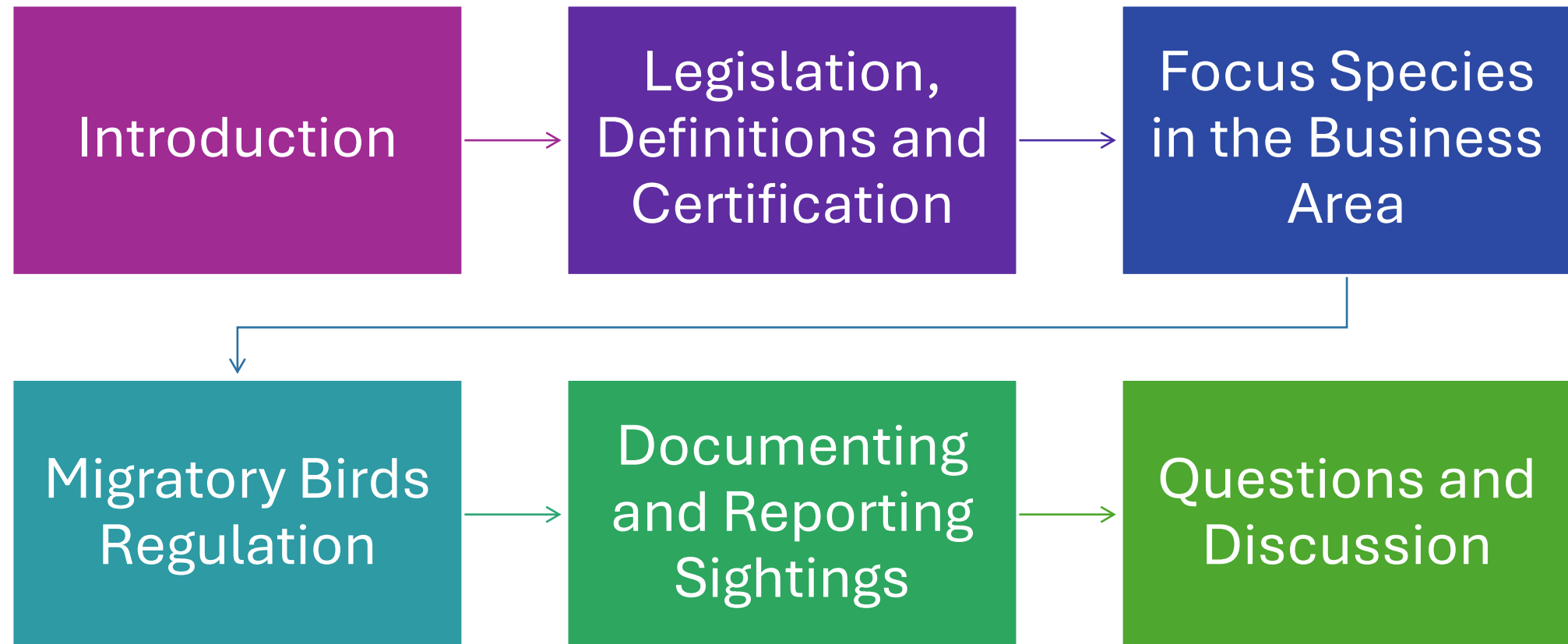
A close-up photograph of a bee on a flower branch, set against a blurred green background. The bee is positioned on the right side of the frame, facing left. The flower branch has several small, round buds and some open flowers. The overall image has a soft, natural feel with a green color palette.

SPECIES OF MANAGEMENT CONCERN

CARIBOO CHILCOTIN BUSINESS AREA
AWARENESS TRAINING

OVERVIEW



What is Species at Risk Awareness?



Familiarity with the legislation and designations



Knowing which species have potential to occur in your area



Knowing where to find resources to recognize and document species



Ability to identify habitat types and features that may be suitable for the identified species



Knowing how to report Species at Risk observations



Why does BCTS require awareness training?

