

Wildlife and Species at Risk (LPCs)

DCR – Vancouver Island



<i>Category</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>Habitat Range</i>	<i>Defining Characteristics</i>	<i>Action Required</i>
Amphibians & Reptiles	Painted Turtle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On mainland coast Powell River and South, and Vancouver Island in Nanaimo lowlands • Generally within 150m of shallow bodies of water and associated riparian zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smooth dark shell up to 25cm (10 inches) • Underside of shell orange-red with large dark central markings • Limbs and head dark green with yellow lines / spots • Can be confused with red-eared slider, which is not endangered. The slider has red mark behind eye, and underside of shell is yellow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify BCTS • If seen in upland area (away from a pond) – avoid that area until assessed by BCTS

Category	Species	Habitat Range	Defining Characteristics	Action Required
Amphibians & Reptiles	Red-Legged Frog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainland coast, Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island, and other small coastal islands. • Adults often found in damp wooded areas. During breeding season, winter to early spring, they may be found in ponds and streams. • Elevation 0-850m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium sized brown-reddish frog, with smooth skin and black 'freckles'. • Males are approximately 7 cm in length; females can be longer, approximately 10 cm. • Named after their long slender hind legs, with red colouring on the undersides. • Usually have a dark mask and upper jaw stripe running back to the shoulder. • Tadpoles: tan to brown color with specks throughout their body. Their bodies look short because they have a long tail that is at least as long as the length of their body. The tail has a dorsal fin with light spots on it. Mouth with 4 teeth rows on the bottom and 3 on the top. They reach a size of 2-7 cm before they metamorphose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify BCTS and document location of verified breeding area. • Refer to BCTS TSG Protocol for Amphibians • Consult qualified professional if necessary to verify species or breeding area. • Biologist will work with field team staff to determine management options.
Birds	Great Blue Heron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally near sea level • Near rivers, lakes & wetlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large size (1+m length) • Long rounded wings • Long bill • Short tail • S-shaped neck while flying • Blue-grey with white head 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a nest or nesting colony is found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stop work within 500m of nest site ○ Notify BCTS

Category	Species	Habitat Range	Defining Characteristics	Action Required
Birds	Peregrine falcon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anatum</i> subspecies: Southwest coast of BC (CR, SI Forest Districts). • <i>Pealei</i> subspecies: Pacific Coast; Aleutian Islands to Oregon (CR, SI Forest Districts). • Nests are usually located on cliffs, 4-335m in elevation, often with overhanging cover. Must be near foraging areas (i.e. lake, ocean, river valleys). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium to large (crow-sized) falcon; Males are 36-49cm and 650g, females 45-58cm and 950g. • Adults have blue-grey or darker plumage on upperparts, and underparts are pale, white-grey with dark spotting/barring. • Have dark "hood" on crown of head with extended malar stripes ("sideburns"). • Immatures have pale, slate or chocolate brown upperparts, and underparts buffy with dark streaks. • Clinal differences: darker in wet areas, paler in dry, larger in south and west, smaller in north extent of range. Similar Species • Gyrfalcon: larger, with pointed and broader wings and a larger tail, lack dark hood and malar stripes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify BCTS and document location of suspected breeding area. • Contact a qualified professional to verify the species and recommend reserve design and timing restrictions
Birds	American Goshawk laingi subspecies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea level to 900m • Mature forest • Structurally diverse area with large trees • Nests generally on lower 2/3 of slopes <40% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raven sized bird of prey • Broad, short wings • Long tail • Bold white stripe above eyes • Blackish grey and sometimes mottled white mask 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a goshawk is seen on worksite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ notify BCTS • If a nest is found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stop work within 500m of nest tree ○ Notify BCTS
Birds	Western Screech Owl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout Vancouver Island and Coast Mainland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small, with yellow eyes, tufts over ears • Small – average height 23 cm (9 in.) • Wingspan approx 56cm (22 inches) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a nest is found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ stop work within 200m of nest tree ○ Notify BCTS

Category	Species	Habitat Range	Defining Characteristics	Action Required
Birds	Bald Eagle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout Vancouver Island and the Coast Mainland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large raptor with white face and head • Juveniles all brown • Large stick nest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a nest is found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ stop work within 200m of nest tree ○ Notify BCTS
Birds	Any bird species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout Vancouver Island and the Coast Mainland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any nest occupied by a bird or egg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a nest is found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Retain the nest tree ○ Notify BCTS
Mammals	Western Water Shrew brooksi subspecies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assumed to be found throughout Vancouver Island; there are only 67 records from 38 locations. • South Island and Campbell River Forest Districts • As the shrews spend up to half of their time hunting underwater, they stay very close to water. • Habitat includes riparian areas, creeks, streams and possibly bogs and marshes. • Found at all elevations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large water shrew with an average length of 152 mm of which 75 mm is tail; average weight of 10.6 grams. • The water shrew has a bi-coloured body, with glossy black fur on its dorsal surface and silvery white fur on its ventral surface. • Similar Species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pacific Water Shrew, although ranges do not over-lap. ○ Terrestrial shrews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify BCTS, contact a qualified professional to verify species and assist in retention design. • Maintain a 5m buffer along streams in the vicinity of where the shrew was found.

