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SARA Update Relevant to Saskatchewan

**Presentation to Saskatchewan Mining
Association**

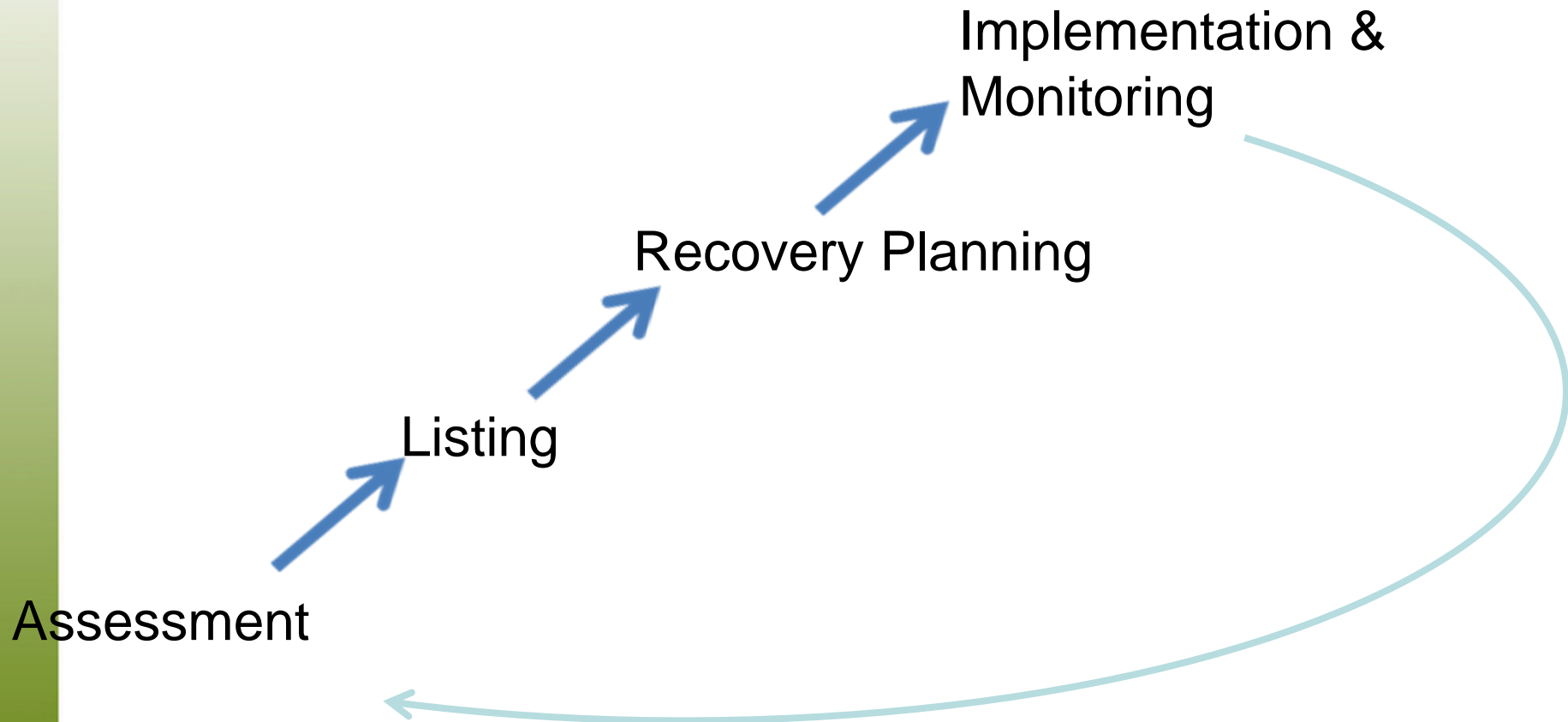
Oct 20, 2016

Topics to be covered today

- Upcoming species listing packages
- 2016-17 recovery planning for listed species in Saskatchewan
- Boreal Woodland Caribou Recovery Strategy amendment – current status and next steps
- Opportunity to comment on draft SARA Policies



SARA Process





The SARA Listing Process

Species Assessment by COSEWIC

Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
Makes a **recommendation** to government to List a species.

