

2018 BC Conservation Status Rank Review and Changes

Vascular Plants

- There were 32 vascular plants added to the Flora. The majority of additions in 2018 were the result of the establishment of 21 new Exotic species (including domestic cabbage and grapes, and Atlantic ivy). Additions also resulted from taxonomic work and herbarium reviews and a new field discovery (Canadian St. John's wort).
- There were 21 vascular plant taxa removed from the BC Flora. These are no longer considered part of the flora of BC due to re-identifications of herbarium specimens, misapplied names, and lack of specimens to adequately document the presence in the province.
- A total of 111 scientific names were changed. Changes included taxonomic splits and lumps (ca. equal numbers of these), genus transfers (e.g. *Minuartia* to *Sabulina*), and relocations of infraspecific ranks (i.e. from variety to subspecies or subspecies to variety) (Flora of North of America Editorial Committee (1997, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2015), Jepson e-flora, Pan Arctic Flora, and variety of primary literature listed below).
- Provincial conservation status ranks for 203 vascular plant taxa were reviewed and adjusted. Twenty-one were reviewed but the ranks remained the same.

Bryophytes

- There were three moss taxa added to the Flora, all of which were new field discoveries, one on Galiano Island by Olivia Lee of UBC Herbarium in 2017, and two on Pink Mountain (Wu et al. 2018).
- An informal review of the hornwort species of BC—based on herbarium records, examination of a limited number of recently-collected specimens, and literature review—resulted in some updates and highlighted future work that needs to be conducted prior to refining the ranks. Recent morphological and molecular research on the hornworts of North America has led to numerous taxonomic updates, but none of the published studies incorporated specimens from BC. We conclude that *Phaeoceros oregonus* and *Paraphymatoceros pearsonii* are in BC, and that *Paraphymatoceros hallii* is only potentially present with no current specimens/field localities containing material that is confirmed as this species. These conclusions may be challenged by future specimen review and there may be more species of hornworts present in the province, including *Anthoceros agrestis*, *Phaeoceros carolinianus*, and *Paraphymatoceros proskauri*. One hornwort previously thought to be present, *Phaeoceros laevis* (syn. *Anthoceros laevis*), has been excluded from the North American flora (Stotler, R.E., & B. Crandall-Stotler, 2005; Söderström, L. et al. 2016). The BC material previously identified as this may represent *Paraphymatoceros hallii*, *P. pearsonii*, or possibly the intermediate species, *P. proskaurii*, which is currently known only from California. Curation of the specimens, verification by taxonomic specialists, and continued field observations will allow us to definitively assign meaningful conservation ranks to the hornworts in the province in 2019.

- There was only the one scientific name that was changed in the Bryophytes: *Phaeoceros hallii* became *Paraphymatoceros hallii*.
- Provincial conservation status ranks for three hornworts were reviewed and adjusted.

Macrolichens

- There was one macrolichen added and three were removed from the lichen list for BC.
- Four scientific names were changed: three *Dendriscoaulon* species were lumped into a single species, and one variety is now being treated as a species (*Bryoria americana*).
- Provincial conservation status ranks for 99 macrolichens were reviewed and adjusted. 125 were reviewed but the ranks remained the same.

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