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Mammals	Grizzly and Black Bears	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout Vancouver Island (black only) and the Coast Mainland (both) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground den: on steep slope with large pile of earth at entrance, evidence of bedding material Tree base den: sheltered hollow beneath tree Arboreal den: large diameter trees with large limb scars (den in tree trunk) 	<p>Follow BCTS TSG Bear Den BMP If a den is found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Notify BCTS and document location of the den and whether it is occupied. •Contact a qualified professional if you are uncertain about occupancy or den quality. •If found during harvest or road building operations, stop work within 50m of the den until an assessment of the den and options are completed •If den is active, non-disturbance buffers defined in the protocol are applicable in the between Nov 1 and May 15. •200m buffer around the den(s) for falling, primary harvesting activities, hauling, road building (no blasting) •1000m buffer around dens for blasting or helicopter yarding

Category	Species	Habitat Range	Defining Characteristics	Action Required
Mammals	Roosevelt Elk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population estimates are approximately 6900 in BC, approximately 5500 of which are on VI On VI there are two main populations, southern and northern. The southern is centered near Cowichan Lake and Nanaimo River watershed. The northern population is found within the loose boundaries of Woss, Gold River, Campbell River and the Tsitika River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large member of the deer family. Dark head and neck with a yellow-brown or cream-coloured rump patch with a short tail. Large males may reach more than 400 kg, while females are approximately 250 kg in weight. Males grow antlers, ranging from simple spikes & forks on year-lings to large branched structures, with up to 5 or 6 ivory-tipped tines on mature bulls. Antlers usually have a brownish main beam & can be more than 1m long. Generally, antlers are shed from March through May. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document any high use foraging and wintering areas. Consult the BCTS TSG Roosevelt Elk Management Protocol for former TFL 44 areas. Determine if Landscape Unit you are working in requires a specific management strategy to protect or enhance for-age, security cover or winter thermal cover.

Awareness List:

Amphibian:

- Western Toad

Birds:

- Barn Swallow
- Green Heron
- Common Nighthawk
- Marbled Murrelet
- Osprey

Mammals:

- Little Brown Myotis
- Vancouver Island Marmot

Lichen:

- Considerable Gingerbread
- Old Growth Specklebelly







Vascular Plant:






- Western Yew

Specific to Log Handling Sites

Category	Species	Habitat Range	Defining Characteristics	Action Required
	Northern Abalone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheltered bays to exposed coastlines • Require full salinity (no brackish water) • Require source of macro algae such as kelp • <10m depth • Ample habitat available on coast of BC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single ear shaped shell with row of perforations along one side • Usually mottled reddish or greenish with areas of white and blue. Orange variant seen rarely • Often overgrown with various encrusting organisms • Inside shell is pearly white with faint iridescence • Large foot usually tan coloured 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact a Qualified Registered Professional to develop mitigation strategy for any activities taking place in foreshore or near shore areas
	Olympia Oyster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • primarily found in lower intertidal and subtidal areas of estuaries and saltwater lagoons • also found on mud-gravel tidal flats, splash pools, near fresh water seepage and in tidal channels • on outer coast only found in protected locations • documented from intertidal to 50m in depth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small oyster with two oval shells connected by a hinge • Generally 6-9 cm long • lower shell is larger and rounded while slightly smaller upper shell is flat with edges tucked inside bottom shell • Similar Species— Pacific Oysters are larger with a more heavily ridged shell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact a Qualified Registered Professional to develop mitigation strategy for any activities taking place in foreshore or near shore areas

Category	Species	Habitat Range	Defining Characteristics	Action Required
	Orca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Range of Southern Resident Pod: Strait of Georgia to Esperanza Inlet • Canadian Range of Northern Resident Pod: Dixon Entrance – Johnstone Straits (East Coast of Vancouver Island) and Barkley Sound (W Coast Van Island) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The killer whale, or orca, is the largest member of the dolphin family. Its size, striking black and white colouring, and tall dorsal fin are unmistakable. Males reach lengths of 8 or 9 metres and weigh up to 5 tonnes. Females are smaller at 7 metres and 4 tonnes. Killer whales are mainly black above and white below, with an oval white patch behind each eye. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be given consideration when developing and operating log handling facilities • Contact a Qualified Registered Professional to develop mitigation strategy as a part of the operational plan for the log handling facility

<p>Great Blue Heron</p> 	<p>Northern Goshawk</p> <p>Adult</p>  <p>Photo: Harvey Thomas</p>	<p>Red-legged Frog</p>  <p>© Dave Ingram</p>
<p>Great Blue Heron nest colony</p> 	<p>Northern Goshawk nest</p> <p>Active nest with bits of white downy feathers</p> 	<p>Western Screech Owl</p>  <p>© Glenn Bartley www.glennbartley.com</p>

<p>Bald Eagle nest</p> 	<p>American Water Shrew</p> 	<p>Vancouver Island Marmot</p> 
<p>Juvenile Bald Eagle</p> 	<p>Peregrine Falcon</p> 	<p>Arboreal bear den</p> 