



## British Columbia Conservation Data Centre – 2019 Data Update

Did you know that the BC Conservation Data Centre (CDC) is not only part of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, but is also a member of the non-profit organisation, [NatureServe Canada](#), and the international [NatureServe](#) Network? Every Province, Territory and U.S. State as well as many Latin American countries, has a program that follows a common method for ranking and mapping species and ecosystems.  
How incredible to have a dataset that crosses borders!

The BC CDC responds to over 800 custom data requests annually and our web tools are accessed over 400,000 times per year.

Read more about these tools, how they can help your work and how you can help us below.

### 2019 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 BC and changes in species taxonomy and ecological community classification.

The 2019 changes are now available through [BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer](#) (BCSEE). BCSEE is the source for the Provincial Resource Inventory Standards Committee (RISC) standard for scientific names, English names and species codes (RISC codes) for vertebrates and invertebrates. In addition, BCSEE provides the provincial standard list and names for plants.

Archive files of previous years' taxonomic, classification, and rank updates are available for download from our [Archive of Changes](#) web page.

***The following is a brief summary of this year's changes. Find all of the exciting details on the [CDC Recent Data Changes](#) web page.***

The [General Status of Species in Canada](#) program provided many new plant and animal groups that were reviewed and incorporated into CDC data. For many of these groups or species there is little known and have been assessed as "SU" (unknown) at this time. It is important to report these lists even without ranks as they can be used as a reference for further inventory, biodiversity studies and motivation to find out more.

### Ecological Community Data

The conservation status for many ecological communities was reviewed, some were reclassified, and some had scientific and/or English name changes. Over 300 new element occurrences were released for 13 ecological communities.

### Plant Data

New Vascular plants were added to the BC flora and some removed. There were 107 scientific name changes. The conservation status ranks for over 2400 vascular plants and macrolichens were reviewed. There were a significant number of provincial conservation status rank changes for plants this year to support the [General Status of Species in Canada](#). In total, 2,132 native species were reviewed.

### Animal Data

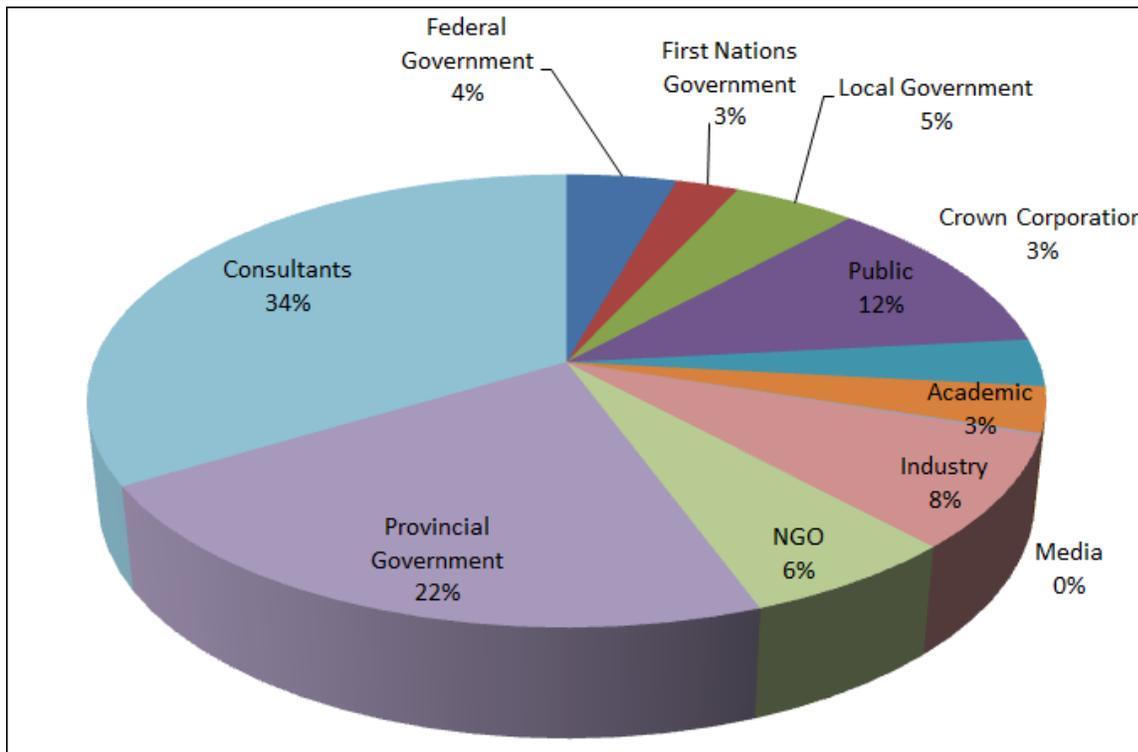
Conservation status ranks for several birds and a large number of freshwater fish were reviewed this year. Interestingly, two “accidental” birds showed up in BC (Eastern Bluebird and Guadeloupe Murrelet) and a cave-dwelling bristletail insect was discovered for the first time!

New groups and species added from the General Status program included over 500 marine invertebrates, 22 earthworms, 140 flies and over 130 arachnids.

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### Client Service

Questions from clients include how to use our online tools, requests for secure data and information and our methodology for ranking and mapping species and ecosystems. This year’s breakdown of clients included:



**Please make use of our web tools to access information on species and ecosystems at risk.**

[BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer](#): Through this application you can generate lists of provincial species and ecological communities; conduct searches based on a number of criteria options, including conservation or legal status, and spatial distribution; print your results, or download them to Excel; and access related reports and documents. To get the most out of the tool, view our [YouTube tutorial here](#).

[CDC iMap](#): Use our customised iMap Theme to view mapped known locations (element occurrences) of species and ecosystems at risk and print occurrence records; export those you are interested in to Excel, pdf, or shapefile. Try the Spatial Query tool under the “Find” tab. View our [YouTube tutorial here](#).

[BC Data Catalogue](#): Export CDC mapped element occurrences to Shapefile, Geodatabase, CSV, GeoRSS or GeoJSON or connect to the WMS URL.

[Submit your data here](#): Help us keep our information current! The link guides you to submit information relating to BC’s **animals, plants and ecosystems**.

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

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us. [cdcdata@gov.bc.ca](mailto:cdcdata@gov.bc.ca)

