

# Fish in British Columbia that are Endangered, Threatened, or of Special Concern



"The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) exists to provide Canadians and their governments with advice regarding the status of wildlife species that are nationally at risk of extinction or extirpation." - [www.cosewic.gc.ca](http://www.cosewic.gc.ca)

"The Species at Risk Act (SARA) is a federal law with three main goals: to prevent endangered or threatened species from becoming extinct or extirpated; to help in the recovery of endangered, threatened and extirpated species; and to manage species of special concern to help prevent them from becoming endangered or threatened." – [www.pc.gc.ca](http://www.pc.gc.ca)

"British Columbia has no stand-alone endangered species act. The provincial Wildlife Act protects virtually all vertebrate animals from direct harm, except as allowed by regulation (e.g., hunting or trapping). Legal designation as Endangered or Threatened under the Act increases the penalties for harming a species, and also enables the protection of habitat in a Critical Wildlife Management Area." - [www.env.gov.bc.ca](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca)

There are four different listing categories under SARA (and COSEWIC). As defined in section 2, the four categories are:

- Extirpated species: are species that no longer exists in the wild in Canada, but exists elsewhere in the wild.
- Endangered species: are species that face imminent extirpation or extinction.
- Threatened species: are species that are likely to become endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to its extirpation or extinction.
- Special concern: are species that may become threatened or endangered because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.

In BC, species and ecological communities are assigned to one of three lists, based on their provincial Conservation Status Rank.

- Red-listed species: are Extirpated, Endangered, or Threatened in British Columbia.
- Blue-listed species: are of Special Concern (formerly Vulnerable)
- Yellow-listed species: are considered secure.

## Helpful Websites:

- [www.cosewic.gc.ca](http://www.cosewic.gc.ca) - COSEWIC main page
- [registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/](http://registrelep-sararegistry.gc.ca/) - the "Public Registry" has updates and information about what SARA does
- [laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/s-15.3/](http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/s-15.3/) - in depth definition of what the laws of SARA entail
- [www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/toolintro.html](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/toolintro.html) - Ministry of Environment of BC's "Species and Ecosystem Explorer" tool

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English Name	Scientific Name	BC Status	COSEWIC Status	SARA Status	Species Code
Cowichan Lake Lamprey	<i>Entosphenus macrostomus</i>	Red	Threatened	Threatened	F-ENMA
Western Brook Lamprey (Morrison Creek population)	<i>Lampetra richardsoni pop. 1</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-LARC-01
Basking Shark	<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	No Status	Endangered	Endangered	F-CEMA
Soupin Shark	<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>	No Status	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-GAGA
Bluntnose Sixgill Shark	<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>	No Status	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-HEGR
Green Sturgeon	<i>Acipenser medirostris</i>	Red	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-ACME
White Sturgeon	<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>	No Status	Endangered	Endangered	F-ACTR
White Sturgeon (Kootenay River population)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus pop. 1</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-ACTR-01
White Sturgeon (Columbia River population)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus pop. 2</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-ACTR-02
White Sturgeon (Nechako River population)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus pop. 3</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-ACTR-03
White Sturgeon (Lower Fraser River population)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus pop. 4</i>	Red	Threatened		F-ACTR-04
White Sturgeon (Upper Fraser River population)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus pop. 5</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-ACTR-05
White Sturgeon (Middle Fraser River population)	<i>Acipenser transmontanus pop. 6</i>	Red	Endangered		F-ACRT-06
Goldeye	<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>	Blue			F-HIAL
Chiselmouth	<i>Acrocheilus alutaceus</i>	Blue	Not at Risk		F-ACAL
Northern Redbelly Dace	<i>Chrosomus eos</i>	Blue			F-CHEO
Northern Redbelly Dace X Finescale Dace	<i>Chrosomus eos x Chrosomus neogaeus</i>	Blue			F-CHEOxCHNE
Lake Chub - Hotsprings Ecotype	<i>Couesius plumbeus - hotsprings ecotype</i>	Red			F-COPL-01
Brassy Minnow - Pacific Group	<i>Hybognathus hankinsoni - Pacific group</i>	Blue			F-HYHA-02
Brassy Minnow - Western Arctic Group	<i>Hybognathus hankinsoni - western Arctic group</i>	Blue			F-HYHA-01
Pearl Dace	<i>Margariscus nachtriebi</i>	Blue			F-MANA
Spottail Shiner	<i>Notropis hudsonius</i>	Red			F-NOHU
Nooksack Dace	<i>Rhinichthys cataractae - Chehalis lineage</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-RHCA-CH
Speckled Dace	<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-RHOS
Umatilla Dace	<i>Rhinichthys umatilla</i>	Red	Threatened		F-RHUM
Mountain Sucker	<i>Catostomus platyrhynchus</i>	Blue	Special Concern		F-CAPL