Consultation Process

then Government makes a **decision** to list or not



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Status Categories for Species At Risk



Extirpated

No longer exists in Canada



Endangered

Facing imminent
extirpation or extinction



Threatened

Likely to become endangered unless
threats are reversed

Special Concern

May become threatened or
endangered



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Listing

- Listing has been delayed for several years
- Renewed focus on dealing with the backlog of COSEWIC recommendations
- Several listing packages have been prepared for Minister to present to Cabinet
- Packages have been prepared on 'regional/taxonomic' basis, taking care to ensure similar numbers of species per package.
- 1st package may be ready for listing in the near future



COSEWIC Recommended Listings Saskatchewan Species

Species Common Name and Population (English)	COSEWIC Status	SARA Status
Baird's Sparrow	SC	none
Buffalograss	SC	TH
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	SC	none
Hairy Prairie-clover	SC	TH
Horned Grebe (Western population)	SC	none
Tiny Cryptantha	TH	EN
Bank Swallow	TH	none
Barn Swallow	TH	none
Bobolink	TH	none
Eastern Wood-pewee	SC	none
Western Grebe	SC	none
American Badger taxus subspecies	SC	none
Black-tailed Prairie Dog	TH	SC
Grizzly Bear (Western population)	SC	none
Gypsy Cuckoo Bumble Bee	EN	none
Plains Bison	TH	none
Western Bumble Bee occidentalis	TH	none
Wolverine	SC	none
Gibson's Big Sand Tiger Beetle	TH	none
Greenish-white Grasshopper	SC	none
Western Tiger Salamander (Prairie / Boreal population)	SC	none
Dakota Skipper	EN	TH
Mormon Metalmark (Prairie population)	SC	TH
Prairie Rattlesnake	SC	none
Red-necked Phalarope	SC	none

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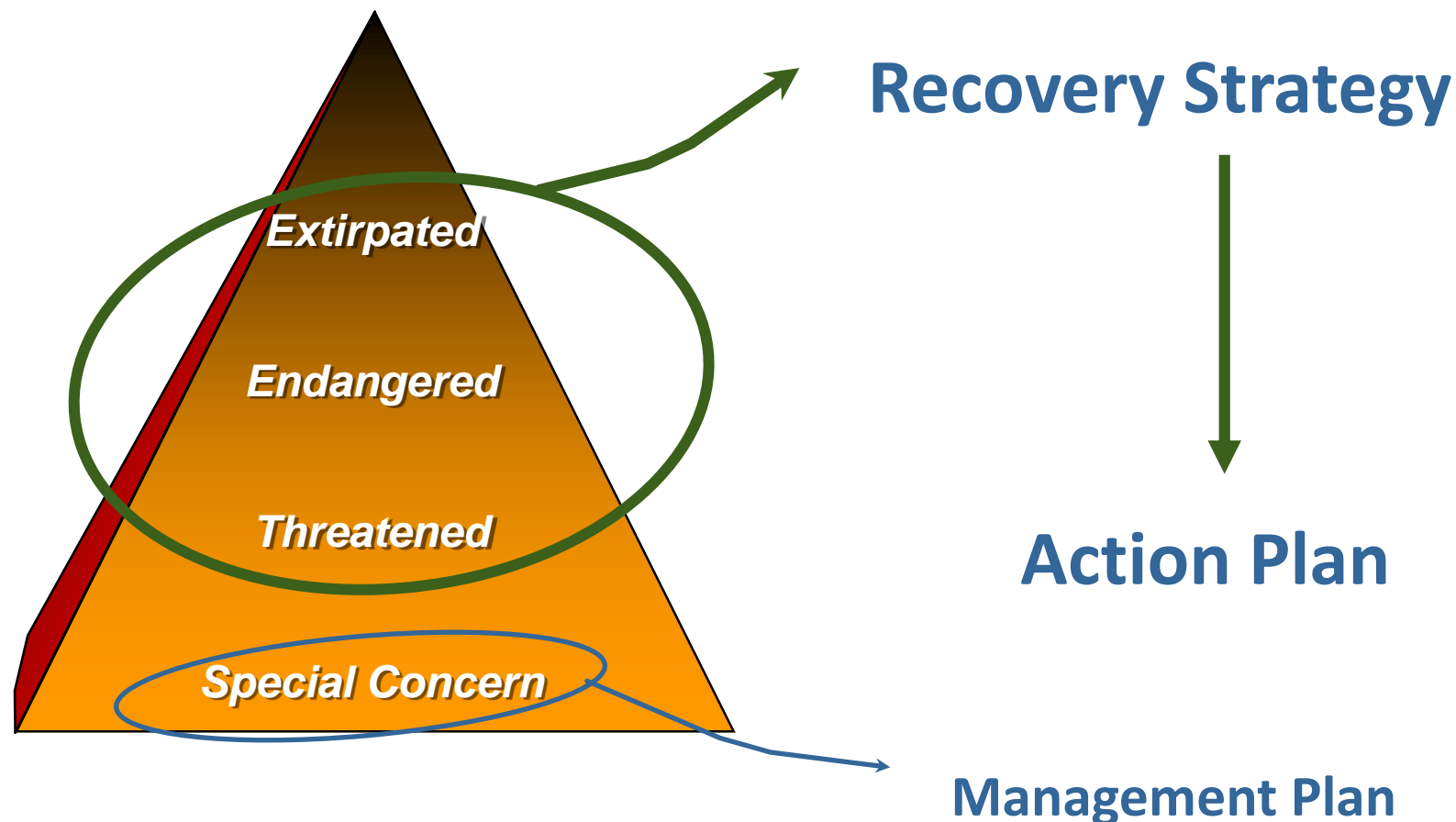