- Conserving SOMC is a fundamental component of sustainable forest management, an overarching BCTS principle
- To maintain Sustainable Forestry Initiative certification
- BCTS has both legal and stewardship obligations to manage and conserve specific species, ecosystems and habitats that might occur within BCTS operating areas and be adversely affected by forestry activities.
- Ensure operations comply with federal legislation - *Species at Risk Act*, *Fisheries Act* and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* for example.
- Ensure operations comply with provincial legislation - *Wildlife Act* and the *Forest and Range Practices Act* for example.





How does this apply to you?

- In relation to SOMC, being aware means that we understand that there are species on the landscape that can be impacted by our operations, and we need to ensure that we are identifying appropriate management techniques to ensure that that impact is minimized.
- Within the organization, we have identified that there are species and ecosystems that require specific management and conservation efforts because of adverse affects of forestry activities on them.

Legislation, Definitions and Certification

A Cursory Review



What are Species at Risk?

A species designated by the federal or provincial government as an extirpated, endangered or threatened species or a species of special concern.

A designation of “at risk” identifies species that require immediate help from land managers, such as protection of habitat essential to the survival of the species. Some of these species are naturally rare, or rare due to human impact such as loss of habitat, introduced species competition, and climate change.

A designation of Threatened or Endangered initiates provincial recovery planning and delineation of critical habitat.

- Federal – included on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (only species)
- Provincial – included on the red or blue list (species and ecological communities)
- Species listed in specific regulations
 - BC *Wildlife Act*
 - FRPA – IWMS, GAR species (WHAs or UWR)
- SFI Certification – includes species or communities (FECV) listed by NatureServe (Global) to be critically imperiled or imperiled.

Why Protect Species at Risk?

- Biological diversity is maintained through protection of all species. Ecological interactions can be delicate and are not all fully understood
- Many Species at Risk are indicators of ecosystem integrity and productivity. They can act as 'canary in the coal mines' for forest health.
- It is the law. BCTS is bound by federal and provincial legal requirements to protect species at risk and/or habitats
- Professional due diligence and Code of Ethics
- Due diligence under SFI Certification and Environmental Management System (EMS)





Legislative Framework

Species at Risk as designated as such under Federal and/or Provincial Legislation.

These designations are based on biological factors and use rigorous assessment criteria and then are ranked based on risk.

Federal Legislation

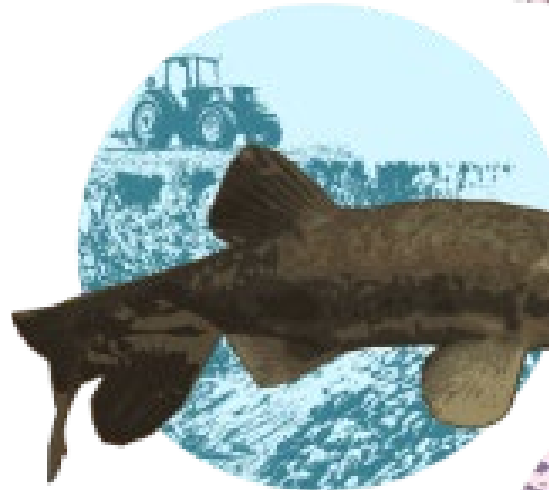
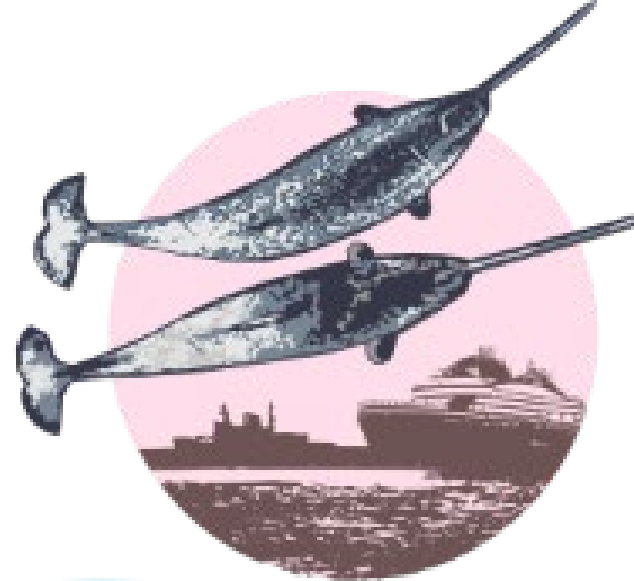
Federal Legislation	Protection	When does it apply?	Where does it apply?
<p><i>Species at Risk Act</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The legislation that legally assigns the national biological conservation status of species based on advice of COSEWIC Provides legal protection of species listed in Schedule 1, their residences and critical habitat if located on federal land. Critical habitat is designated for species listed as Endangered or Threatened 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies to species listed in Schedule 1 as Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern Currently SARA only includes species and does not include ecological communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic species and migratory birds – everywhere All other species – federal lands only
<p><i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designates the migratory birds that the act applies to Protects migratory birds and their nests when they contain a live bird or a viable egg The new Migratory Birds Regulations (2022) includes a list of 18 species whose nests are reused and are protected year-round, unless they have been shown to be abandoned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies to migratory birds identified under the Act Some examples of groups it does not apply to are owls, jays, crows, ravens, hawks and eagles The nests of the 18 species identified in Schedule 1 of the MBR are protected year-round 	<p>Applies on all lands and all tenures in Canada</p>

