



SPECIES AT RISK (NWT) ACT
FACT SHEET – STATUS OF SPECIES BEING PROCESSED UNDER THE ACT

Introduction:

The *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* came into force in 2010. The Conference of Management Authorities (CMA), Management Authorities, Species at Risk Committee (SARC), and NWT List of Species at Risk were established under the Act.

The CMA is the group of wildlife co-management boards and governments that share management responsibility for the conservation and recovery of species at risk in the NWT. The CMA provides direction, coordination and leadership on species at risk. The Management Authorities are the individual members of the CMA, as established under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

SARC is an independent committee of experts on species, habitat, northern ecosystems, and conservation. SARC's role is to assess the biological status of species that may be at risk in the NWT.

The NWT List of Species at Risk is the legal list of species designated at risk under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*.

The following table outlines the status of species currently being processed through the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*. The timelines identified here are set out in the legislation.¹

¹ Following the assessment of a species as at risk by SARC, the following timelines apply under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*:

- A CMA consensus agreement on listing is developed and submitted to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Minister of Environment and Climate Change (ECC) (1 year)
- Minister of ECC legally lists the species consistent with the consensus agreement (3 months)
- A CMA management plan or recovery strategy is developed and accepted for listed species (9-21 months)
- Management plan or recovery strategy is released to the public by the Minister of ECC (3 months)
- A CMA consensus agreement respecting the implementation of the management plan or recovery strategy is developed/released to the public (9 months)
- A CMA progress report on implementation is prepared/released to the public (5 years)

Supporting Information:

| Species and Steps To Date | Status as of August 2023 | Next Steps |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Hairy braya - Threatened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: December 2012 CMA consensus agreement on listing: November 2013 Legally listed: February 2014 CMA recovery strategy accepted: November 2015 Recovery strategy released: February 2016 CMA implementation agreement released: November 2016 Progress report/review released: November 2021 | <p>Management Authorities for hairy braya are: Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Wildlife Management Advisory Council (WMAC (NWT)).</p> <p>Implementation activities by the Management Authorities are ongoing.</p> <p>The Minister extended the term of hairy braya on the Northwest Territories List of Species at Risk as a Threatened species by request of the CMA. The listing term was extended to February 27, 2026.</p> <p>The implementation progress report and the review of the recovery strategy were completed in November 2021.</p> <p>Work is underway to update and revise the status report. The final updated status report will be used to reassess this species in Spring 2024.</p> | <p>The species is scheduled for reassessment in Spring 2024.</p> <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The next one is due in November 2026.</p> |
| <p>Boreal caribou - Threatened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: December 2012 CMA consensus agreement on listing: November 2013 Legally listed: February 2014 | <p>Management Authorities for boreal caribou are: GNWT, WMAC (NWT), Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB), Sahtú Renewable Resources Board (SRRB), Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (WRRB), and the Tł'chǫ Government.</p> | <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The next one is due in November 2027.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMA recovery strategy accepted: November 2016 Recovery strategy released: February 2017 CMA implementation agreement released: November 2017 SARC reassessment: May 2022 CMA consensus agreement on re-listing: May 2023 Legally re-listed: August 2023 | <p>Implementation activities by the Management Authorities are ongoing. SARC completed the reassessment of boreal caribou in May 2022. Boreal caribou was reassessed as Threatened.</p> <p>The implementation progress report and the review of the recovery strategy were completed in November 2022.</p> <p>A consensus agreement on adding another 10-year term to the current listing of boreal caribou was signed in May 2023 and boreal caribou was legally re-listed in August 2023.</p> | |
| <p>Polar bear - Special Concern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: December 2012 CMA consensus agreement on listing: November 2013 Legally listed: February 2014 CMA management plan accepted: March 2017 Management plan released: June 2017 CMA implementation agreement released: March 2018 SARC reassessment: April 2021 CMA consensus agreement on | <p>Management Authorities for polar bear in the NWT are: GNWT and WMAC (NWT).</p> <p>The <i>Inuvialuit Settlement Region Polar Bear Joint Management Plan</i> describes management objectives for polar bears in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), which includes both the NWT and Yukon. Management of polar bears in the ISR is jurisdictionally complex and the plan is intended to facilitate an integrated and common approach across all jurisdictions.</p> <p>Implementation activities by the Management Authorities are ongoing.</p> <p>The implementation progress report and</p> | <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The next one is due in November 2027.</p> |