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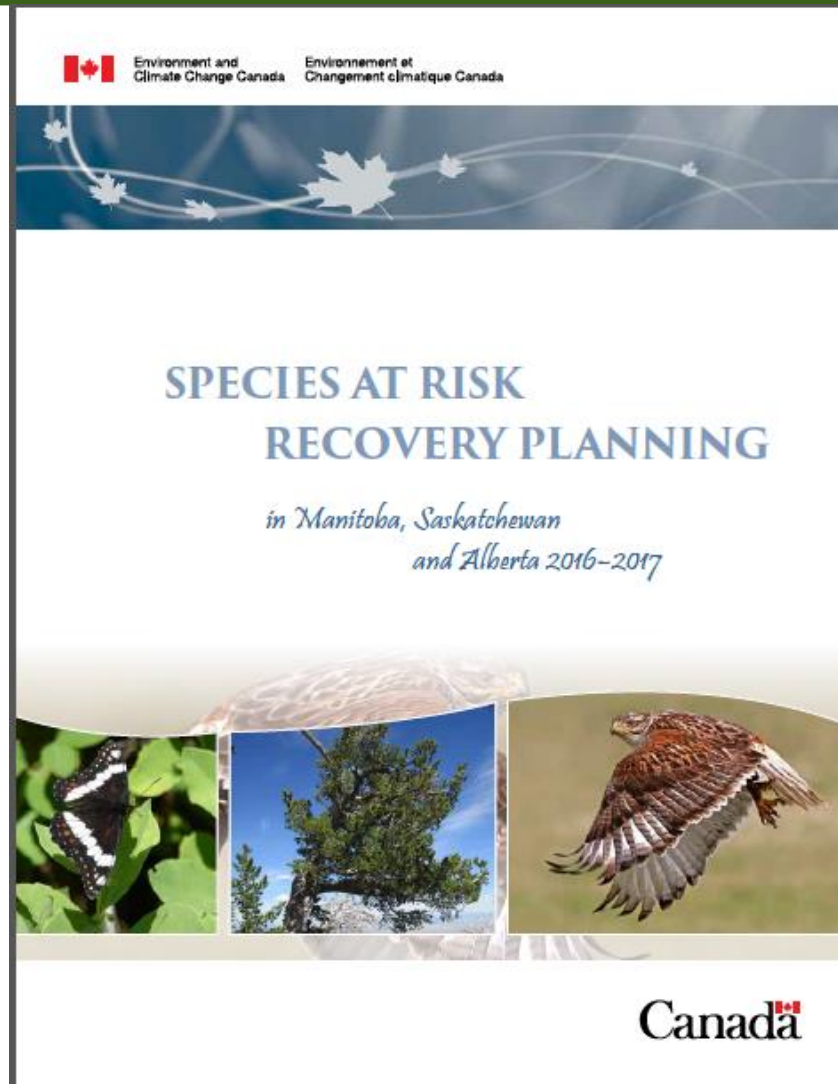
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Recovery Planning Process