Provincial Legislation

Provincial Legislation	Protection	What does it apply to?	Where does it apply?
<i>Wildlife Act</i>	<p>Prohibits the hunting, trapping, wounding of endangered or threatened species and all native wildlife species (S.26)</p> <p>Protects a bird or its egg, the nest of an eagle, peregrine falcon, gyrfalcon, osprey, heron or burrowing owl or the nest of a bird not referred to when the nest it occupied by a bird or its egg (S.34)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •All native species. •Designated endangered or threatened species (S.13) include Burrowing Owl, Sea Otter, Vancouver Island Marmot, American White Pelican •Nests of eagles, peregrine falcons, osprey, herons or burrowing owls •Active nests of all bird species 	Everywhere in BC
<i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i>	Section 7 Notices are objectives set by government for consideration during forestry planning (result of strategy in FSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provincially designated species at risk •Regionally important wildlife (none currently identified) •Winter survival of specified ungulate species (GAR S.12) 	Provincial Crown Land
Identified Wildlife Management Strategy supported by the <i>Government Actions Regulation</i>	IWMS (2004) is policy used to establish Wildlife Habitat Areas (GAR S.10) and the implementation of general wildlife measures (GAR S.9) for species designated as identified wildlife that are affected by forest or range operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Identified Wildlife = Species at Risk and Regionally Important Wildlife •Includes plant communities 	Provincial Crown Land
<i>Government Actions Regulation</i>	Identify wildlife habitat features (GAR S.11) such as a fisheries sensitive feature, a marine sensitive feature, as significant mineral lick or wallow, the nest of a bald eagle, osprey, great blue heron or a category of species at risk that is limited to birds, any other localized feature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Various species •Specifically named species in GAR S.11(d) include bald eagle, osprey, great blue heron •Currently only designated in the Kootenay Boundary region 	Provincial Crown Land

Federal Ranking

- Set by: The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), an independent advisory panel to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada.
- Species are ranked as either:
 - Extinct
 - Extirpated
 - Endangered
 - Threatened
 - Special Concern
 - Not at Risk



BUT SCALE MATTERS....

