



Species at-Risk– Fact Sheet

Canada has robust measures in place to protect species at-risk

- Through the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) **Canada protects wildlife species that are threatened, endangered, or extirpated** – meaning species at risk of local extinction although populations may exist elsewhere.
- Depending on the level of risk, **the government can enact a series of measures that include a recovery strategy and an action plan**. The recovery strategy provides direction to arrest or reverse the decline of a species.
- All recovery documents are **prepared in collaboration** with federal, provincial, and territorial ministers, as well as Aboriginal organizations, landowners, and others who may be impacted.

The Government ensures that critical habitat for species at-risk is protected


- “Critical habitat” is defined as **habitat necessary for the survival or recovery of a listed wildlife species**.

- Once critical habitat has been identified for a given species **the *Species at Risk Act* requires that it be protected**.
- To date, critical habitat has been identified for 150 listed species in Canada.
- The federal, provincial and territorial governments have a shared responsibility to manage species at risk.
- When critical habitat is identified on non-federal lands, the federal government turns to provinces to manage and protect this habitat.

Canada is committed to the conservation of Canada's woodland boreal caribou

- The Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy was published in October 2012. The goal of the strategy is to achieve self-sustaining local populations in all boreal caribou ranges across Canada to the extent possible.
- Provinces and territories are in the process of developing range plans to describe how critical habitat will be managed and protected. Range plans will be completed by 2017.





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