

Apologies for cross-posting.

Delete if species and ecosystems data and information are not relevant to you.

You may need to delete your cookies / clear your cache on your internet browser to display the refreshed BC CDC data.

Contact cdccdata@gov.bc.ca with any questions.



British Columbia Conservation Data Centre – 2023 Update

Did you know that the BC Conservation Data Centre (CDC) is not only part of the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, but it's also a member of the non-profit organization, [NatureServe Canada](#), and the international [NatureServe](#) Network? There are over 60 network programs in Canada and the United States sharing a common method for ranking and Element Occurrence mapping of species and ecosystems.

Did you know that species observation data and Terrestrial Ecosystems Mapping (TEM) data are managed by another group in the Knowledge Management Branch, called the Ecosystems Information Section? Read about how to access and submit data [here](#).

Highlights

Over 360 species and ecological communities were added to our database and over 400 Conservation Status Ranks were reviewed/assigned.

Over 1,300 Element Occurrences have been added or updated, and over 4,000 new observations have been incorporated into our data this year. What is an Element Occurrence? Read about it [here](#).

The BC CDC responded to over 700 custom data requests this year.

2023 Taxonomy, Classification, and Rank Updates

The BC CDC annually releases updates to Conservation Status Ranks of selected species and ecological communities, additions of new species and ecological communities in B.C. and changes in species taxonomy and ecological community classification.

BC CDC data were updated in July and made available through [BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer](#) (BCSEE). BCSEE reflects the Provincial Resource Inventory Standards Committee (RISC) standard for scientific names, English names, and species codes (RISC codes) for species and ecological communities in B.C.

Below is a summary, you can read the full list of changes [here](#).

Animal Updates:

Zoological conservation status rank reviews included a select group of birds (primarily shorebirds, gulls, and auks), mammals (primarily marine), and invertebrates (primarily butterflies, moths, and dragonfly and damselflies), resulting in over 80 rank changes. Taxonomic changes for several species occurred throughout the year and are listed in the spreadsheet in the link above. This year the tardigrades and leeches were added to the list of biodiversity within B.C. provided by the General Status of Wildlife in Canada program.

Plant Updates:

The Botany group in the BC CDC made changes to or added species across seven different species groups amounting to a total of 237 new taxa added, 25 species being excluded, 100 changes to names or taxonomy, and 133 Conservation Status Rank changes. This included seventeen vascular plants being added to the BC flora, six of which were native (including two hybrids) and 11 were exotic. Two species were removed from the flora. There were 29 name or taxonomy changes, and six changes to Conservation Status Ranks. Thirteen mosses and five liverworts were added to the B.C. flora as a result of research done by contractors supporting the General Status of Wildlife in Canada. Fourteen mosses were removed due to lack of, or doubtful, specimens. There were 63 name or taxonomy changes to bryophytes. There were 160 Conservation Status Rank reviews, resulting in rank changes to 59 moss species, 41 liverworts and one hornwort. Seven new lichens were added, nine were removed. There were six name or taxonomy changes to lichens. Two macrofungus name changes were made (to *Fomitopsis mounceae* and *Sparassis radicata*)

Based on previous assessments by the General Status of Wildlife in Canada program, and a recent review with B.C. experts, the BC CDC is adding the new group, the slime molds, which currently contains 195 species. Additional species discoveries based on field work from B.C. experts in recent months will be reviewed for our next export.

Ecological Community Updates:

Two ecological communities were added, and one was removed. Five ecological communities had name changes (three scientific name changes and two English name changes). Nine ecological community Conservation Status Ranks were reviewed, resulting in one Conservation Status Rank change.

Find previous years' changes [here](#).

Data Access

Information on species and ecological communities at risk is available via our website and tools:

BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer (BCSEE)

Use this application to:

- generate lists of provincial species and ecological communities,
- conduct searches using criteria including conservation or legal status and spatial distribution,
- download your results to Excel and
- access related reports and documents

Range Data: The “Search by Area” option in BCSEE is driven by range data. As the range data are updated, the results from the “Search by Area” option will be refined. Refined range data will be uploaded to BCSEE and be publicly accessible for download through the BC Data Catalogue soon for [species](#) and [ecological communities](#).