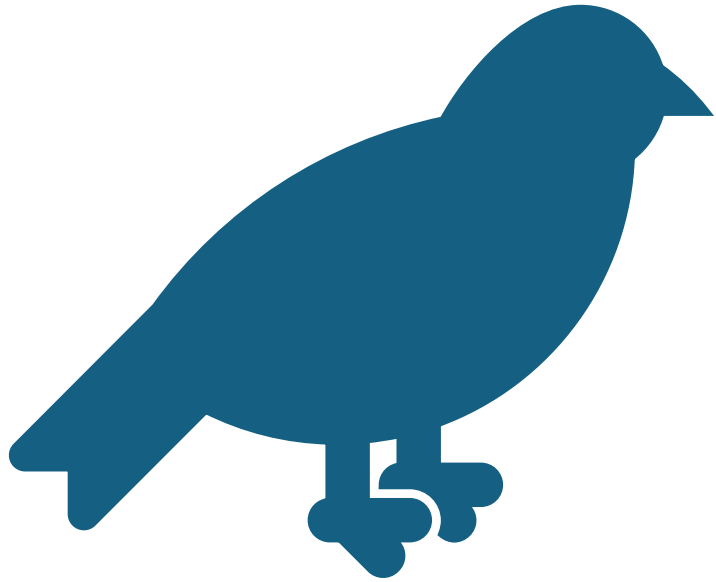


Provincial Ranking

- Species and ecosystems are ranked by the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre (CDC) as:
 - Red-listed: extirpated, endangered or threatened in BC
 - Blue-listed: special concern in BC
 - Yellow – listed: not at risk in BC

What does the Rank mean?

Provincial Rankings (BC CDC)	Federal Rankings (COSEWIC)	Global Rankings Global (G), Provincial (S) (NatureServe)
<p>Red</p> <p><i>Facing imminent extirpation or extinction (endangered). Likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed (threatened).</i></p>	<p>Extirpated</p> <p>Endangered <i>Facing imminent extirpation or extinction</i></p> <p>Threatened <i>Likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed</i></p>	<p>GH, SH <i>Possibly extinct</i></p> <p>G1, S1 <i>Critically imperiled</i></p> <p>G2, S2 <i>Imperiled</i></p>
<p>Blue</p> <p><i>Characteristics that make them particularly sensitive or vulnerable to human activities or natural events.</i></p>	<p>Special Concern</p> <p><i>Characteristics that make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events</i></p>	<p>G3, S3 <i>Vulnerable to extirpation or extinction</i></p>
<p>Yellow</p> <p><i>Secure and not at risk of extinction</i></p>	<p>Not at Risk</p>	<p>G4, G5, S4, S5 <i>Widespread, abundant, secure</i></p>



Migratory Birds - Interior





Migratory Birds

Federal regulations

- The Migratory Birds Convention Act (MBCA) and the Migratory Birds Regulations (MBR) protect all migratory birds at all times on all land tenures in Canada (including federal lands, provincial lands, First Nations reserve lands and private lands) and in ocean waters.

What species do these regulations apply to?

- They apply to migratory birds named in the MBCA such as ducks, geese, shorebirds, swallows, flycatchers, woodpeckers, hummingbirds and more
- They don't apply to hawks, eagles, falcons, owls, corvidae (jays, crows, ravens) and grouse

What are the prohibitions and protections?