Recovery Planning for Saskatchewan species 2016-17



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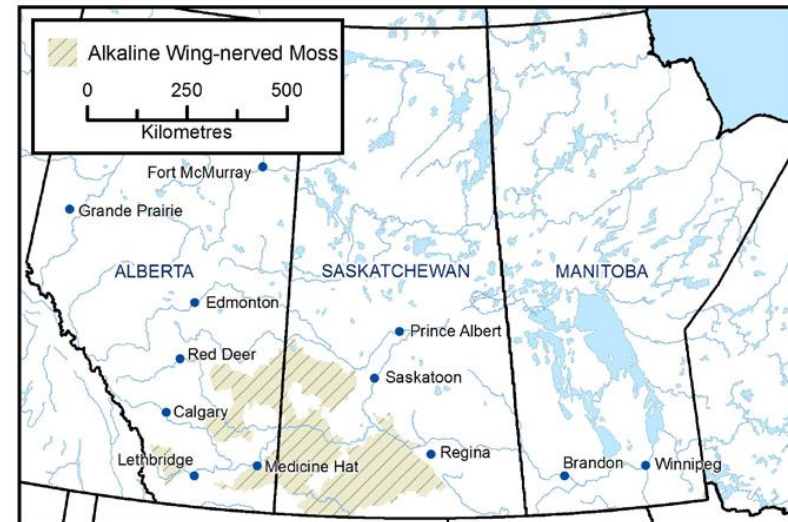
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ALKALINE WING-NERVED MOSS

SARA Status: Threatened

Reason for Listing:

It occurs primarily in the interior of British Columbia where several of the known sites are threatened by urban development, highway improvement and trampling by cattle. Since the time of listing, new occurrences of the species have been located in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

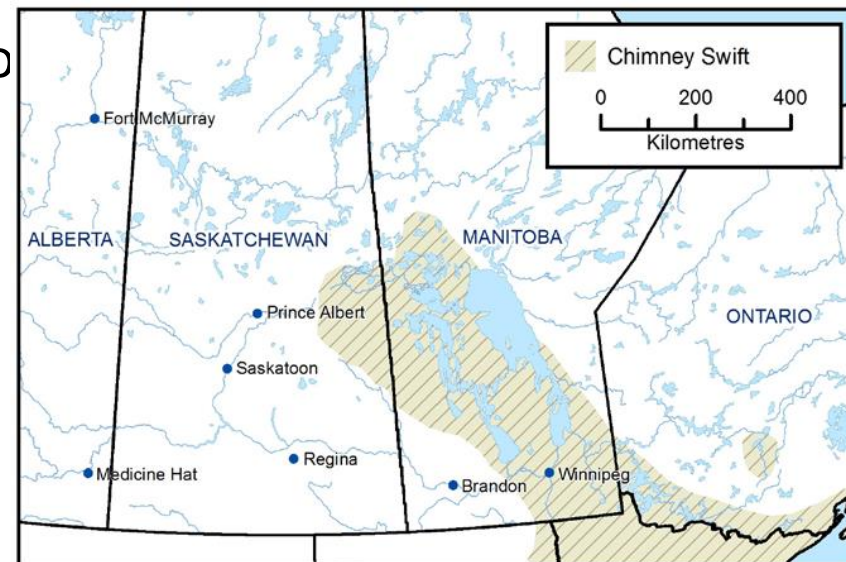


CHIMNEY SWIFT

SARA Status: Threatened

Reason for Listing:

Decreasing availability of nesting and roosting sites. Specifically, logging operations, demolition of old buildings and reduced suitability of modern chimneys are thought to contribute to the reduction of suitable sites.

