

Species of Management Concern

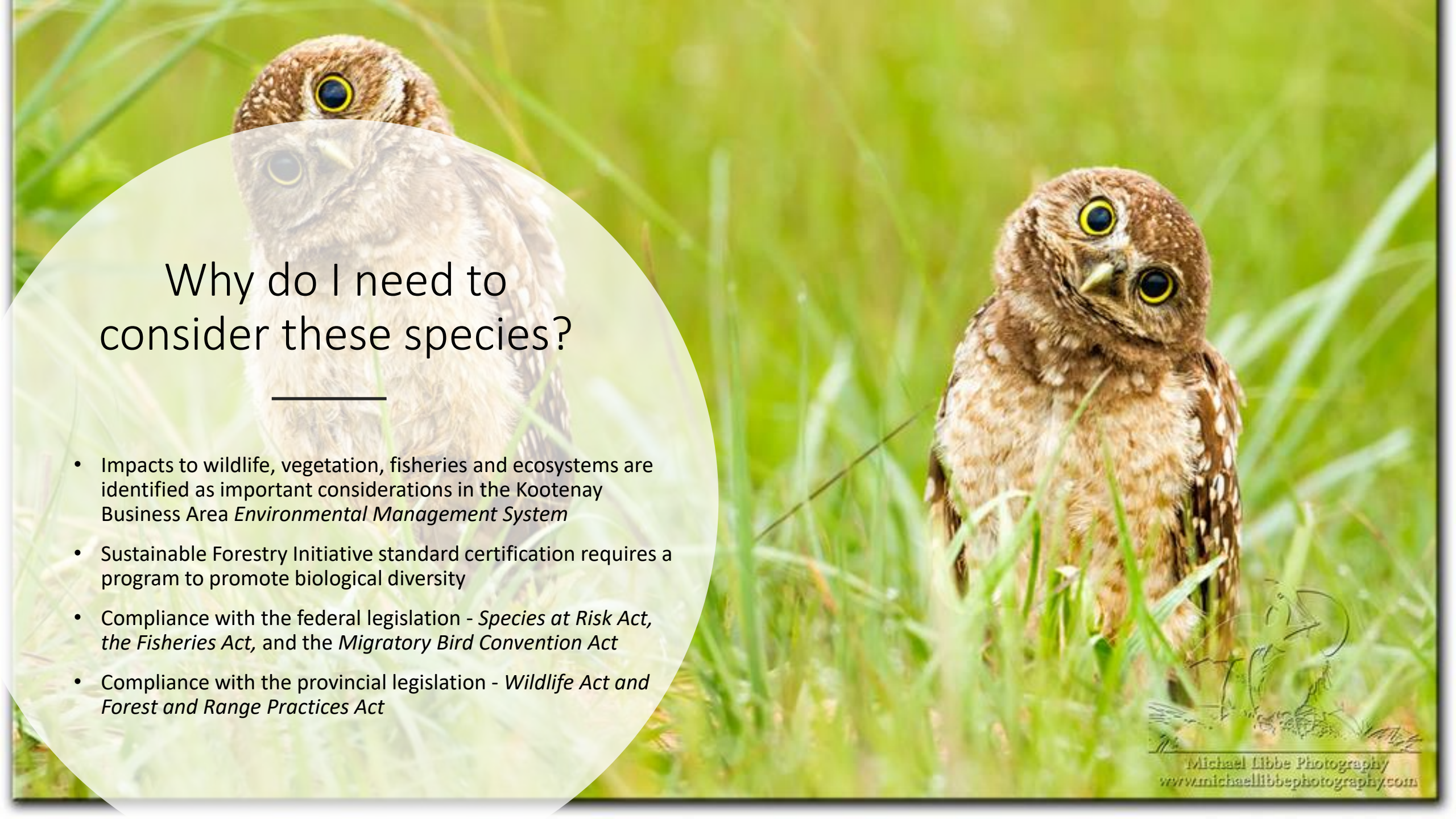
These include:

- Species at Risk (SAR)
- Regionally Important Wildlife
- Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHA)
- Ungulate Winter Range (UWR)
- Wildlife Habitat Features (WHF)

Last reviewed: March 2021

Photo: © A. Gunn





Why do I need to consider these species?