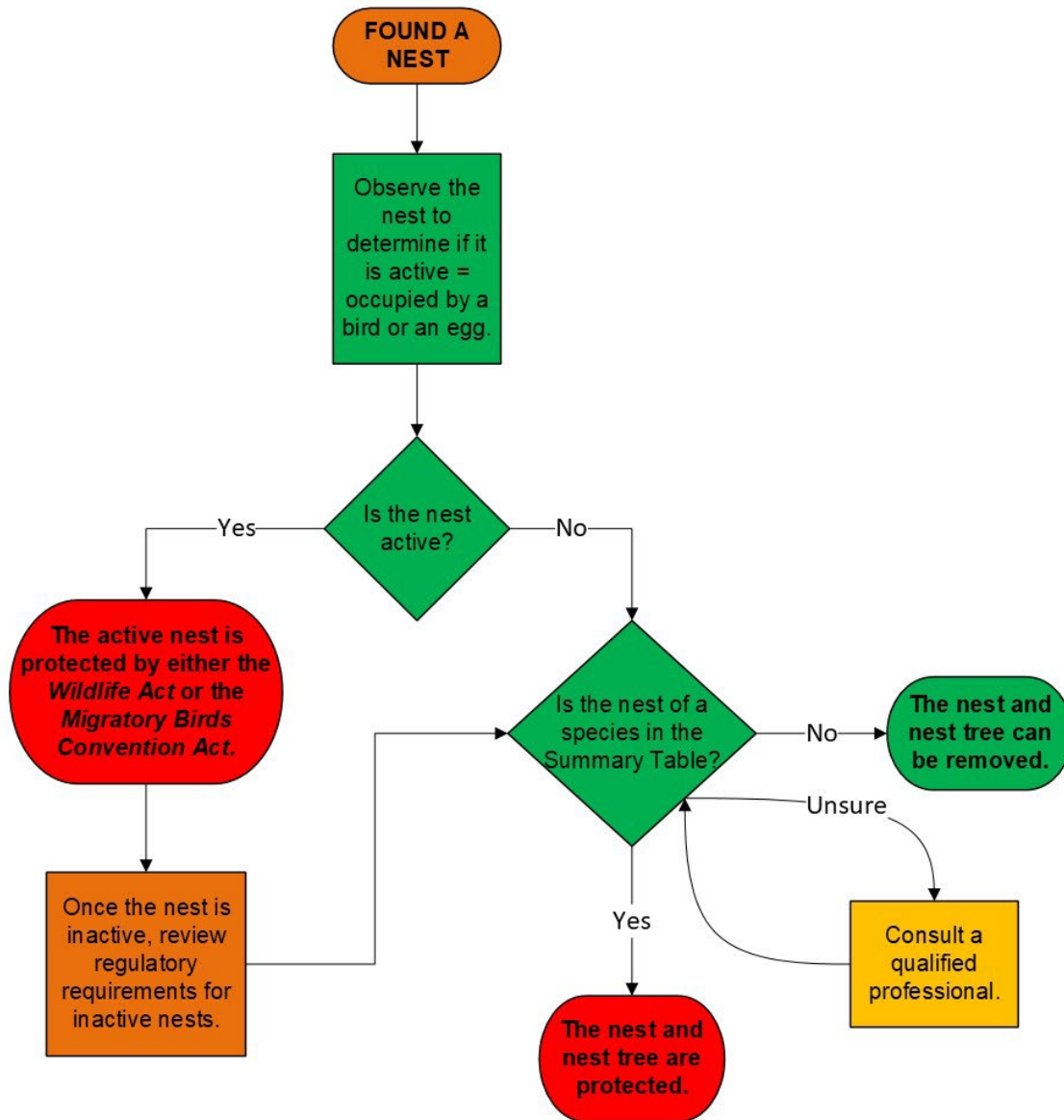
Prohibitions include:

- Depositing a substance that is harmful to migratory birds to water in an area frequented by migratory birds (MBCA 5.1(1))
- Capturing, killing, taking, injuring or harassing a migratory bird (MBR 5(1)(a))
- Damaging, destroying, removing or disturbing a nest, nest shelter, eider duck shelter or duck box (MBR 5(1)(c))

Nest protections

- All migratory bird nests are protected when they contain a live bird or viable egg. The nests of some species are protected at all times or until shown to be abandoned for a stated period of time.

