

UBCM MEMBER NOTICE

TO: Directors of Engineering / Planning
Environmental Managers

FROM: Jared Wright, Policy Analyst

DATE: February 6th, 2007

RE: **CONSULTATION ON POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT***

Environment Canada is currently consulting on possible additions to the list of species at risk under the *Species at Risk Act*. Please find below a message from Environment Canada pertaining to the consultation process.

On December 28, 2006, the Government of Canada launched a 60-day public consultation period seeking comments on the possible addition of 54 species to Canada's official list of species at risk (Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA)). These species have recently been assessed as at-risk in Canada by the independent science-based Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Thirty-seven of the 54 species being considered are terrestrial and Environment Canada is seeking your input on these species. Your comments will help inform whether the Minister recommends these species for listing under the SARA.

Environment Canada's consultation period ends March 16, 2007

Sixteen of the 37 terrestrial species being considered occur in British Columbia. Below you will find the list of species; their taxonomy; their assessed status; and their principal, general location within the province. The COSEWIC assessments and status reports and the Minister of the Environment's statement on how he intends to respond to the assessments are available on the Public Registry. Detailed information on the listing process is presented in "*Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the Species at Risk Act*." This document and an electronic comment form are also available on the SARA Public Registry at:

http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/public/showDocument_e.cfm?id=1258 Please review the species to be listed and provide your comments through the Public Registry no later than **March 16, 2007**.

The Government of Canada and Minister of Environment welcome your observations and comments on the potential impacts of the listing of these species. In the recommendation as to whether or not each species should be added to the SARA list, all comments received will be reviewed and considered. An Order to amend the list, which grants endangered and threatened species and their residences legal protection under SARA, and officially starts the process of recovery or management planning, will be made by November 2007.

In addition to the registry, please do not hesitate to contact the following staff if you have any questions related to the listing process, specific species, or recovery planning under the *Species at Risk Act*.

Environment Canada: Anoma Patirana, Consultation Officer 604-940-4697

Parks Canada (for Garry Oak species and ecosystems): Brian Reader, Species at Risk Ecologist 250-363-8560

I encourage you to take this opportunity to offer your input on conservation efforts and the potential impacts related to the listing or recovery of these species.

Sincerely,

Trish Hayes
Head, Species at Risk
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada, Pacific and Yukon

