



February 20, 2019

To: Jeff Hamilton, RPF
Planning Forester
BC Timber Sales – Strait of Georgia Business Area

From: Wayne Wall, RPBio
Graham/Wall Consulting Ltd.

Re: Review of Focus Species for BC Timber Sales, Strait of Georgia Business Area (2019 List)

Introduction

As required by their Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Certification, BC Timber Sales, Strait of Georgia Business Area has conducted a review to address species at risk within their operating area. BCTS received their SFI Certification in 2008. A detailed review of the list of species that required specific management within the Strait of Georgia (TSG) Business Area was conducted to determine if the current list was relevant and if new additions or deletions were required as of the end of 2018. BC Species and Ecosystem Explorer listings were used to determine if changes were required for the 2019 Focus List.

Focus List Species Review

The Focus List Species Review was conducted by using queries from BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer. The review was conducted, using previously established criteria, to determine if there had been any status change or new species that should be considered for inclusion or deletion in the 2019 Focus List of species.

The Focus List of Species Review includes vertebrates, invertebrates, vascular plants, non-vascular plants and lichens. The query was conducted for; Red list, Red & Blue List, SARA List, Conservation Framework 1-3 and FRPA listed species at the Forest District level and includes both the Campbell River Forest District and the South Island Forest District. The list was stratified for the BCTS SoG Business Area by Forest District to indicate where individual species should be considered.

The associated data base was updated up to 2018 as there is approximately a year delay in CDC updates. Subsequent Focus List Species reviews should update status review dates for all species in both the Animal and Plants data bases. It should be determined if Critical Habitat has been designated under SARA for specific species.

Awareness List Species

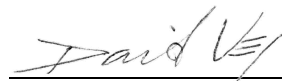
The Awareness List is designed for species that do not meet the criteria for the Focus List. In many cases, these species are listed as Special Concern by COSEWIC or Schedule 1 (SC) by SARA. Identification of occurrences may assist in future species assessments by the Conservation Data Center and COSEWIC. Species may move back and forth between the Focus list and Awareness list as their Rank is changed by the various ranking organizations.

Results from the 2018/19 Review

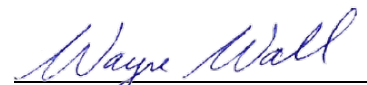
Over the past year (2018) there have been several species that have had changes in ranking, species with Recovery Strategies accepted, Implementation Plans have been released for species and we are currently awaiting the release of the Provincial Intentions paper for Species at Risk legislation. With the high rate of change we are currently seeing with species at risk annual review of the BCTS Strait of Georgia Business Area Species at Risk Focus list is recommended. The SARA Registry as well as BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer data bases should continue to be used to track annual changes in status for species of concern. Emergency Listings under SARA should be an exception and should be confirmed and added to the focus list immediately after they are announced. Over the course of the Focus List Species review it was noted that queries in BC Species and Ecosystem Explorer were not totally reliable, with some species not showing up in queries when they should. In most cases, the NatureServe status (i.e. G1 or G2) seems to be the most dated of all sources. Using a combination of the three data bases should ensure the Focus List is using the most current status for species at risk.

If you have any further questions, please contact [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yours Truly;



David Vey, RPBio



Wayne Wall, RPBio

Attachments

BC Timber Sales – Strait of Georgia Business Area

Focus List: Animal Species of Concern

Species	Forest District		IWMS	LUO	CDC List
	Campbell River	South Island			
Insects					
Johnson’s hairstreak		X	Yes		Red
Amphibians					
Northern Red-legged Frog	X	X	Yes		Blue
Reptiles					
Painted Turtle, Pacific Coast Population	X	X			Red
Birds					
Bald Eagle	X	X			Yellow
Osprey	X	X			
Peregrine falcon pealei & anatum sub species	X	X			Blue and Red
Northern Goshawk, <i>laingi</i> subspecies	X	X	Yes		Red
Great Blue Heron <i>fannini</i> subspecies	X	X	Yes		Blue
Marbled Murrelet			Yes		Blue
Northern Pygmy-owl, <i>swarthy</i> subspecies	X (VI)	X	Yes		Blue
Western Screech-owl <i>kennicotti</i> subspecies	X	X	Yes		Blue
Mammals					
American Water Shrew, <i>brooksi</i> subspecies	X	X	Yes		Blue
Little Brown Myotis	X	X			Yellow
Grizzly Bear	X (ML)		Yes	GBRO	Blue
Black Bear	X	X		GBRO	Yellow
Vancouver Island Marmot	X	X	Yes		Red
Mountain Goat	X (ML)				Yellow
Roosevelt Elk	X	X			Blue