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| <p>re-listing: April 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legally re-listed: July 2022 | <p>the review of the management plan were completed in November 2022.</p> <p>SARC completed the reassessment of polar bear in April 2021. Polar bear was reassessed as a species of Special Concern.</p> <p>A consensus agreement on adding another 10-year term to the current listing of polar bear was signed in April 2022 and polar bear was legally re-listed in July 2022.</p> | |
| <p>Peary caribou - Threatened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: December 2012 CMA consensus agreement on listing: November 2013 Legally listed: February 2014 CMA recovery strategy due: September 2024 SARC reassessment: May 2022 CMA consensus agreement on relisting: May 2023 Legally re-listed: August 2023 | <p>Management Authorities for Peary caribou are: GNWT and WMAC (NWT).</p> <p>Four extensions have been granted on the recovery strategy (2015, 2017, 2019 and 2021). The current deadline is September 30, 2024.</p> <p>The CMA is in the process of adopting the applicable portions of the federal recovery strategy for Peary caribou with an NWT addition.</p> <p>Engagement and consultation on a proposed recovery strategy for Peary caribou is underway.</p> <p>SARC completed the reassessment of Peary caribou in May 2022. Peary caribou was reassessed as Threatened.</p> <p>A consensus agreement on adding another 10-year term to the current listing of Peary</p> | <p>A consensus agreement on accepting the recovery strategy is due in April 2024.</p> |

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| | caribou was signed in May 2023 and Peary caribou was legally re-listed in August 2023. | |
| <p><u>Northern leopard frog/ western toad</u> - Both are <i>Threatened</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARC assessment: December 2013/December 2014 • CMA consensus agreement on listing: December 2014/November 2016 • Legally listed: March 2015/February 2016 • CMA management plan accepted: November 2016 • Management plan released: February 2017 • CMA implementation agreement released: November 2017 • SARC reassessment: Spring 2025 | <p>The GNWT is the only Management Authority for the northern leopard frog and western toad. However, the Management Authorities for amphibians are: GNWT, WMAC (NWT), GRRB, SRRB, WRRB, and the Tł'chǫ Government.</p> <p>Recovery strategy requirements were met through the CMA's adoption of the <i>Management Plan for Amphibians in the NWT</i>, which is a multi-species plan that addresses the management needs of all NWT amphibians.</p> <p>Implementation activities by the Management Authorities are ongoing.</p> <p>The Minister extended the term of northern leopard frog on the Northwest Territories List of Species at Risk as a Threatened species by two years by request of the CMA. The listing term has been extended to March 19, 2027.</p> <p>The Minister extended the term of western toad on the Northwest Territories List of Species at Risk as a Threatened species by one year by request of the CMA. The listing term has been extended to February 25,</p> | <p>Northern leopard frog and western toad are both scheduled for reassessment in Spring 2025. CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The next one is due in November 2027.</p> |