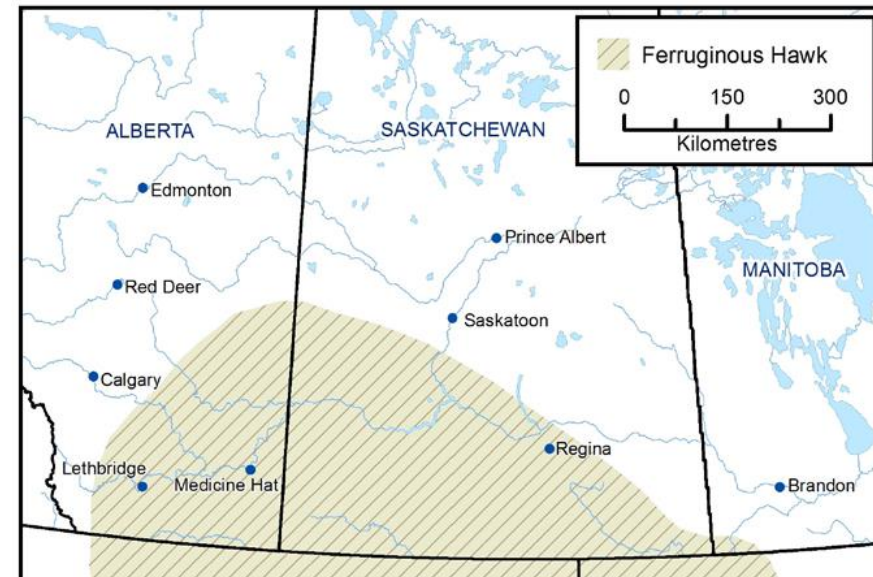


FERRUGINOUS HAWK

SARA Status: Threatened

Reason for listing:

It suffered a 64% decline in population size from 1992 to 2005. The loss, degradation and fragmentation of its native grassland habitat are the most serious threats to the population.

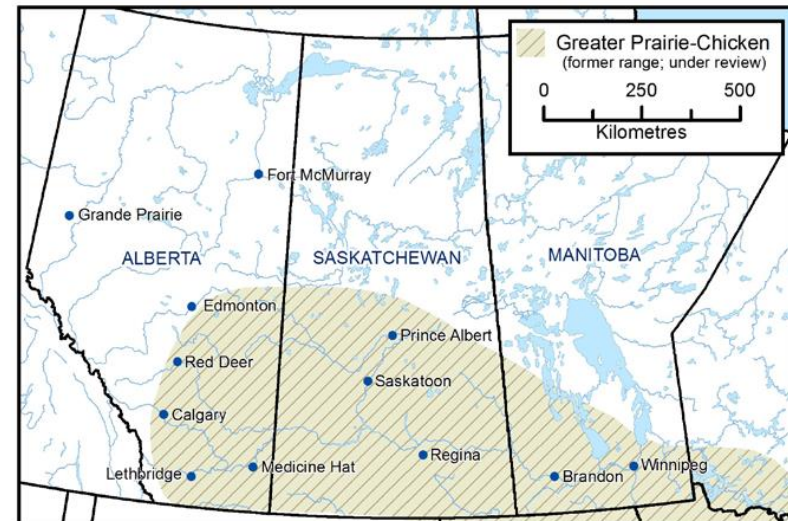


GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN

SARA Status: Extirpated

Reason for Listing:

The extensive loss of grassland habitat due to cultivation and other land uses and isolation from the few populations remaining in the United States are the main reasons the Greater Prairie-Chicken no longer exists in Canada.

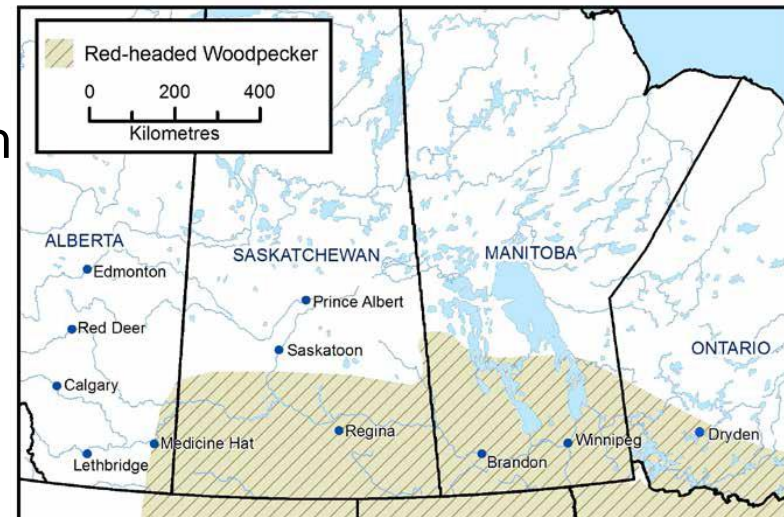


RED-HEADED WOODPECKER

SARA Status: Threatened

Reason for Listing:

This woodpecker occupies open deciduous forests of southeastern Canada and southern parts of western Canada. It has experienced a significant population decline over the long term associated with habitat loss and the removal of dead trees in which it nests.

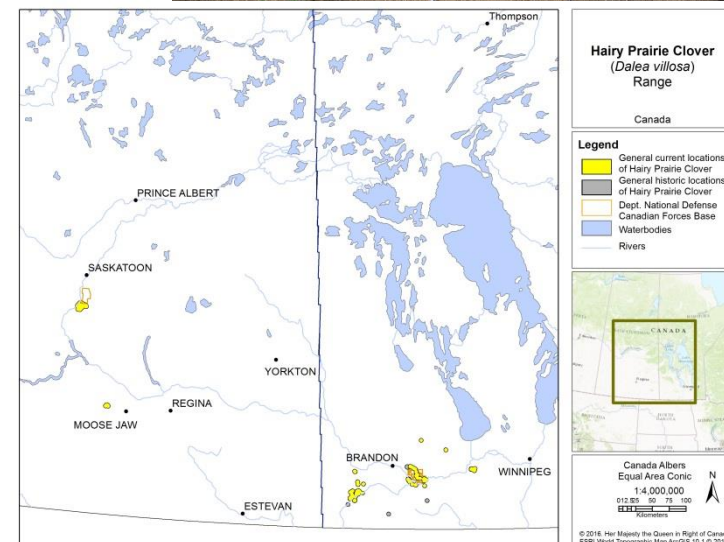


HAIRY PRAIRIE CLOVER

COSEWIC Status: Special Concern

Reason for Listing:

Threats to habitat continue, including a lack of fire allowing encroachment of competing vegetation, invasive alien plant species, recreational traffic, sand extraction as well as a general decline in open sandy habitat. However, a larger population size is now known due to greatly increased survey effort, and as a result the level of risk is now thought to be much reduced.



Boreal Woodland Caribou

- Current Status – ECCC Science staff have begun to work on critical habitat for SK1, using information supplied by Dr. McLoughlin
- Next Steps for ECCC
 - ‘brief-up’ internally on Boreal Woodland Caribou
 - Cooperate with Saskatchewan Provincial Government to draft an amended recovery strategy with critical habitat for SK1
 - Consult with First Nations, industry and others, as required on the amended recovery strategy
 - Post a ‘proposed’ amended recovery strategy on the SARA Registry for public comment
 - Finalize the amended RS in consideration of comments received