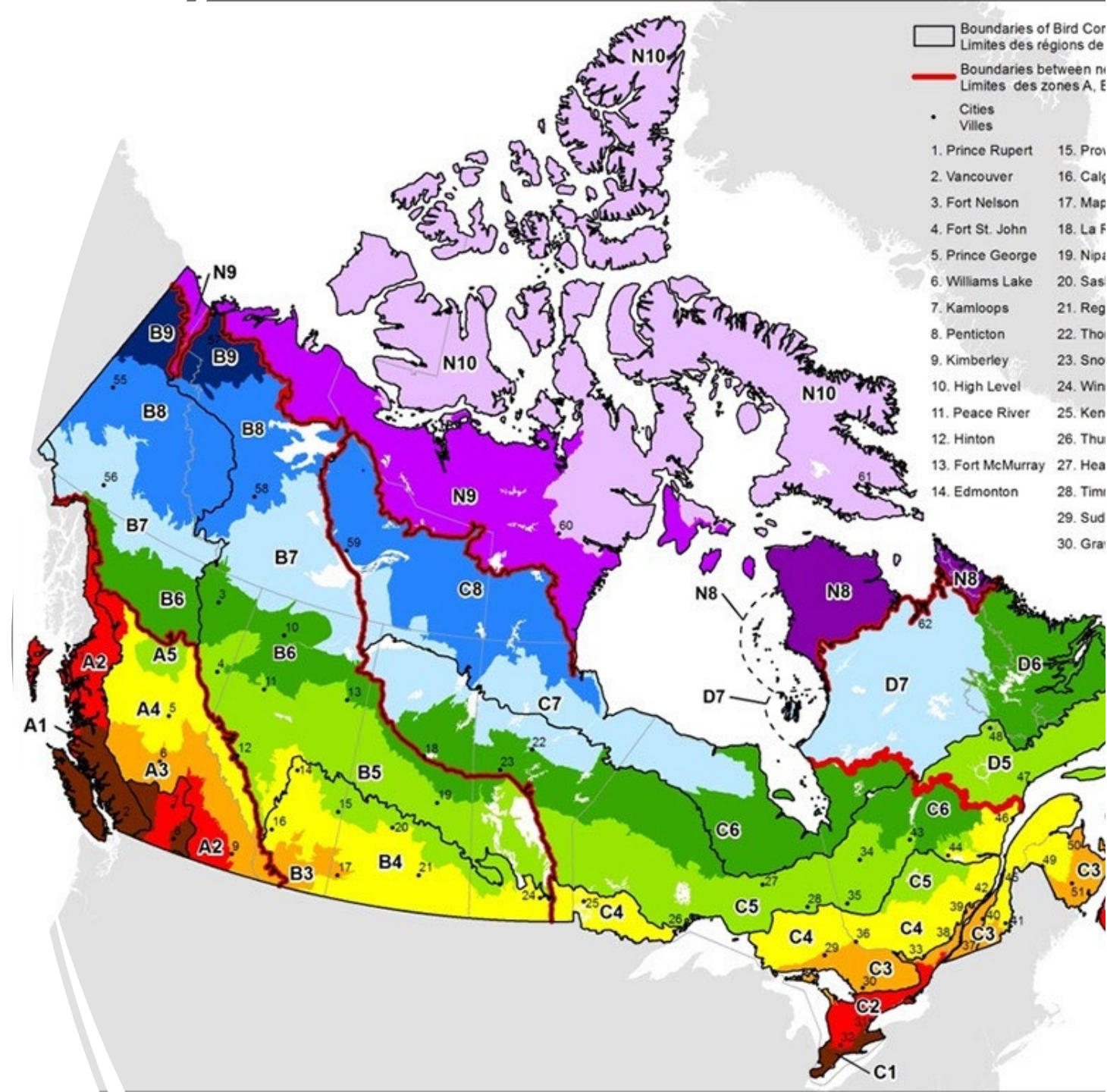
Migratory Bird Regulatory Flowchart



Timing Windows

- To determine the time periods when migratory bird nests are likely to be present, identify the nesting zone where your activities will occur and then refer to the nesting calendar associated with that zone.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods/nesting-periods.html>





BCTS Migratory Bird Regional Management Protocols

- BCTS and the forest sector collaborated to develop a management tool for migratory birds in the interior of B.C. The tool was released in 2016 with an update in 2017. A background document provides context for creation of the tool, a description of its components and their intended usage. The key components of the tool are a nesting density matrix and beneficial management practice compendium.



Sustainable Forestry Initiative

SFI and BCTS Operations

Sustainable Forestry Initiative

- One of the SFI Principles is The *Protection of Biological Diversity*

Objective 4 . Conservation of Biological Diversity

Performance Measure 4.2: *Certified Organizations shall protect threatened and endangered species, critically imperiled and imperiled species (Forests with Exceptional Conservation Values), and natural communities and old-growth forests.*

- Indicator 4.2.1: *Program to protect threatened and endangered species.*
- Indicator 4.2.2: *Program to locate and protect known sites of flora and fauna associated with viable occurrences of critically imperiled and imperiled species and ecological communities, defined as Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value.*
- Addressing SAR within BCTS operating areas is a requirement of SFI Certification
- Contractors working within SFI certification must have Basic Training in “Species at Risk Awareness”



SUSTAINABLE
FORESTRY
INITIATIVE

SFI-00001



BA Focus Species



November 2024 Update

TCC's focus list was updated in 2024.