- Impacts to wildlife, vegetation, fisheries and ecosystems are identified as important considerations in the Kootenay Business Area *Environmental Management System*
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative standard certification requires a program to promote biological diversity
- Compliance with the federal legislation - *Species at Risk Act*, *the Fisheries Act*, and *the Migratory Bird Convention Act*
- Compliance with the provincial legislation - *Wildlife Act* and *Forest and Range Practices Act*

How do I find out about Species at Risk and Species of Management Concern?



[Species identified under Section 7 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation \(FPPR\)](#)

[Government Actions Regulation \(GAR\)](#)

[Species at Risk Act Public Registry \(SARA\)](#)

[BC Conservation Data Centre \(BC CDC\)](#)

[Species identified under Section 13 of Designation and Exemption Regulation of the Wildlife Act](#)

[Wildlife Habitat Features Order](#)

How do I fulfill my obligations? BC- FPPR – Section 7 Notices

Most of the species identified in Notices under the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) Section 7 are addressed through:

- Wildlife Habitat Areas
- Ungulate Winter Range orders set under the Government Action Regulation

It is always a good practice to review the Notices just in case there have been changes:

- [FPPR Section 7 - Species at Risk Notices](#)
- [FPPR Section 7 - Ungulate Winter Range Notices](#)

[General Information on FPPR Section 7 notices and Objectives set by Government for Wildlife](#)



How do I fulfill my obligations? BC- GAR

Under the *Forest & Range Practices Act*, the [Government Actions Regulation](#) (GAR) directs how the B.C. provincial government establishes land designations or stewardship measures for forest and range values.

Species specific Orders under Government Actions Regulation (GAR) are:

- [Wildlife Habitat Areas](#) (WHA)
- [Wildlife Habitat Features](#) (WHF)
- [Ungulate Winter Range](#) (UWR)



Wildlife Habitat Features Order

New to the Kootenays - 2018

Various regulations under FRPA specify that “forest and range activities must not damage or render ineffective a Wildlife Habitat Feature”

To do this, agreement holders must:

- make themselves aware of known wildlife habitat features
- identify new wildlife habitat features
- take measures to protect these features when carrying out routine forest or range activities

“render ineffective” means that any forest and range activities must not cause physical damage, loss of the feature itself, or the loss of its biological or ecological function.

[Kootenay Boundary Wildlife Habitat Features Order](#)



Wildlife Habitat Features

The following list of Wildlife Habitat Features have been prioritized for identification and management in the Kootenay Boundary Region

1. a nest of a Bald Eagle
2. a nest of an Osprey
3. a nest of a Flammulated Owl
4. a nest of a Western Screech-Owl *macfarlanei* subspecies
5. a nest of a Great Blue Heron
6. a nest of a Lewis's Woodpecker
7. a nest of a Williamson's Sapsucker
8. an American Badger burrow
9. a Grizzly Bear den
10. a significant mineral lick
11. a significant wallow
12. a bat hibernaculum
13. a bat nursery roost
14. a hot spring or thermal spring



Wallowing...

Federal- SARA

The Species at Risk Act legally assigns national biological conservation status to species in Canada

Section 32: prohibits the killing, harming, harassing, capturing, taking, possessing, collecting, buying, selling or trading of any Schedule 1 *Threatened*, *Endangered* or *Extirpated* species.

Section 33: prohibits the damage or destruction of “critical habitat”; a residence or habitat critical for the survival or recovery of a *Threatened*, *Endangered*, or *Extirpated* species.



Conservation Status Categories

SARA and COSEWIC

Extinct (X): species no longer exists

Extirpated (XT): species no longer exists in the wild in Canada but exists elsewhere

Endangered (E): species is facing imminent extinction or extirpation

Threatened (T): species may become endangered if limiting factors for survival are not reversed

Special Concern (SC): species may become threatened or endangered due to biological factors and identified threats

Not-at-Risk (NAR): species is determined to not be of conservation concern

Data Deficient (DD): species lacks sufficient data to determine a conservation status



Species at Risk in BC

- Provincial red- and blue-listed species and federal SARA-listed species warrant special consideration in planning and development.
- In British Columbia, specialists with the [Conservation Data Centre](#), in consultation with other experts, assign species conservation status ranks. The Red and Blue lists provide a list of species for consideration for more formal designation as Endangered or Threatened, either provincially under the *British Columbia Wildlife Act*, or nationally by the *Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada* (COSEWIC).
- The BC Conservation Data Centre has the most complete list of species of concern and will be our main source for designation information.