CDC iMap: Use our custom [application](#) to view mapped known locations (Element Occurrences) of species and ecological communities at risk and print Element Occurrence records; export those to Excel, PDF, or Shapefile. *Watch for EcoAtlas BC, coming soon!

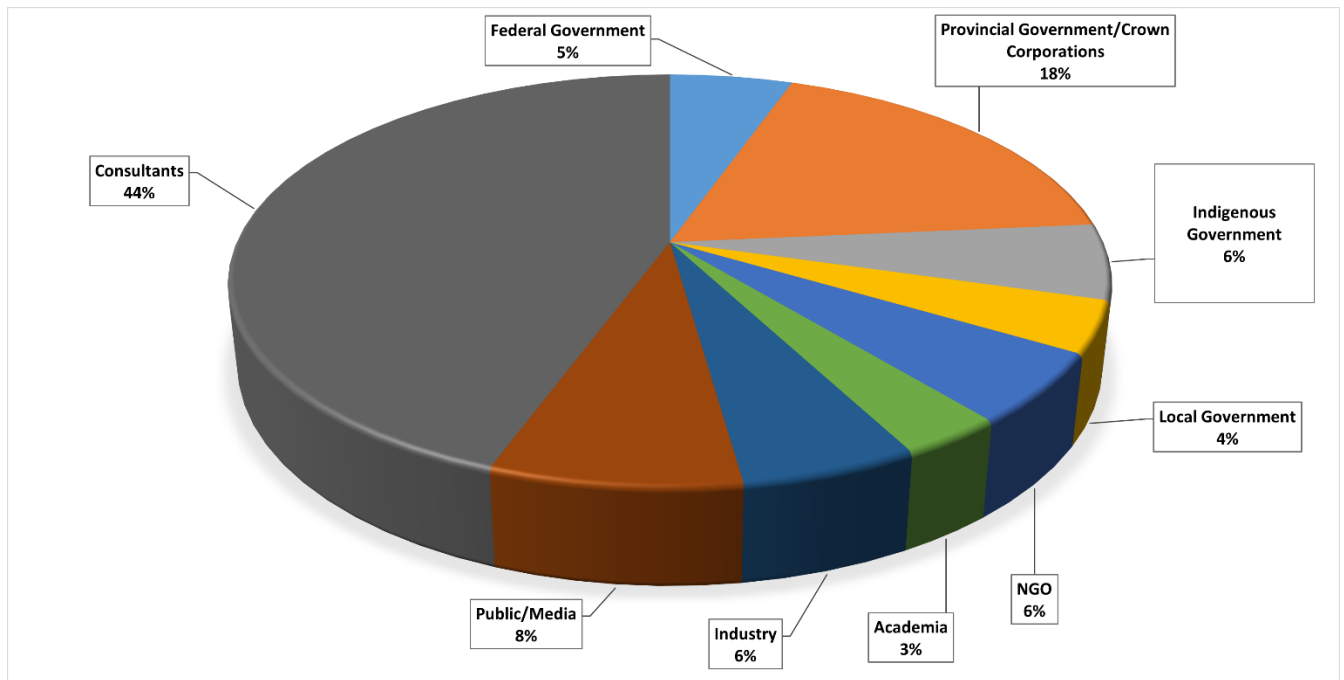
BC Data Catalogue: [Download](#) CDC Element Occurrences as Shapefile, Geodatabase, CSV, KML, GeoRSS or GeoJSON or connect to the WMS URL.

Submit data: Help us keep our information current! [Submit information](#) relating to B.C.’s animals, plants, and ecological communities.

For more information on the above tools, and more, please visit our [Explore Data](#) web page.

Client Service

Questions from clients include how to use our online tools, requests for secure data and information, and inquiries regarding our methods for ranking and mapping species and ecological communities. This year's breakdown of clients included 743 custom requests:



If you have any questions, please contact us cdcddata@gov.bc.ca