Does not include those species identified in TCC's Forest Stewardship Plan (#828).

TCC Focus List Species	
Species Common Name	Species Latin Name
Great Basin Spadefoot	<i>Spea intermontana</i>
Western Toad	<i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>
American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Brewer's Sparrow, breweri subspecies	<i>Spizella breweri breweri</i>
Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>
Great Blue Heron, herodias subspecies	<i>Ardea herodias herodias</i>
Lewis's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>
Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>
American Goshawk, atricapillus subspecies	<i>Accipiter atricapillus atricapillus</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Peregrine Falcon, anatum subspecies	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>
Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>
Bighorn Sheep	<i>Ovis canadensis</i>
Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>
Caribou (Northern Mountain Population)	<i>Rangifer tarandus pop. 15</i>
Caribou (Southern Mountain Population)	
Fisher - Columbian Population	<i>Pekania pennanti pop. 5</i>
Fringed Myotis	<i>Myotis thysanodes</i>
Grizzly Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>
Little Brown Myotis	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>
Moose	<i>Alces alces</i>
Northern Myotis	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>
Spotted Bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>
Wolverine, luscus subspecies	<i>Gulo gulo luscus</i>
Bull Trout	<i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>
blue-blue vinyl	<i>Leptogium cyanescens</i>
cryptic paw	<i>Nephroma occultum</i>
fence-rail pixie	<i>Cladonia parasitica</i>
greater green moon	<i>Dendroscosticta gelida</i>
oldgrowth lung	<i>Lobaria silvae-veteris</i>
whitebark pine	<i>Pinus albicaulis</i>

BIRDS

- 13 Focus List Species
- 8 FSP Species
- Some examples shown here are for the American Goshawk, Long Billed Curlew and the Great Blue Heron.
- In addition to those species from the focus list, our FSP has identified 8 additional bird species that we manage for in the Cariboo Chilcotin. These include:
- Burrowing Owl, Flammulated Owl, Prairie Falcon, Sandhill Crane, Sharp Tailed Grouse, Short eared Owl, Western Screech Owl, and the Yellow Breasted Chat.
- Not all of the bird species identified are commonly seen in our BA, but it's important to understand how to manage for them as each bird species has different habitat and phenological requirements which means different management strategies for each.



Mammals



- 13 Focus List Species
- 2 FSP Species
- In addition to the focus list species, we have Mule Deer and Mountain Goat as a species of management concern within the Cariboo Region under GAR.
- Managing mammals in British Columbia involves a variety of strategies including predator management, stewardship plans, and dealing with invasive species, all aimed at maintaining healthy populations and addressing potential conflicts with humans. The province also focuses on species at risk and works to protect marine mammals.

Amphibians and Reptiles



- There are only 2 amphibian species within the Cariboo Chilcotin BA's focus list. The Great Basin Spadefoot and the Western Toad
- While we don't have any reptiles on the focus list, we have identified in our FSP that we manage for Gopher Snake and the North American Racer Snake.



Plants and Lichens

- There are 6 species of vascular plants and lichens on the BA focus list.
- These are in addition to the At-Risk Ecological Communities (AREC).
- Refer to the *Plants of Northern British Columbia Field Guide* and [A Field Guide to Forest Site Identification and Interpretation for the Cariboo Forest Region \(LMH 39\)](#) for site identification.





BA Species of Management Concern Program

Program Components

Primary Program Documents

All documents can be found on the [Business Area Environmental Management System \(EMS\)](#) and [Sustainable Forest Management \(SFM\) website](#).