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| | <p>2027.</p> <p>The implementation progress report and the review of the management plan for amphibians were completed in November 2022.</p> <p>Work is underway to prepare a multi-species status report for northern leopard frog, western toad and Canadian toad in the NWT.</p> | |
| <p>Canadian toad – No status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARC assessment: Spring 2025 | <p>The GNWT is the only Management Authority for the Canadian toad.</p> <p>Work is underway to prepare a multi-species status report for northern leopard frog, western toad and Canadian toad in the NWT.</p> | <p>The Canadian toad is scheduled for assessment in Spring 2025.</p> |
| <p>Dolphin and Union caribou – listed as Special Concern, reassessed as Endangered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARC assessment: December 2013 • CMA consensus agreement on listing: December 2014 • Legally listed: March 2015 • CMA management plan accepted: December 2017 • Management plan released: March 2018 | <p>Management Authorities for Dolphin and Union caribou are: GNWT and WMAC (NWT).</p> <p>Dolphin and Union caribou have been listed as a species of Special Concern since 2015. The management plan was developed cooperatively by the GNWT, Government of Nunavut, and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), working with co-management partners.</p> <p>Implementation activities by Management</p> | <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The first one is due in December 2023.</p> <p>A consensus agreement on listing as Endangered is due May 2024.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMA implementation agreement released: December 2018 SARC reassessment: April 2023 | <p>Authorities are ongoing.</p> <p>Work is underway to prepare the implementation progress report for 2018-2022.</p> <p>SARC completed the reassessment of Dolphin and Union caribou in April 2023. Dolphin and Union caribou was reassessed as Endangered.</p> <p>Engagement and consultation on listing Dolphin and Union caribou as Endangered under the <i>Species at Risk (NWT) Act</i> are underway.</p> | |
| <p>Wood bison – Threatened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: April 2016 CMA consensus agreement on listing: April 2017 Legally listed: July 2017 CMA recovery strategy accepted: April 2019 CMA recovery strategy released: July 2019 CMA implementation agreement released: April 2020 | <p>Management Authorities for wood bison are: GNWT, WRRB, and the Tł'chǫ Government.</p> <p>The recovery strategy was released in July 2019. The recovery strategy was developed collaboratively by co-management partners. More specific recovery actions for each wood bison population are captured in herd-specific management plans.</p> <p>Implementation activities by Management Authorities are ongoing.</p> | <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The first one is due in April 2025.</p> <p>This species is scheduled for reassessment in Spring 2026.</p> |
| <p>Barren-ground caribou – Threatened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: April 2017 | <p>Management Authorities for barren-ground caribou are: GNWT, WMAC (NWT), GRRB, SRRB, WRRB, and the Tł'chǫ</p> | <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The first one is due in April</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMA consensus agreement on listing: April 2018 Legally listed: July 2018 CMA recovery strategy accepted: April 2020 CMA recovery strategy released: July 2020 CMA implementation agreement released: April 2021 | <p>Government.</p> <p>The recovery strategy was released in July 2020. It is the result of a collaborative effort by diverse groups across the range of barren-ground caribou. It provides overarching guidance on management and stewardship of barren-ground caribou in the NWT over the long term. Herd-specific requirements are met through more detailed herd-specific management plans (either existing or under development).</p> <p>'Barren-ground caribou' in this case includes the Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula, Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West, Bluenose-East, Bathurst, Beverly, Ahiak and Qamanirjuaq herds.</p> <p>Implementation activities by Management Authorities are ongoing.</p> | <p>2026.</p> <p>This species is scheduled for reassessment in Spring 2027.</p> |
| <p>Little brown myotis/Northern myotis - Both are <i>Special Concern</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SARC assessment: April 2017 CMA consensus agreement on listing: April 2018 Legally listed: July 2018 CMA management plan accepted: April 2020 CMA management plan | <p>Management Authorities for the little brown myotis are: GNWT, SRRB, WRRB, and the Tłı̨chǫ Government.</p> <p>The GNWT is the only Management Authority for northern myotis.</p> <p>The management plan was released in July 2020. The multi-species management plan addresses the management needs of all</p> | <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The first one is due in April 2026.</p> <p>These species are scheduled for reassessment in Spring 2027.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> released: July 2020 • CMA implementation agreement: April 2021 | <p>bat species in the NWT.</p> <p>Implementation activities by Management Authorities are ongoing.</p> | |
| <p>Northern mountain caribou – Special Concern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARC assessment: April 2020 • CMA consensus agreement on listing: April 2021 • Legally listed: July 2021 • CMA management plan accepted: April 2023 • CMA management plan released: July 2023 • CMA implementation agreement due: April 2024 | <p>Management Authorities for northern mountain caribou are: GNWT, GRRB and SRRB.</p> <p>SARC completed the assessment of northern mountain caribou in April 2020. Northern mountain caribou was assessed as a species of Special Concern.</p> <p>A consensus agreement on listing was signed in April 2021 and northern mountain caribou were legally listed in July 2021.</p> <p>The CMA developed and released a management plan for the NWT that adopts the federal management plan and points to the Sahtú community-led plan (<i>Nío Nę P'ęnę Begháré Shúhta Goęepé Narehɂá – Trails of the Mountain Caribou Management Plan</i>) as an important regional initiative.</p> | <p>A consensus agreement on implementation of the management plan is due in April 2024.</p> <p>CMA implementation progress reports are required every five years. The first one is due in April 2029.</p> |
| <p>American white pelican – Under consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SARC assessment: April 2023 • CMA consensus agreement on listing due: May 2024 | <p>The GNWT is the only Management Authority for the American white pelican.</p> <p>SARC completed the assessment of American white pelican in April 2023. American white pelican was assessed as a species of Special Concern.</p> | <p>A consensus agreement on listing is due May 2024.</p> |

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| | Engagement on listing American white pelican as a species of Special Concern under the <i>Species at Risk (NWT) Act</i> is underway. | |
| <p>Red-sided garter snake – No status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="219 507 730 532"> | <p>Work is underway to prepare a status report that will be used to assess this species in Spring 2024. The draft report is currently in the legally required public review period.</p> <p>The GNWT is the only Management Authority for the red-sided garter snake.</p> | The species is scheduled for assessment in Spring 2024. |

Other completed assessments:

The following species were assessed by SARC and found to be Not at Risk or Data Deficient in the NWT, or were not listed by the CMA. No further steps will be taken under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* for these species:

| Assessment | Species | Assessment Year |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Not at Risk | wolverine | 2014 |
| | Porcupine caribou | 2017 |
| | yellow-banded bumble bee | 2019 |
| | peregrine falcon | 2022 |
| Data Deficient | long-legged myotis | 2017 |
| | long-eared myotis | 2017 |
| | big brown bat | 2017 |
| | western bumble bee | 2019 |
| | gypsy cuckoo bumble bee | 2019 |

Grizzly bear was assessed as Special Concern by SARC (2017), but not listed per the CMA's consensus agreement (2018).

Future assessments/reassessments:

The following species are scheduled to be assessed by SARC:

| Assessment Year | Species |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2024 | Hairy braya (reassessment) |
| | Red-sided garter snake |
| 2025 | Northern leopard frog (reassessment) |
| | Western toad (reassessment) |
| | Canadian Toad |
| 2026 | Wood bison (reassessment) |
| | Common Muskrat |
| | Rock cranberry (lingonberry) |
| 2027 | Northern myotis (reassessment) |
| | Little brown myotis (reassessment) |
| | Barren-ground caribou (reassessment) |
| 2028 | Muskoxen |