Focus List: Plants and Lichens

Species	Forest District		IWMS	LUO	CDC List
	Campbell River	South Island			
Plants					
Western Yew	X (GBR)			GBRO	Yellow
White-lip rein orchid	X	X			Red

Focus List: Log Handling Facilities

Species	Forest District		IWMS	LUO	CDC List
	Campbell River	South Island			
All Species					
Northern Abalone	X	X			Red
Olympia Oyster	X	X			Blue
Killer Whale (Southern resident/pop. 5)		X			Red
Killer Whale (Northern resident/pop. 6)	X				Red

Awareness List: Animal Species of Concern

Species	Forest District		IWMS	LUO	CDC List
	Campbell River	South Island			
<i>Gastropods</i>					
Dromedary jumping slug		X			Red
Warty jumping slug		X			Blue
Threaded vertigo	X	X			Red
<i>Amphibians</i>					
Coastal Tailed Frog	X		X		Yellow
Western Toad	X	X			Yellow
<i>Birds</i>					
Cassin's Auklet		X			Blue
White-tailed ptarmigan <i>saxatilis</i> subspecies	X	X	X		Blue
Olive-sided flycatcher	X	X			Blue
Barn Swallow	X	X			Blue

Awareness List: Plants and Lichens

Species	Forest District		IWMS	LUO	CDC List
	Campbell River	South Island			
<i>Lichens</i>					
Oldgrowth specklebelly	X	X			Blue

Attachment 1

Summary of Search Criteria

BC Timber Sales Strait of Georgia Business Area Species At Risk Matrix Summary of Search Criteria and Initial Selection Process

The forest districts were grouped with the Campbell River and South Island forest districts. Work sheets were made for Animals and Plants for each geographic grouping.

BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer Query.

- Quick search; Red list, Red & Blue List, SARA List
- Basic search, Species Groups;
 - a) Animals
 - i) Vertebrates
 - ii) Invertebrates
 - b) Plants
 - i) Vascular Plants
 - ii) Non-vascular Plants
 - iii) Lichens
- Advanced search, Area Based
 - a) Forest Districts
 - i) Campbell River (DCR)
 - ii) South Island (DS)
- Advanced Search List/Rank Based
 - a) Provincial Status (S1-S3)
 - b) Global Status (G1-G3)
 - c) Legal Designation
 - i) COSEWIC listed
 - ii) FRPA (Previously IWMS)
 - iii) Provincial Wildlife Act
 - iv) Land Use Objectives (Higher Level Planning)

All species that show up with these search criteria are included in the matrix. Species that meet the criteria for inclusion in the Focus or awareness lists fulfill **at least one of** the following parameters;

- SARA listed Schedule 1
- COSEWIC listed
- Globally Listed G1 or G2
- Provincial list S1 or S2
- Provincial listed Red
- Included as Identified Wildlife under IWMS, FRPA
- Are included under other Higher Level Planning

Species that meet one or more of these parameters may be removed if they are;

1. Extinct or extirpated from districts
2. Have no geographic overlap of documented range with operational area
3. Have no habitat overlap
4. Are habitat generalists not reliant on merchantable stands

5. Primarily occur in riparian reserve areas.
6. Not considered to be at risk provincially (i.e. Not Red listed or S1, S2 in British Columbia).

Consideration will be given to removing species that are only documented to occur in parks, protected areas, or other land based removals.

For the first draft Species that have been discounted from consideration for inclusion on the Focus and awareness lists in the initial stratification process are represented by **green** cells in Step 7 (Column S on the Animals Worksheet and Column Q on the Plants Worksheet). Species recommended for inclusion are represented by **red** cells. Species selected to be included in the Awareness list will be **yellow** cells.