Wildlife
Habitat
Management
Guide (2009)

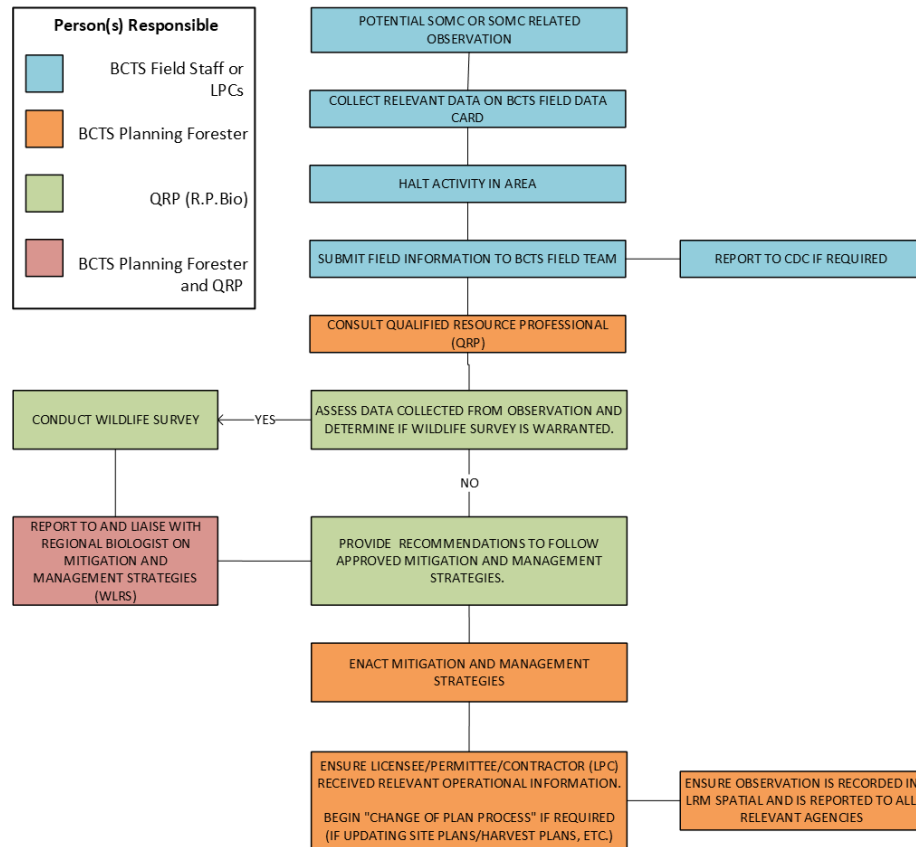
Standard
Operating
Procedure
(2024)

TCC SOMC
Field Guide
(2025)

Field
Observation
Card (2009)

SOMC Process Summary

This process summarizes the steps outlined in the Species of Management Concern Standard Operating Procedure for the Cariboo Chilcotin Business Area.



- Simplified breakdown of the roles of BCTS staff and LPC's in the BA SOMC program.
- There may be times when the process doesn't quite fit the situation.
- If in doubt – STOP WORK and contact BCTS.

Reporting and Recording

- Central to the success of SOMC management within the BA.
- All observations must be georeferenced (kml, gpx, etc.) so that they can be added to the local data set for future planning and development within the area.



BC Conservation Data Centre



ANYONE CAN SUBMIT WILDLIFE AND PLANT DATA TO THE PROVINCE! IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECT OR JUST DETECTED A SPECIES-AT-RISK IN YOUR BACKYARD WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT IT. THE DATA AND INFORMATION YOU COLLECT AND SUBMIT INFORMS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION DECISION MAKING IN THE PROVINCE.



[HTTPS://WWW2.GOV.BC.CA/GOV/CONTENT/ENVIRONMENT/PLANTS-ANIMALS-ECOSYSTEMS/WILDLIFE/WILDLIFE-DATA-INFORMATION/SUBMIT-WILDLIFE-DATA-INFORMATION](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/wildlife/wildlife-data-information/submit-wildlife-data-information)



Questions?

Direct all questions and queries to a BCTS Representative.
