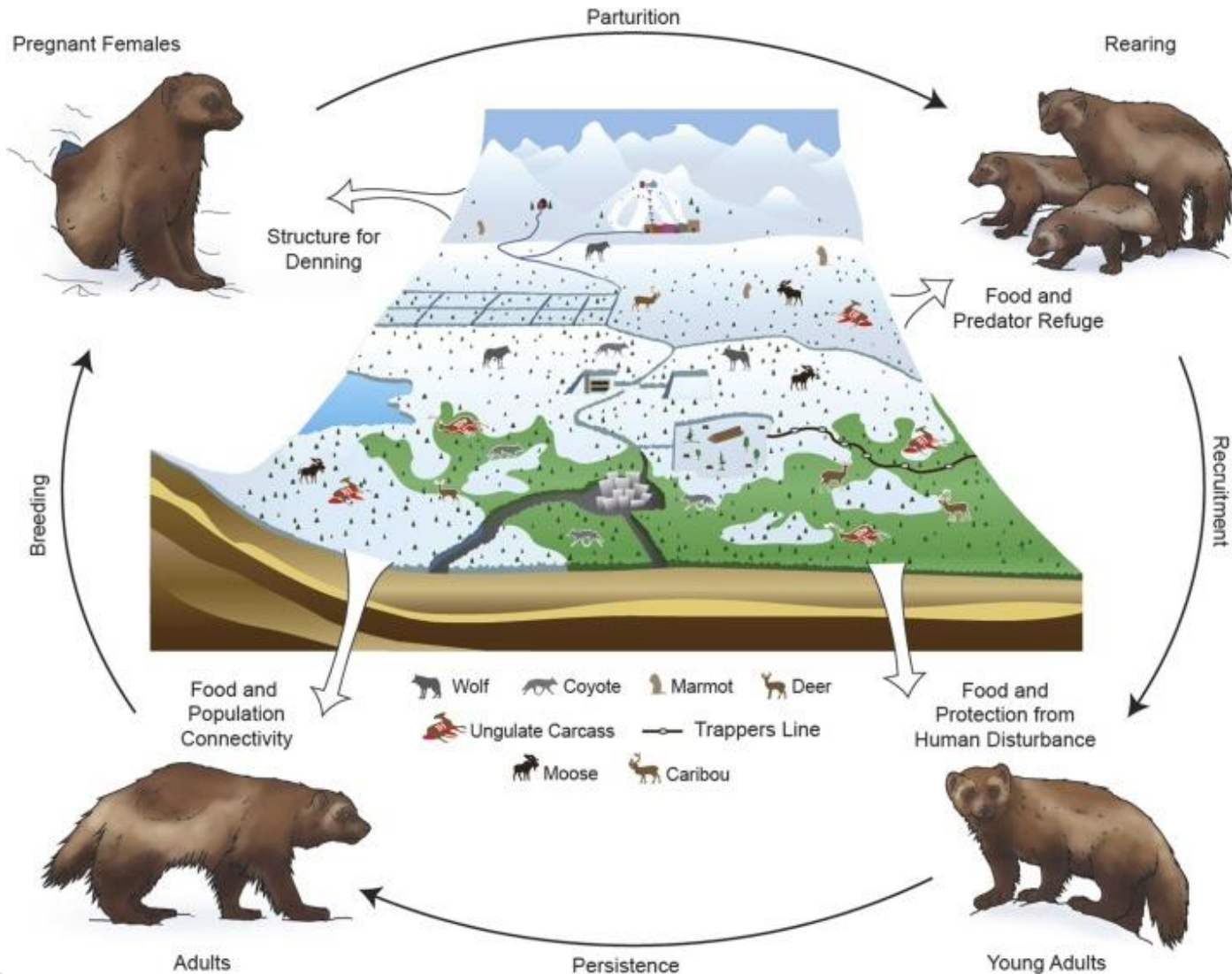


Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*)

