

2021

BC Conservation Status Rank Review and Changes

Animals Summary

Birds

A small number of birds were able to be assessed this year. Review is on-going and the majority of ranks will be released next year.

- **Black Swift** changed from S2S3B to S3S4B and remains on the BC Blue List. Since the last assessment, threats were evaluated to be High-Medium and the range and population numbers were updated.
- **Hudsonian Godwit** changed from S1S2B to S1B and remains on the BC Red List. Since the last assessment, population numbers were updated (only 2-3 pairs (Davidson 2015)) and threats were scored as High-Medium.
- **Bell's Vireo** was reported in BC for the first time (on Vancouver Island) and added to the list of accidental species.

Mammals

- **Northern Pocket Gopher, segregatus subspecies** (*Thomomys talpoides segregatus*) changed from S2 to S1S3 and remains on the BC Red List. This is the first time this subspecies has been assessed using the NatureServe rank calculator.
- **Moose:** the scientific name for Moose changed from *Alces americanus* to *Alces alces* to align with NatureServe, which is following the ASM Mammal Diversity Database (MDD) and Hundertmark (2016).

Butterflies

Butterflies were reviewed at the species level last year; this year we focused on reviewing many of the subspecies. For several, this was the first time the NatureServe rank calculator was used, resulting in several rank adjustments. Forty-two subspecies were reviewed with highlights below.

- **Moss' Elfin, mossii subspecies** (*Callophrys mossii mossii*) changed from S2S3 to S2 and has moved from the BC Blue List to the Red List.
- **Giant Sulphur, gigantea subspecies** (*Colias gigantea gigantea*) changed from S3 to S1S3 and has moved from the Blue List to the Red List.
- **Boisduval's Blue, montis subspecies** (*Icaricia icarioides montis*) changed from S4 to S3S4 and has moved from the Yellow List to the Blue List.
- **Rocky Mountain Parnassian, smintheus subspecies** (*Parnassius smintheus smintheus*) changed from S4 to S3 and has moved from the Yellow List to the Blue List.
- **Spring White, beringiensis subspecies** (*Pontia sisymbrii beringiensis*) changed from S1S3 to S2S3 and has moved from the Red List to the Blue List.
- **Mormon Fritillary, eurynome subspecies** (*Speyeria mormonia eurynome*) changed from S1S3 to S4 and has moved from the Red List to the Yellow List.

Taxonomic List Additions

The federal General Status program steadily provides new species lists for many taxonomic groups within B.C. These have provisional conservation status ranks that were assigned by people working in the field. The CDC zoologists are reviewing these ranks as they are able and exporting them to BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer. Many of these groups or species are little known and have been assessed as “SU” (unknown) at this time. On the ground inventory as well as a thorough review of collections and the literature is needed to better determine a conservation status rank including range extent, habitats, number of occurrences and threats. It is important that the lists are available even without ranks as these updated taxonomic lists can be used as a reference for further inventory.

- **Centipedes and millipedes:** 66 species are known to occur in BC and have been added to the list.
- **Moths:** 33 additional species have been added and ranked this year, increasing the number total number of moths in BC to 2,574.
- **Scorpionflies:** six species are known to occur in BC and have been ranked and added to the list.

Miscellaneous Additions

- **Asian Giant Hornet** (*Vespa mandarinia*) was added to BC’s list of exotic species.

Taxonomy/Name Changes

Fish

- **Mountain Sucker** changed to **Cordilleran Sucker** (scientific name remains the same: *Catostomus bondi*).

Birds (based on the 2020 American Ornithological Society publication found [here](#))

- **Dusky Thrush** (accidental in BC): *Turdus naumanni* changed to *Turdus eunomus*.
- **Xantus's Hummingbird** (accidental in BC): *Hylocharis xantusii* changed to *Basilinna xantusii*.