South of the Divide

Stewardship in Action



Black-footed Ferret - EX



Swift Fox - EN



Greater Sage Grouse - EN



Burrowing Owl - EN



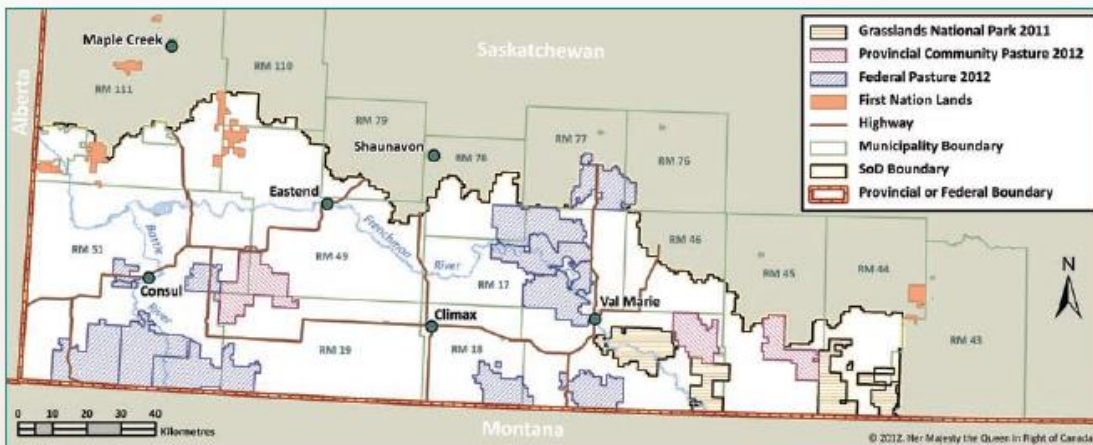
Mountain Plover - EN



Sprague's Pipit - TH



Prairie Loggerhead Shrike - TH



The Milk River Watershed in southwestern Saskatchewan contains large tracts of native prairie that have been maintained through careful stewardship. This landscape will continue to require our stewardship in the future if species at risk are to survive and recover. Today, there are 23 at risk species in the area. The *South of the Divide Multi-species at Risk Action Plan* will initially focus on the recovery of 13 of these species.



Mormon Metalmark - TH



Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer - TH



Black-tailed Prairie Dog - SC



Long-billed Curlew - SC



McCown's Longspur - SC



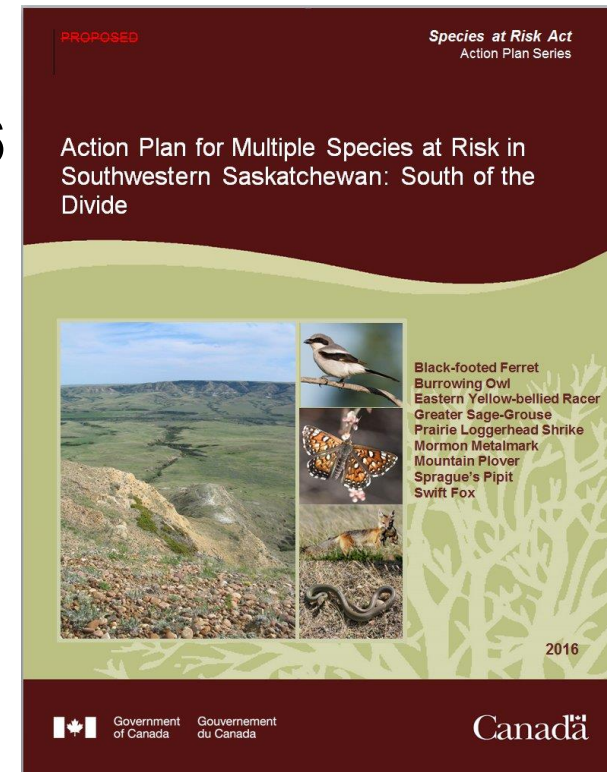
Northern Leopard Frog - SC

LEGEND

- EX: Extirpated (no longer found in Canada in the wild)
- EN: Endangered
- TH: Threatened
- SC: Special Concern

South of the Divide Action Plan

- Posted as proposed – May 24, 2016
- Comment period closed – July 23, 2016
- Consultations
 - Received comments from 25 individuals/organizations
- Current Status – preparing responses to comments
- Timeline – submit AP by end of fiscal for final posting



Draft SARA Policies

- On Sept 19, ECCC notified provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous groups and industry and ENGO organizations about the publication of 7 draft SARA policies
- The policies are available for comment until Nov 18.
- The policies can be viewed at:
http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/involved/consultation/default_e.cfm
- Comments can be sent to: : ec.registrelep-sararegistry.ec@canada.ca
- In addition, the final Boreal Woodland Caribou Range Plan Guidance document is now on the SARA Registry.
http://www.registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=2993



Draft SARA Policies (Con't)

- The seven draft policies are:
- Policy on Critical Habitat Protection on non-federal Lands
- Policy on Protecting Critical Habitat with Conservation Agreements under Section 11 of the *Species at Risk Act*
- Policy on Survival and Recovery
- Policy Regarding the Identification of Anthropogenic Structures as Critical Habitat under the *Species at Risk Act*
- Approach to the Identification of Critical Habitat under the *Species at Risk Act* when Habitat Loss is Not Believed to be a Significant Threat to the Survival or Recovery of the Species
- *Species at Risk Act* Permitting Policy
- Listing policy for Terrestrial Species at Risk