



Submission to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

For

Information:

Decision: X

Issue: Request for decision on the proposed amendments to the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*

Background:

- 7 species which occur in Nunavut are under consideration for addition or a status change under the federal *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*
- More information on the status of the species and their distribution is contained within Appendix A
- Briefly the species under consideration are:

ᐃᓄᑦᑎᑦ	English Common Name	Proposed Status
ᑕᓄᓄᓄᑦᑕᑦ ᓄᐸᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑦᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ	Barn Swallow	Special Concern
ᓄᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑦᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦ	Lesser Yellowlegs	Threatened
ᓄᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑦᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑦᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑦᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ	Red Knot <i>Islandica</i>	Not at Risk
	Red Knot <i>rufa</i> (Northeastern South America wintering population)	Special Concern
	Red Knot <i>rufa</i> (Southeastern USA/Gulf of Mexico/Caribbean Wintering population)	Endangered
ᓄᑕᑦᑕᑦ	Ross's Gull	Endangered
ᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ	Short-eared Owl	Threatened

Consultations:

- Consultations on the proposed changes to the list of Species at Risk in Canada were held between January and October 2022 and included Hunter and Trapper Organizations (HTOs), Regional Wildlife Boards (RWBs), Regional Inuit Associations (RIAs), Hamlets, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), Government of Nunavut (GN) and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) board staff. The table below outlines a timeline of consultation efforts.

Date	January 24, 2022	May 2022	May 2022	October 2022
Contact method	Initial consultation package emailed	Consultation package emailed again	Follow up phone calls	Follow up phone calls
Who was contacted	HTOs, Hamlets, RWBs, RIAs, NWMB, NTI, GN	HTOs, Hamlets, RWBs, RIAs, NWMB, NTI, GN	HTOs and RWBs	Those who we were not able to be reached in May

- Consultation packages contained a fact sheet and a questionnaire (in Inuktitut and English; Appendix B), [links to the individual species accounts on the Species at Risk Registry which contained the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada \(COSEWIC\) Assessment and Status Report](#) and [information on the federal consultation process](#).
- Organizations were asked to provide their formal position on the proposed listing (i.e. oppose, support or are indifferent) and any other comments, concerns or information that they feel should be considered.
- CWS contacted hunter and trapper organizations and hamlets that overlapped or were close to the breeding range for the species in Nunavut. For Barn Swallow, given the limited range in Nunavut, only HTOs and hamlets where there were documented records of the species were contacted.
- Given the variability in species ranges not all organizations and communities were contacted about all 7 species, a detailed list can be found in Appendix B.
- In Nunavut, we received a response from the Issatik HTO and the GN. The Issatik HTO, mentioned they had seen both Red Knot *rufa* and Short-eared Owls in the area. They indicated that the recovery of the species would be beneficial but did not specify if they supported the proposed amendments. The GN largely did not support the proposed amendments, with the exception of the Red Knot *islandica*, which is proposed to be removed from the SARA (Appendix B).
- In the territories, at the time of writing, CWS had received support on the proposed amendments from the Gwitchin and Weekeezi Renewable Resource Boards in Northwest Territories as well as the Government of the Northwest Territories. In the Yukon, no comments were received from either the Wildlife Advisory Council (North Slope) or the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board. The Yukon Government supported the proposed amendments.

Next Steps:

Following the Board's decision, the Minister will make a recommendation to the Governor in Council that takes into account the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada's assessment, consultations, including those with wildlife management boards

authorized for that species by a lands claims agreement (including the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board (EMRWB), and the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board (NMRWB)), and the regulatory impact analysis statement. The final decision or final decision as varied, as arrived at through 5.3.16 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, must be respected in the Minister's recommendation to the Governor in Council.

As part of the federal regulatory process, a 30-day comment period follows the publication of the proposed decision in Canada Gazette, Part 1. The final step in the process is for the Governor in Council to make a final listing decision. If the Governor in Council decides to list a species, it is at this point that it becomes legally included on Schedule 1. The decision and the regulatory impact analysis statement will be published in the next edition of the Canada Gazette, Part II.

Decision:

We are requesting a decision from NWMB on the proposed amendments to the List of Wildlife Species under the federal *Species at Risk Act* as per the *Nunavut Agreement* s.5.2.34(f) and 5.3.16-5.3.23.

Prepared by: Canadian Wildlife Service, Northern Region
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