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Salish Sucker	<i>Catostomus sp. 4</i>	Red	Threatened	Endangered	F-CASP-04
Pygmy Longfin Smelt	<i>Spirinchus sp. 1</i>	Red	Data Deficient Endangered/ Threatened		F-SPSP-01
Eulachon	<i>Thaleichthys pacificus</i>	Blue			F-THPA
Cisco	<i>Coregonus artedi</i>	Red			F-COAR
Arctic Cisco	<i>Coregonus autumnalis</i>	Red			F-COAU
Broad Whitefish	<i>Coregonus nasus</i>	Blue			F-CONA
Least Cisco	<i>Coregonus sardinella</i>	Blue			F-COSR
Cutthroat Trout, clarkii subspecies	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii</i>	Blue			F-ONCL-CL
Cutthroat Trout, lewisi subspecies	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii lewisi</i>	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-ONCL-LE
Bull Trout	<i>Salvelinus confluentus</i>	Blue	Special Concern		F-SACO
Bull Trout - Coastal Lineage	<i>Salvelinus confluentus - coastal lineage</i>	Blue	Special Concern Special Concern/ Not at Risk		F-SACO-06
Bull Trout - Interior Lineage	<i>Salvelinus confluentus - interior lineage</i>	Blue			F-SACO-07
Inconnu	<i>Stenodus leucichthys</i>	Blue			F-STLU
Arctic Grayling - Nahanni Lineage	<i>Thymallus arcticus - Nahanni lineage</i>	Blue			F-THAR-03
Burbot (lower Kootenay population)	<i>Lota lota pop. 1</i>	Red			F-LOLO-01
Charlotte Unarmoured Threespine Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus aculeatus pop. 1</i>	Red	Special Concern		F-GAAC-01
Giant Threespine Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 1</i>	Red	Special Concern		F-GASP-01
Vananda Creek Limnetic Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 16</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-16
Vananda Creek Benthic Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 17</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-17
Misty Lake "Lake" Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 18</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-18
Misty Lake "Stream" Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 19</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-19
Enos Lake Limnetic Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 2</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-02
Enos Lake Benthic Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 3</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-03
Paxton Lake Limnetic Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 4</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-04
Paxton Lake Benthic Stickleback	<i>Gasterosteus sp. 5</i>	Red	Endangered	Endangered	F-GASP-05
Rougheye Rockfish	<i>Sebastes aleutianus</i>	No Status	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-SEAL
Longspine Thornyhead	<i>Sebastolobus altivelis</i>	No Status	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-SEAI

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Shorthead Sculpin	<i>Cottus confusus</i>	Blue	Special Concern	Threatened	F-COCN
Columbia Sculpin	<i>Cottus hubbsi</i>	Blue	Special Concern	Special Concern	F-COHU
Cultus Pygmy Sculpin	<i>Cottus sp. 2</i>	Red	Threatened	Threatened	F-COSP-02
Rocky Mountain Sculpin	<i>Cottus sp. 9</i>	Blue	Special Concern		F-COSP-04