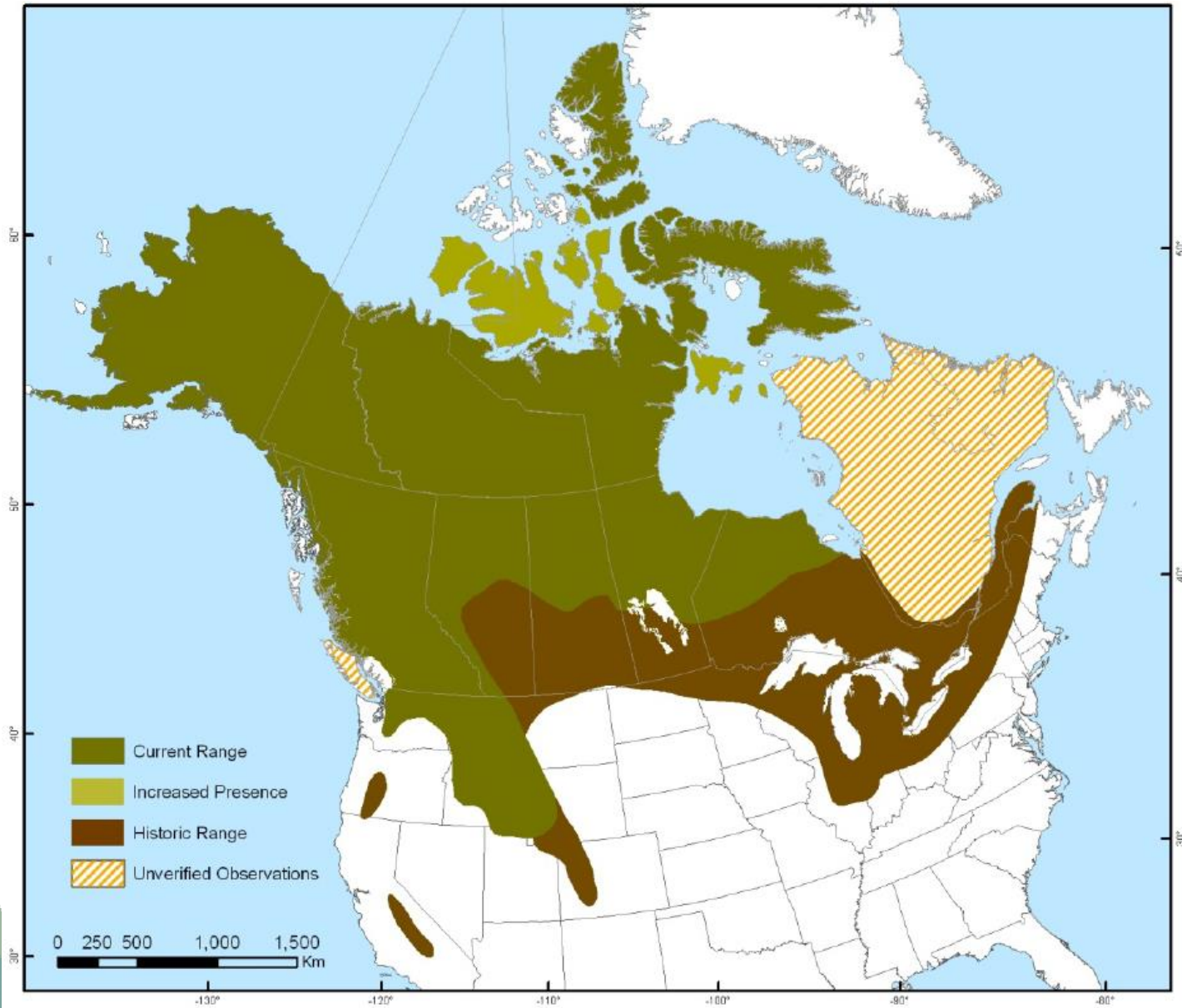


What we know, and don't know

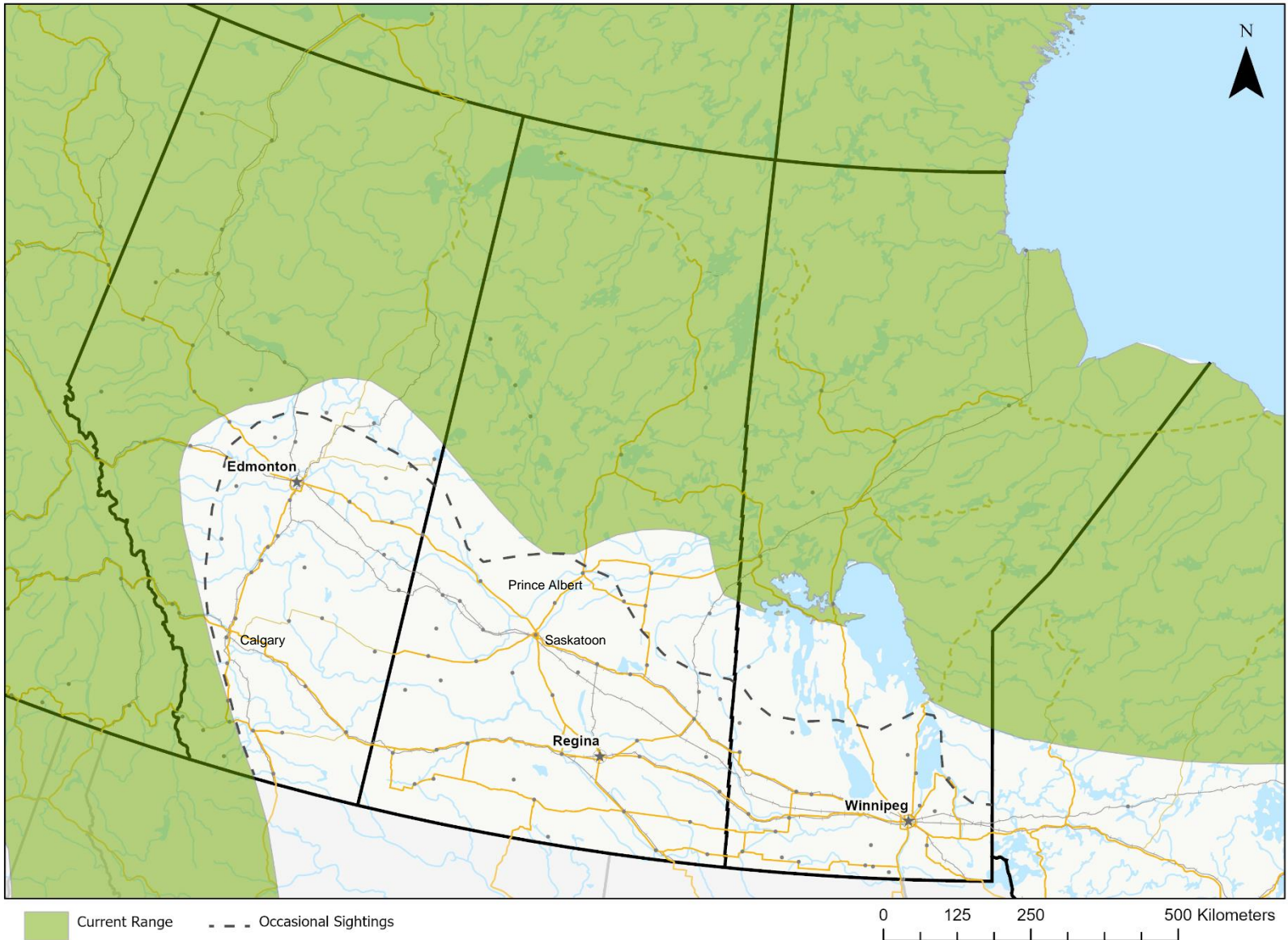
Life Cycle & Species Needs



Wolverine Range in Canada



Wolverine Range in the Prairie Region



Are you seeing Wolverine in new places?



Are you no longer seeing Wolverine where you used to?



Population Size & Trends

Population Size

- COSEWIC estimated between 15,000 and 20,000 individuals in 2015
 - 1,500 – 2,000 in Alberta?
 - <1000 in Saskatchewan?
 - 1,100 – 1,600 in Manitoba?

These estimates were based on very little information!

Population Size & Trends

Wolverine Density

- Estimates range from 0.5 – 6.8 individuals per 1000 km² in BC, AB and ON
- The province of AB is working on an updated population estimate

Population Trend

- No information on trend for most of Canada
- **42% decline** in wolverine population in Rocky Mountains of AB and BC over 10 years

Are you seeing changes in the number of Wolverines in your area? If so, is the population increasing or decreasing?



**Are you seeing cycles in the number of Wolverines
in your area?**



Photo: Jenna Määränen

Check in with Graphic Recorder

Lunch Break (45 minutes?)

Threats

- Threats that have been suggested include:
 - Climate change
 - Forest fires
 - Housing & commercial development
 - Human recreation
 - Mining
 - Oil & gas development
 - Roads
 - Unsustainable harvest
- Not all of these threats exist in all parts of the wolverine's range

What natural or human factors are affecting Wolverine or their habitat in your area?



Conservation Measures

- Actions that need to be taken to ensure survival of the species and promote healthy populations
- Set clear priorities for governments, partners, and funding bodies
- Conservation measures can fall into broad categories of:
 - Reduction or elimination of threats
 - Public education and outreach
 - Research to fill knowledge gaps

What actions do you think would help ensure healthy Wolverine populations in your area?



Next Steps

Draft workshop summary report

- Review by participants
- Validation of information

Final workshop summary report

- Consent
- Plan to complete by December 2023

Preparation of draft Management Plan

Funding for Wolverine Projects

- **There are several funding options available for wolverine and other species at risk projects**
- **Some applications are open year-round, others have deadlines**
- **Contact us if you are interested in hearing more:**

Wendy Eskowich

Wendy.Eskowich@ec.gc.ca

Michelle Sawatzky

Michelle.Sawatzky@ec.gc.ca



Thank You