Conservation Data Centre

The BC Conservation Data Centre (CDC) assess the provincial conservation status, track changes of conservation status, and provide biological and status information about species in BC

Colour-coded status categories:

RED: any indigenous species, sub-species or ecological community that is *Threatened, Endangered, or Extirpated* in BC

BLUE: any indigenous species, sub-species or ecological community that is considered *Vulnerable (Special Concern)* in BC

YELLOW: ecological communities or indigenous species which are not at risk in BC

[BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer](#)

[CDC iMap](#)



Kootenay-specific links to information and guidance on Species of Management Concern

Field Guide

[Click HERE for the link](#)

Species of
Management Concern
in the
Kootenay Business Area

[Kootenay Business Area
Species of Management
Concern
Practices Document](#)

[General Wildlife
Management information
from BCTS - Kootenays](#)



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At the planning stage...

Identify:

- Which species are likely to occur in the area?
- Habitat requirements? WHA? WHF?
- Sensitivities? (water, wetlands, rare/unique ecosites)

Tools:

[Habitat Wizard](#), [BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer](#) and [CDC iMap](#) / Field Team mxds



During crafting of the site plan ...

- Review any operational requirements or constraints specific to an activity or location for species that were identified either in the field or during the planning phase
- Review associated requirements or management strategies
- Review Forest Stewardship Plan and operational planning maps

REPORTING and NOTIFICATION


If a Species of Management Concern (SMC) or Wildlife Habitat Feature (WHF) is identified in the field...



If a SMC identified in the field...

- NOTIFY BCTS Project Supervisor ASAP
- Observations:
 - Location (GPS, or map location)
 - Date of observation
 - Species
 - Number of individuals seen or heard
- Other helpful information:
 - Name and contact info
 - Habitat
 - Land status (crown, federal, private)
 - Adjacent landscape (i.e. roads, disturbance)
 - Habitat quality
 - Health of species (live, dead, sick, injured)
 - Photos





**If you are the BCTS Project
Supervisor...**

When a Notification is received:

- submit this information to the BC Conservation Data Centre through the following website:

[Incidental Wildlife Observations](#)

- Print a copy of the report
- Scan to .pdf with the date: (e.g. Western Toad_aug8_2016) and file it in the following directory:

K:\TSO\Forest_Certification\Certification_General\SAR\Wildlife Incidental Observation Forms

If a WHF is identified in the field...

Document the following information from [WHF observation form](#)

Observations:

- Date of observation & by whom
- Location (GPS, or map location)
- Feature type
- Is feature in functioning condition, visibly being used, and/or a naturally occurring feature.
- Other helpful information:
 - Tree species, height and diameter
 - Tree decay Class
 - Physical Description and Observation Notes
 - Photos



Reporting a WHF

Preferably, field staff who observe the WHF report it, but if not possible, supply the information to the BCTS Supervisor who will report.

To report a WHF – submit this information to Kootenay FLNRORD Habitat Staff through the following “[Submit Data](#)” link on KB WHF website.

WHFs must be protected and if not practicable an exemption request can be made through the website



Stay Current!

- Species conservation status can change depending on the immediacy of population declines, identified threats, and addition of new information

Examples:

- three species of bats were added to the SARA Schedule 1 listing as *Endangered* after white-nose syndrome was identified as an imminent threat to species survival.
 - Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog status downgraded from *Endangered* to *Threatened*
 - Western Toad was a blue-listed species when the Field Guide was created in 2014, is now listed provincially as yellow.
- WHF, WHA, UWR information may change as new information is compiled, priorities shift, policy changes, etc.



Once again ... links to important sites

Provincial information

- [Species identified under Section 7 of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*](#)
- [Government Actions Regulation \(GAR\)](#)
- [Species at Risk Act Public Registry \(SARA\)](#)
- [BC Conservation Data Centre \(BC CDC\)](#)
- [Species identified under Section 13 of Designation and Exemption Regulation of the *Wildlife Act*](#)
- [*Wildlife Habitat Features Order*](#)

Local information

- [Species of Management Concern Practices Document](#)
- [SSMC Field Guide](#)





Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog

Gary Nafis



Little Brown Myotis

Joe Kosack/PGC Photo

Species of Management Concern



Western Screech-owl

Laura Keene

Just a few examples...
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Questions?



Whitebark pine

Adrian Leslie