

British Columbia Guide to Recovery Planning for Species at Risk

Appendix 1. Glossary

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Ministry of
Water, Land and
Resource Stewardship

GLOSSARY

Note: This Glossary covers the basic terms relating to Recovery Planning. Please contact the Recovery Planning Coordinator for access to the detailed Glossary which is regularly updated. See also: [BCSEE Glossary for Species & Ecosystems at Risk](#)

Action plan: a planning document that provides information to guide implementation of the recovery of a species or ecosystem that has been assessed as extirpated, endangered, or threatened. Federally-led recovery planning processes use this format.

Ecosystem at risk: an ecosystem that is extirpated, endangered, or threatened, or of special concern (formerly called “vulnerable”).

Endangered: species and ecosystems that are facing imminent extirpation or extinction.

Extinct: species that no longer exist.

Extirpated: species that no longer exist in the wild in British Columbia, but do occur elsewhere; ecological communities that no longer exist in British Columbia, but do occur elsewhere.

Implementation plan: a document written after the completion of a recovery or management plan that outlines the provincial government’s response to managing species or ecosystems at risk – especially in cases where there could be significant socio-economic implications

Management plan: a planning document that identifies a set of coordinated conservation activities and land use measures needed for the management of a species or ecosystem at risk that has been assessed as of special concern.

Recovery and management planning documents: Recovery plans and management plans prepared by British Columbia, and recovery strategies, action plans, and management plans prepared by Canada, as required by the Species at Risk Act.

Recovery plan: a planning document that provides a strategic approach for the recovery of a species or ecosystem at risk that has been assessed as extirpated, endangered, or threatened, as well as information to guide implementation. This format is used when developing a provincially led recovery planning processes.

Recovery planning: an inclusive term that refers to both the creation and implementation of recovery plans and management plans.

Recovery strategy: a planning document that provides strategic direction for the recovery of a species or ecosystem at risk (that has been assessed as extirpated, endangered, or threatened). Federally led recovery planning processes use this format.

Species at risk: an extirpated, endangered, or threatened species, or a species of special concern, that is: (a) listed in Schedule 1 of the Species At Risk Act; (b) assessed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as being at risk; (c) assessed by the Conservation Data Centre as being at risk; or (d) listed under provincial legislation.

Special Concern: species and ecosystems that are particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events but not endangered or threatened (as used by COSEWIC - a wildlife species that may become a threatened or an endangered species because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats); formerly referred to as Vulnerable.

Threatened: species and ecosystems that are likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed.