

Species at Risk in Canada: I Can Statements

1. I can list and provide details about species at risk in Canada including: common names, ranges, population numbers, factors in population decline, legal designations, and recovery efforts.
2. I can describe individual and collective actions that can be taken to protect species at risk.
3. I can understand how species at risk in Canada are identified by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) and federally protected under the Species at Risk Act (SARA).
4. I can evaluate the impact of human population growth and its increasing demands for natural resources and land on the survival of species.
5. I can assess the effect wildlife has on the Canadian economy, medical research, and First Nations.
6. I can explain what is being done by Canadian federal, provincial/territorial and municipal government agencies to protect species at risk.
7. I can describe the four categories that species at risk in Canada fall into under the Species at Risk Act: special concern, threatened, endangered, and extirpated.
8. I can define the following key terms:
 - **Acid Rain:** Any form of precipitation that is high in sulfuric and nitric acids as a result of pollution in the air.
 - **Canadian Nature Federation:** A Canadian non-profit conservation organization with a mission to protect and conserve wildlife and habitats in Canada by engaging people and advocating on behalf of nature.
 - **Canadian Wildlife Federation:** A Canadian non-profit conservation organization with a mission to conserve and inspire the conservation of Canada's wildlife and habitats for the use and enjoyment of all.
 - **Canadian Wildlife Service:** A part of Environment Canada responsible for the conservation of migratory birds, the recovery of species at risk, and the protection of nationally-important habitat for wildlife.
 - **Climate Change:** Significant long-term shifts in average global temperature and weather patterns. Since the 1800s, this has mainly been caused by human activities such as burning fossil fuels like natural gas, oil, and coal.
 - **Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada:** An independent advisory panel to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada that meets twice a year to assess the status of wildlife species at risk of extinction.

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species: An international agreement between countries to help ensure the trade of plant and animal specimens is not harmful for the survival of species.
- Ducks Unlimited Canada: A Canadian non-profit organization with a mission to conserve, restore and manage wetlands and associated habitats for the benefit of North America's waterfowl.
- Endangered: A wildlife species that is facing imminent extirpation or extinction.
- Environment Canada: The department of the Government of Canada responsible for coordinating environmental policies and programs, as well as preserving and enhancing the natural environment and renewable resources.
- Extinct: A wildlife species that no longer exists.
- Extirpated: A wildlife species that no longer exists in the wild in Canada, but exists elsewhere.
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada: The department of the Government of Canada responsible for safeguarding waters and managing Canada's fisheries and oceans resources.
- Habitat: The place or type of place where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives or grows.
- Migration: (Of an animal, typically a bird or fish) travelling from one place to another, usually when the season changes.
- Native Species: A species that historically lives in a particular habitat.
- Nature Conservancy of Canada: A private, non-profit organization that partners with individuals, corporations, foundations, Indigenous communities and other non-profit organizations and governments to purchase and manage natural areas.
- Organochlorine Chemicals: Any of several hydrocarbon-based compounds containing chlorine, especially those used as pesticides, such as DDT. These compounds pose a range of adverse human health risks and some are carcinogens.
- Protected Area: Space set aside such as national and provincial parks, marine conservation areas and wildlife reserves to provide habitats for thousands of species (plants, animals, insects, etc.) including species at risk.
- Special Concern: A wildlife species that may become a threatened or an endangered species because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.
- Species at Risk: An extirpated, endangered, threatened species, or a species of special concern.
- Species at Risk Act: Provides for the legal protection of wildlife species to prevent wildlife species from becoming extinct and to secure the necessary actions for their recovery.

- Threatened: A wildlife species that is likely to become endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to its extirpation or extinction.
- World Wildlife Fund: A Swiss-based international non-governmental organization founded in 1961 that works in the field of wilderness preservation and the reduction of human impact on the environment.