



Mackenzie's Sweetvetch © C. Hanel



Bank Swallow © Peggy Scanlan/Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML124293361)

SSAC Annual Report

2019-2020

Prepared by the Species Status Advisory Committee

THE COMMITTEE

The Species Status Advisory Committee (SSAC) was established under the *Endangered Species Act* which was passed on December 13, 2001. Its role is to review and recommend, to the responsible Minister, species status designations and re-designations based on the best scientific, traditional, and local ecological knowledge available for the species.

MEMBERSHIP

The *Act* allows for a committee of up to nine members. At the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Committee consisted of six members:

Committee Members from 2019-2020

Dr. Christine Campbell (Chair) – Aquatic invertebrates

Dr. Paul Marino – Mosses, terrestrial invertebrates

Mr. John E. Maunder – General natural history, vascular plants, molluscs

Dr. William Montevecchi – Birds

Dr. André Arsenault – Lichens, bryophytes, forest ecology

Dr. David Langor – Terrestrial arthropods, forest ecology

In the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Committee had three vacancies representing the following expertise:

- Vascular plants / conservation biology; expertise formerly provided by Dr. Susan Squires
- Freshwater fish / small mammals; expertise formerly provided by Dr. Tom Knight
- Labrador species / Indigenous/local/traditional ecological knowledge; long-term vacancy.

The terms of all SSAC committee members expired as of October 29, 2017 (4 members) and October 29, 2018 (2 members). The SSAC Regulations state that when a member's term is expired they shall continue to be a member unless they resign or unless the minister removes them from the committee. All six members have continued to serve in their roles on the committee until further direction is received. In correspondences dated March 7, 2019, members were informed by the Minister of Fisheries and Land Resources that a new merit-based process for appointments has been put in place by the Independent Appointments Commission. As such, all SSAC seats were posted on the Agencies, Boards and Commissions website (<https://www.exec-abc.gov.nl.ca/public/agency/detail/?id=572&>). Current members wishing to apply for re-appointment to the Committee were required to submit applications. As of the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, there has been no notification on member appointments or re-appointments, and committee membership remains incomplete.

The secretariat to the SSAC is provided by the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources. The role of the secretariat is to help organize meetings and keep minutes, arrange funding for status reports, and provide other necessary logistical support to the Committee. The secretariat is managed by:

Forestry and Wildlife Research Division
Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
P.O. Box 2007, 192 Wheeler's Road
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 7S1

THE MINISTER AND THE DEPARTMENT

Responsibility for species at risk, the *Endangered Species Act* and the SSAC under the new government structure rests with Minister Gerry Byrne of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources. Previously the responsibility for the SSAC fell under Minister Steve Crocker of the same department.

MEETINGS AND BUSINESS

The Committee met once in the 2019-2020 fiscal year on October 18, 2019. Committee members in the Corner Brook area met face to face and connected to other members via conference call. The purpose of this meeting was, in part, to closely evaluate the re-assessed status of three of eight species for which status was previously reported on in letter correspondence from the Chair to the Minister dated March 29, 2019, but for which new information had become available prior to committee sign-off of the final reports. This new information included new data on abundance, population trends, and potential threats. As a result, the assessed status of three species changed since the March 2019 correspondence. Status review reports for all eight re-assessed species were finalized for submission. The updated status of all eight species were subsequently presented to the Minister and explained in detail via correspondence dated January 16, 2020. Status reviews (re-assessments) are mandated under the *ESA*.

During the annual meeting, options for streamlining future re-assessment reports were discussed such that the large workload associated with these does not limit the committee's ability to conduct new assessments in the future. Section 11 (1)(g) of the Act requires the SSAC to conduct periodic reviews of the status of designated species at least once every 10 years after the designation.

High priority species for new assessments and logistical issues with obtaining the necessary data to support assessments were also discussed. Issues include limited author availability, data deficiency constraints, fieldwork and budgetary limitations, and coordination of immediate provincial assessment needs with national-level (COSEWIC) assessment timelines (e.g. for Leach's Storm Petrel; *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*). The SSAC continues to seek to identify ways to optimize funds available for assessments and to coordinate multi-species field data collection. Significant time was also spent discussing the difficulties faced by the SSAC in performance of its duties and in being able to effectively plan for the upcoming three year period in light of the lack of confirmed membership, numerous vacancies in seats and, by extension, gaps in taxonomic and geographic expertise.

Additional time was spent by members, outside of the confines of the meeting, reviewing and finalizing status review reports, preparing reports as required under the *Endangered Species Act* and the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, and preparing correspondence for the Minister. In 2019-2020, the committee continued to operate under a 3-year activity plan for April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020.

PROCEDURES

While every effort is made to convene meetings only when all members can be present, a quorum of 50% + 1 of the membership will be the minimum required to hold a meeting.

Voting on procedural matters is on the basis of a simple majority of members present but, in the event of a status recommendation to the Minister, failing a consensus, a two thirds majority of all members, whether present or not, will be required.

CRITERIA

The criteria for decisions on the level of risk for a species (Endangered, Threatened, Vulnerable, Extinct, or Extirpated) follow those of the federal Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), which in turn are based on those of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) with minor adjustments for local circumstances and conditions. Note that COSEWIC defines designatable units (e.g. *species*, *subspecies*, *variety*, *etc.*) as discrete and evolutionarily significant groups where “significant” means that the unit is important to the evolutionary legacy of the species as a whole and if lost would likely not be replaced through natural dispersion. A copy of the current COSEWIC criteria can be found in Appendix 1.

STATUS REPORTS AND PRIORITY LISTS

In 2019-2020, eight draft status review reports (initiated in 2017-18) underwent additional review/editing and were finalized for submission:

Vascular Plants

- Crowded Wormseed Mustard (*Erysimum inconspicuum*); first assessed in October 2006; listed as Endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* in November 2007.
- Mackenzie’s Sweetvetch (*Hedysarum boreale*); first assessed in October 2006; listed as Endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* in August 2010.
- Northern Bog Aster (*Symphyotrichum boreale*); first assessed in October 2006; listed as Endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* in August 2010.
- Rattlesnakeroot (*Prenanthes racemosa*); first assessed in October 2006; listed as Endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* in August 2010.
- Mountain Fern (*Thelypteris quelpaertensis*); first assessed in October 2006; listed as Vulnerable under the *Endangered Species Act* in November 2007.
- Bodin’s Milkvetch (*Astragalus bodinii*); first assessed in February 2008; listed as Threatened under the *Endangered Species Act* in September 2013.
- Cutleaf Fleabane (*Erigeron compositus*); first assessed in February 2008; listed as Endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* in September 2013.
- Alaska Rein Orchid (*Platanthera unalascensis*); first assessed in February 2008; listed as Endangered under the *Endangered Species Act* in September 2013.

In 2019-2020, no new status review reports were prepared for re-assessment.

In 2019-2020, the SSAC conducted one review of a COSEWIC status report:

Birds

- Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*); the SSAC provided provincial-level recommendations on species status in Newfoundland and Labrador via letter correspondence to the Minister (dated July 15, 2019) and supporting documentation (i.e. Technical Summary of the 2013 COSEWIC and 2009 SSAC status assessments).

All SSAC status reports finalized prior to 2016-17 are available on the SSAC website (see <https://www.flr.gov.nl.ca/wildlife/endangeredspecies/ssac/index.html>). Note that some sensitive data – mostly locational – may be omitted from this public resource. Updates to the SSAC website are required to add the eight recent status re-assessment reports as well as status reports previously finalized in 2016-17: Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa* – Threatened), Mummichog (*Fundulus heteroclitus* – Vulnerable), and re-assessment of Low Northern Rockcress (*Braya humilis* – Endangered).

RECOMMENDATIONS

In 2019-2020, re-assessments were undertaken for three species for which status was previously re-assessed in March 2019, but for new information on abundance, population trends and potential threats became available prior to committee sign-off of the final reports in 2019-2020. The available opportunity for final changes was taken to incorporate this new information and to accurately update the assessed status of these three species: Mackenzie's Sweetvetch (*Hedysarum boreale* subsp. *mackenziei*), Alaska Rein Orchid (*Platanthera unalascensis*), and Mountain Fern (*Oreopteris quelpaertensis*).

Updated status recommendations in 2019-2020:

Vascular Plants

- Mackenzie's Sweetvetch (*Hedysarum boreale* subsp. *mackenziei*) – **Threatened**
 - This species is currently listed as Endangered under the NL *Endangered Species Act*, therefore a change in status is recommended.
- Alaska Rein Orchid (*Platanthera unalascensis*) – **Endangered**
 - This species is currently listed as Endangered under the NL *Endangered Species Act*, therefore no change in status is being recommended.
- Mountain Fern (*Oreopteris quelpaertensis*) – **Vulnerable**
 - This species is currently listed as Vulnerable under the NL *Endangered Species Act*, therefore no change in status is being recommended.

These recommendations were presented to the Minister via letter correspondence dated January 16, 2020.

Other status recommendations in 2019-2020:

Birds

- Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) – **Threatened**

- The SSAC conducted a provincial-level review of the COSEWIC-recommended status of Threatened. Bank Swallow was listed nationally as Threatened under the *Species at Risk Act* (November 2, 2017) based on a COSEWIC recommendation from 2013.
- In 2009, the SSAC had previously recommended that the Bank Swallow be considered *Not at Risk* in Newfoundland and Labrador based on insufficient evidence at the time to demonstrate provincial population declines, and Bank Swallow is not currently listed under the NL *Endangered Species Act*.
- Since the 2009 SSAC assessment, additional threats to Bank Swallow breeding sites in western Newfoundland have been identified.
- In 2019-2020, the SSAC conducted a review of the 2013 COSEWIC report in light of available provincial data and trends, and concluded the broader-scale national COSEWIC recommendation is applicable to this province. The SSAC supports the COSEWIC recommendation of Threatened for Bank Swallow and endorses the recommendation for its listing as such under the NL *Endangered Species Act*. Details on this recommendation and accompanying supporting documentation (i.e. a Technical Summary of the 2013 COSEWIC and 2009 SSAC status assessments) was provided to the Minister via letter correspondence dated July 15, 2019.

In addition, the SSAC has made previous recommendations for listing, for which government decisions are currently outstanding.

Recommendations made in 2016:

- Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*; a vascular plant) – **Threatened**
- Mummichog (*Fundulus heteroclitus*; a freshwater fish) – **Vulnerable**

THE FUTURE

The SSAC's current three year activity plan (2017-2020) ended on March 31, 2020. The SSAC members consider that to set directions for the next 3-year period is premature given that i) the membership status of current members is unclear and ii) additional new members (with additional expertise) have yet to be appointed. The SSAC is hopeful that these appointments will occur early in 2020-2021 so that the full capacity of the committee can be restored and the development of an informed and clear direction for its future activities can proceed.

In 2020-2021, following clarification of member status and possible new appointments, the SSAC should be in a position to proceed with streamlined species re-assessments, prioritizing the following species:

- Feathery False Solomon's Seal (*Maianthemum racemosum*)
- Rock Dwelling Sedge (*Carex petricosa*)
- Water Pygmyweed (*Tillaea aquatica*)
- Oval-leaved Creeping Spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*)
- Sharpleaf Aster (*Oclemena acuminata*)
- Gmelin's Watercrowfoot (*Ranunculus gmelinii*)

- Tradescant's Aster (*Symphyotrichum tradescantii*)
- Lindley's Aster (*Symphyotrichum ciliolatum*)
- Vreeland's Striped Coralroot (*Corallorhiza striata* var. *vreelandii*)

Potential authors for re-assessment reports are being explored. It is hoped that re-assessment of at least one of these species will occur before March 31, 2021.

In addition, once membership has been confirmed, the SSAC hopes to commission at least one (1) new status report in 2020-2021, pending availability of provincial data. The Committee has discussed the advisability of commissioning data collection/ field work where appropriate so such status reports may then be undertaken. Potential priority species under consideration are Muskrat, Mermaidweed, freshwater (unionid) clams, and some insect species.

The number of additional new and re-assessment status reports that can be commissioned in 2020-2021 will ultimately depend upon data availability, the SSAC budget, author availability, the quality of draft reports received, and the capacity of the Committee to review and assess reports.

In 2020-2021, the SSAC aims to further refine and streamline templates for species re-assessments. The goal of this effort will be to reduce upcoming re-assessment workloads that threaten to reduce capacity for new species assessments, while still ensuring that the best available knowledge is incorporated and that all status re-assessments continue to be based on internationally-recognized criteria.

As noted previously, data deficiency is a significant obstacle to the assessment of many potentially at-risk species in NL, and this is especially notable in Labrador. Without sufficient baseline data on species occurrences, population changes over time, and up-to-date habitat and threats information, the committee is unable to apply COSEWIC/IUCN assessment criteria (see Appendix I) to assess species. Prioritization of species for assessment is also impacted when insufficient empirical data exists on the province's species, since the relative need of one species versus another cannot be evaluated. The committee continues to explore potential avenues to help deal with data deficiency and support empirical data collection including:

- Supporting survey or inventory work (e.g., Bioblitz's; rare plant surveys; public forays);
- Making use of citizen science and social media;
- Identifying synergies with protected areas planning by the Wilderness and Ecological Reserves Advisory Council (WERAC); and,
- Collaborating with industry and outside agencies.

In the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the SSAC will continue to seek government feedback in an effort to identify tangible solutions to the significant operational roadblocks being faced by the committee. Members of the committee are hopeful that the Minister of Fisheries and Land Resources will be able to commit to a meeting to discuss the issues outlined in this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. COSEWIC criteria.

Appendix 2. Chronology of assessments completed by the Species Status Advisory Committee

Appendix 1. COSEWIC Criteria

A. Decline in Total Number of Mature Individuals

Indicator	Endangered	Threatened
A1. An observed, estimated, inferred or suspected reduction in total number of mature individuals over the last 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is the longer, where the causes of the reduction are: clearly reversible and understood and ceased, based on (and specifying) any of the following*:	Reduction of ≥ 70%	Reduction of ≥ 50%
(a) direct observation		
(b) an index of abundance appropriate to the taxon		
(c) a decline in index of area of occupancy, extent of occurrence and/or quality of habitat		
(d) actual or potential levels of exploitation		
(e) the effects of introduced taxa, hybridization, pathogens, pollutants, competitors or parasites.		
A2. An observed, estimated, inferred or suspected reduction in total number of mature individuals over the last 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is the longer, where the reduction or its causes may not have ceased or may not be understood or may not be reversible, based on (and specifying) any of (a) to (e) under A1.	Reduction of ≥ 50%	Reduction of ≥ 30%
A3. A reduction in total number of mature individuals, projected or suspected to be met within the next 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is the longer (up to a maximum of 100 years), based on (and specifying) any of (b) to (e) under A1.	Reduction of ≥ 50%	Reduction of ≥ 30%
A4. An observed, estimated, inferred, projected or suspected reduction in total number of mature individuals over any 10 year or 3 generation period, whichever is longer (up to a maximum of 100 years in the future), where the time period must include both the past and the future, and where the reduction or its causes may not have ceased or may not be understood or may not be reversible, based on (and specifying) any of (a) to (e) under A1.	Reduction of ≥ 50%	Reduction of ≥ 30%

*Whereas (a) and (b) are methods to determine the decline in number of mature individuals and (d) and (e) are potential causes, all of (a) through (e) that indicate and/or contribute to the reduction should be stated. In addition, to use (c), there must be a reason to infer or suspect that a decline in IAO, EOO, or quality of habitat will lead to a decline in number of mature individuals that is in excess of the thresholds.

B. Small Distribution Range and Decline or Fluctuation

Indicator	Endangered	Threatened
B1. Extent of occurrence estimated to be	< 5,000 km ²	< 20,000 km ²
and/or		
B2. Index of area of occupancy estimated to be	< 500 km ²	< 2,000 km ²
and (for either B1 or B2) estimates indicating at least two of a-c:		
a. Severely fragmented or known to exist at:	≤ 5 locations	≤ 10 locations
b. Continuing decline, observed, inferred or projected, in any of (i) extent of occurrence, (ii) index of area of occupancy, (iii) area,		

extent and/or quality of habitat, (iv) number of locations or subpopulations, (v) number of mature individuals.		
c. Extreme fluctuations in any of (i) extent of occurrence, (ii) index of area of occupancy, (iii) number of locations or subpopulations, (iv) number of mature individuals.		

C. Small and Declining Number of Mature Individuals

Indicator	Endangered	Threatened
C. Total number of mature individuals estimated to be:	<2,500	<10,000
and one of either C1 or C2:		
C1. An estimated continuing decline in total number of mature individuals of at least:	20% within 5 years or two generations, whichever is longer, up to a maximum of 100 years in the future	10% within 10 years or three generations, whichever is longer, up to a maximum of 100 years in the future
or		
C2. A continuing decline, observed, projected, or inferred, in numbers of mature individuals and at least one of the following:		
a.(i) No subpopulation estimated to contain	>250 mature individuals	>1000 mature individuals
or		
a.(ii) one subpopulation has	≥ 95% of all mature individuals	100% of all mature individuals
or		
b. There are extreme fluctuations in number of mature individuals.		

D. Very Small or Restricted Total Canadian Population

Indicator	Endangered	Threatened
D. Total number of mature individuals very small or restricted in the form of either of the following:		
D1. Population estimated to have	<250 mature individuals	<1000 mature individuals
or		
D2. For threatened only: Canadian population with a very restricted index of area of occupancy (typically < 20 km ²) or number of locations (typically ≤ 5) such that it is prone to the effects of human activities or stochastic events within a very short time period (1-2 generations) in an uncertain future, and is thus capable of becoming extinct, extirpated or critically* endangered in a very short period of time.	Does not apply	Index of area of occupancy typically <20 km ² or Number of locations typically ≤ 5

E. Quantitative Analysis

Indicator	Endangered	Threatened
E. Quantitative analysis (population projections) showing the probability of extinction or extirpation in the wild is at least	20% within 20 years or 5 generations, whichever is longer, up to a maximum of 100	10% within 100 years

	years	
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***critically endangered (used only to inform application of D2)**

COSEWIC procedures do not allow for a possible status of Critically Endangered; however, these criteria are useful in understanding whether or not a taxon is facing the extremely high risk of extinction in the wild required by D2. Criteria thresholds for Critically Endangered are defined in IUCN (2014). Threshold changes from Endangered are as follows:

A Criterion:

- A1, $\geq 90\%$ population reduction.
- A2, A3 or A4, $\geq 80\%$ population reduction

B Criterion:

- B1, EOO $< 100 \text{ km}^2$
- B2, IAO $< 10 \text{ km}^2$
 - a) Severely fragmented or Number of locations is changed to = 1

C Criterion: Number of mature individuals < 250

- C1, an estimated continuing decline in total number of mature individuals of at least 25% in 3 years or 1 generation, whichever is longer
- C2, a continuing decline, observed, projected, or inferred, in numbers of mature individuals and at least one of the following:
 - (i) No subpopulation estimated to contain more than mature individuals, or
 - (ii) at least 90% of mature individuals in one subpopulation

D1 Criterion: Population estimated to have < 50 mature individuals

E Criterion: Quantitative analysis (population projections) showing the probability of extinction or extirpation in the wild is at least 50% within 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is longer, up to a maximum of 100 years.

Special Concern:

Those wildlife species that are particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events but are not endangered or threatened wildlife species.

Wildlife species may be classified as being of Special Concern if:

- a. the wildlife species has declined to a level of abundance at which its persistence is increasingly threatened by genetic, demographic or environmental stochasticity, but the decline is not sufficient to qualify the wildlife species as Threatened; or
- b. the wildlife species may become Threatened if factors suspected of negatively influencing the persistence of the wildlife species are neither reversed nor managed with demonstrable effectiveness; or
- c. the wildlife species is near to qualifying, under any criterion, for Threatened status; or
- d. the wildlife species qualifies for Threatened status but there is clear indication of rescue effect from extra-limital subpopulations.

Examples of reasons why a wildlife species may qualify for "Special Concern":

- a wildlife species that is particularly susceptible to a catastrophic event (e.g., a seabird population near an oil tanker route); or
- a wildlife species with very restricted habitat or food requirements for which a threat to that habitat or food supply has been identified (e.g., a bird that forages primarily in old-growth forest, a plant that grows

primarily on undisturbed sand dunes, a fish that spawns primarily in estuaries, a snake that feeds primarily on a crayfish whose habitat is threatened by siltation; or

- a recovering wildlife species no longer considered to be Threatened or Endangered but not yet clearly secure.

Examples of reasons why a wildlife species may not qualify for "Special Concern":

- a wildlife species existing at low density in the absence of recognized threat (e.g., a large predatory animal defending a large home range or territory); or
- a wildlife species existing at low density that does not qualify for Threatened status for which there is a clear indication of rescue effect.

Guidelines for use of Extinct or Extirpated

A wildlife species may be assessed as extinct or extirpated from Canada if:

- there exists no remaining habitat for the wildlife species and there have been no records of the wildlife species despite recent surveys; or
- 50 years have passed since the last credible record of the wildlife species, despite surveys in the interim; or
- there is sufficient information to document that no individuals of the wildlife species remain alive.

Guidelines for use of Data Deficient

Data Deficient should be used for cases where the status report has fully investigated all best available information yet that information is insufficient to: a) satisfy any criteria or assign any status, or b) resolve the wildlife species' eligibility for assessment.

Examples:

- Records of occurrence are too infrequent or too widespread to make any conclusions about extent of occurrence, population size, threats, or trends.
- Surveys to verify occurrences, when undertaken, have not been sufficiently intensive or extensive or have not been conducted at the appropriate time of the year or under suitable conditions to ensure the reliability of the conclusions drawn from the data gathered.
- The wildlife species' occurrence in Canada cannot be confirmed or denied with assurance.

Data Deficient should **not** be used if: a) the choice between two status designations is difficult to resolve by COSEWIC, or b) the status report is inadequate and has not fully investigated all best available information (in which case the report should be rejected), or c) the information available is minimally sufficient to assign status but inadequate for recovery planning or other such use.

Government of Canada| COSEWIC Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/committee-status-endangered-wildlife/wildlife-species-assessment-process-categories-guidelines/quantitative-criteria.html>

Date modified: 2017-04-13

Appendix 2. Chronology of Assessments by the Species Status Advisory Committee

Common Name	Scientific Name	SSAC Assessment	Date of Recommendation:	Designated Status or Reason Not Designated:
Low Northern Rockcress (original assessment)	<i>Braya humilis</i> (formerly <i>Neotorularia humilis</i>)	Endangered	6-Oct-04	Endangered
Gray-cheeked Thrush Reassessed June 21, 2010	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	Vulnerable	4-Nov-05	Vulnerable
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucorhoa</i>	Not at Risk	No recommendation required.	
Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Not at Risk	No recommendation required.	
Redwine Caribou Herd	<i>Rangifer tarandus caribou</i> (Redwine Population)		SSAC has decided not to assess populations but species as a whole.	
Blowout Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela limbata labradorensis</i>	Data Deficient	Status report being revised due to new information.	
MacKenzie's Sweetvetch (original assessment)	<i>Hedysarum boreale</i> subsp. <i>mackenzii</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06	Endangered
Rattlesnakeroot (original assessment)	<i>Prenanthes racemosa</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06	Endangered
Northern Bog Aster (original assessment)	<i>Symphyotrichum boreale</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06	Endangered
Crowded Wormseed Mustard (original assessment)	<i>Erysimum inconspicuum</i> var. <i>coarctatum</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06	Endangered
Mountain Fern (original assessment)	<i>Thelypteris quelpaertensis</i>	Vulnerable	21-Oct-06	Vulnerable
Graceful Felt Lichen	<i>Erioderma mollissimum</i>	Endangered	8-May-08	Endangered
Bodin's Milkvetch (original assessment)	<i>Astragalus bodinii</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	Threatened
Shaved Sedge	<i>Carex tonsa</i> var. <i>tonsa</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	Returned to SSAC for re-assessment (new data)
Cutleaf Fleabane (original assessment)	<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	Endangered
Feathery False Solomon's Seal	<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i> subsp. <i>racemosum</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	Endangered
Sharpleaf Aster	<i>Ocelmena acuminata</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	Threatened
Alaska Rein Orchid (original assessment)	<i>Platanthera foetida</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	Endangered
Gmelin's Watercrowfoot	<i>Ranunculus gmelinii</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	Endangered
Tradescant's Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum tradescantii</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	Threatened
Water Pygmyweed	<i>Tillaea aquatica</i>	Vulnerable	29-May-08	Vulnerable

Appendix 3: Chronology of Assessments by the Species Status Advisory Committee (continued, page 2 of 3)

Common Name	Scientific Name	SSAC Assessment	Date of Recommendation:	Designated Status or Reason Not Designated:
Rock Dwelling Sedge	<i>Carex petricosa</i> var. <i>misandroides</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	Endangered
Oval-leaved Creeping Spearwort	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i> var. <i>ovalis</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	Endangered
Lindley's Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum ciliolatum</i>	Endangered	07-Oct-10	Endangered
Arctic Hare	<i>Lepus arcticus</i>	Data Deficient	<i>No recommendation required</i>	
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Vulnerable	07-Oct-10	Vulnerable
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia riparia</i>	Not at Risk	<i>No recommendation required</i>	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Data Deficient	<i>No recommendation required</i>	
Vreeland's Striped Coralroot	<i>Corallorhiza striata</i> var. <i>vreelandii</i>	Endangered	07-Oct-10	Endangered
Gray-cheeked Thrush (Newfoundland subspecies)	<i>Catharus minimus minimus</i>	Threatened	07-Oct-10	Threatened
Gray-cheeked Thrush (Northern subspecies)	<i>Catharus minimus aliciae</i>	Not at Risk	<i>No recommendation required</i>	
Wooly Arnica	<i>Arnica angustifolia</i> subsp. <i>tomentosa</i>	Endangered	22-Oct-12	Endangered
Griscom's Arnica	<i>Arnica griscomii</i> subsp. <i>griscomii</i>	Endangered	22-Oct-12	Endangered
Northern Twayblade	<i>Listera borealis</i>	Endangered	25-Sep-13	Endangered
Mountain Bladder Fern (Newfoundland Designatable Unit)	<i>Cystopteris montana</i>	Endangered	25-Sep-13	Endangered
Red Pine	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	Threatened	6-Oct-16	No Decision
Mummichog	<i>Fundulus heteroclitus macrolepidotus</i>	Vulnerable	6-Oct-16	No Decision
Low Northern Rockcress (re-assessment)	<i>Braya humilis</i> (formerly <i>Neotorularia humilis</i>)	Confirmed Endangered	Oct-16	Endangered status confirmed
Bank Swallow (review of COSEWIC report)	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Support COSEWIC recommendation of Threatened	15-July-2019	No Decision
Northern Bog Aster (re-assessment)	<i>Symphyotrichum boreale</i>	Confirmed Endangered	16-January-2020	Endangered status confirmed
Rattlesnakeroot (re-assessment)	<i>Prenanthes racemosa</i>	Confirmed Endangered	16-January-2020	Endangered status confirmed
Crowded Wormseed Mustard	<i>Erysimum inconspicuum</i> var.	Confirmed	16-January-2020	Endangered status



(re-assessment)	<i>coarctatum</i>	Endangered	confirmed
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Appendix 3: Chronology of Assessments by the Species Status Advisory Committee (continued, page 3 of 3)

Common Name	Scientific Name	SSAC Assessment	Date of Recommendation:	Designated Status or Reason Not Designated:
Bodin's Milkvetch (re-assessment)	<i>Astragalus bodinii</i>	Confirmed Threatened	16-January-2020	Threatened status confirmed
Cutleaf Fleabane (re-assessment)	<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	Confirmed Endangered	16-January-2020 ⁺	Endangered status confirmed
MacKenzie's Sweetvetch (re-assessment)	<i>Hedysarum boreale</i> subsp. <i>mackenzii</i>	Threatened	16-January-2020	Currently listed as Endangered; downlisting recommended
Mountain Fern (re-assessment)	<i>Thelypteris quelpaertensis</i>	Vulnerable	16-January-2020 ⁺	Vulnerable status confirmed
Alaska Rein Orchid (re-assessment)	<i>Platanthera foetida</i>	Endangered	16-January-2020	Endangered status confirmed

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council shall within 90 days of the minister receiving a written recommendation from SSAC to designate a species, give the minister approval to do one of the following: (a) designate the species under section 7 in the recommended or an equivalent category; (b) designate the species under section 7 in a different category and release to the public the reason for using a different category; or (c) make no designation and release to the public the reason there will be no designation. Section 8 of the Endangered Species Act.