



Updated Species at Risk Classifications and Migratory Bird Regulations

Will your next project be delayed by
inadequate wildlife planning?

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Canada's Greenhouse Gas Offset Credit System

The Government of Canada has developed [Greenhouse Gas \(GHG\) Offset Credit System](#) under the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (GGPPA). This system was built based on the recommendations for the design of offset systems in the [Pan-Canadian Offset Framework](#) to encourage voluntary project activities across Canada that reduce GHG emissions or remove them from the atmosphere. For every tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent reduced, a project is awarded one offset credit. These credits can be used by industries regulated under the federal Output-Based Pricing System to meet compliance obligations and help reduce the overall cost of compliance. Canada's GHG Offset Credit System will create further incentives to reduce emissions and will generate additional economic opportunities in sectors such as agriculture, forestry, and waste.

Under the Output-Based Pricing System, when facilities exceed their emissions limits, they may provide compensation through one or a combination of the following:

- Paying an excess emissions charge
- Remitting surplus credits, federal offset credits, or recognized units (eligible provincial offset credits)

To be eligible to generate offset credits, all projects will be required to achieve verified permanent GHG reductions or removals by following a published federal GHG offset protocol. A protocol sets out requirements for project implementation, including setting project baselines, monitoring permanence, managing risk, minimizing leakage, and managing data that must be followed by a project proponent when implementing an offset project.



Impact Assessment Agency Releases Forward Regulatory Plan

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAA) has released its [Forward Regulatory Plan](#) (the Plan) for 2022 to 2024. The Plan highlights planned or anticipated regulatory initiatives that the IAA intends to move forward with in the two-year period, and long-term initiatives the IAA intends to introduce. The Plan describes who may be affected, regulatory cooperation efforts, opportunities for public consultation, related information or analyses, and contact information. Four initiatives have been identified, including:

- [Cost Recovery Regulations](#)
- [Indigenous Cooperation Regulations](#)
- [Designated Classes of Projects Order \(Amendments\)](#)
- [Repeal of Spent Regulations and Minor Corrections: Miscellaneous Amendments Regulations](#)

Migratory Birds Regulations Update

On 8 June 2022, the Government of Canada (GOC) released the modernized [Migratory Birds Regulations](#) (the Regulations) which will come into effect 30 July 2022. The primary objective of the new Regulations is to address current challenges surround migratory birds, where the original regulations, first enacted in 1918, to address overharvesting and unregulated commerce of migratory birds. The main changes to the Regulations surround the over clarity in the language used to describe standards and remove ambiguity, and protection of migratory bird nests that are considered 'higher conservation valued', recognition of Aboriginal and treaty harvesting rights, changes to game bird hunting and other required permits. The complete list of Regulations is provided on the GOC's [Canada Gazette](#).



New Additions to the Species at Risk Act

The GOC proposed two orders, [Order Amending Schedule 1 to the Species at Risk Act \[Peary Caribou and 12 other species\]](#) and [Order Amending Schedule 1 to the Species at Risk Act \[Peregrine Falcon and 16 other species\]](#), to amend Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). The orders include recommendations for new additions, reclassification and removal of species from the current Schedule. With the release of the proposed orders a public comment period was opened that is schedule to close 27 June 2022.

The public is invited to share their comments and feedback on either proposal via email or phone at LEPreglementations-SARAregrulations@ec.gc.ca or +1 (800) 668-6767. Public comments and any additional information received following these publications will be taken into consideration by the Ministry of Environment to inform the final Schedule 1 and prepare recovery strategies that will be published within one year for endangered species and within two years for threatened species.

Moving Forward on the Professional Governance Act

On 2 May 2022, the Government of Alberta (GOA) introduced [Bill 23](#) (the Bill), the *Professional Governance Act*, which aims to streamline legislation of 22 non-health professional regulatory organizations. Previous legislation was found to be inconsistent and inefficient across organizations, where the Bill is proposing to simplify self-governing professions to safeguard [Albertans' health, safety, and economic interests](#). The Bill contains professional specific schedules to address unique ideas and simplifies processing for existing regulatory organizations. As the Bill moves into Part II, organizations are looking to establish initiatives including creating bylaws, creating member rosters to meet the Practice and tribunal requirements, and getting organizationally ready. Professionals or potential candidates can expect to see heightened requirements for practice review, competency audits, and governance for managing their registrations, continuing education, and competencies.

Funding New Technologies in a Quantum Hub

Alberta's government is providing \$23 million for the development of [Quantum City](#) at the University of Calgary in a partnership with the University of Alberta and University of Lethbridge. Quantum City will build on the momentum in Alberta's technology sector by accelerating the development, application, and uptake of Alberta-grown quantum technologies. The diversification of Alberta's economy is part of Alberta's Recovery Plan. As part of that diversification, Quantum City will help to develop new quantum technologies and applications has the potential to offer solutions across sectors, including in energy and mining, autonomous navigation, and quantum computing. Also enhance regional capacity and infrastructure to fast-track these new technologies, develop skills and talent, and attract additional anchor companies interested in commercializing quantum technologies in the province.



New Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MOE) has released its new [Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy](#). The strategy outlines government actions to prepare for and respond to climate impacts in the short-term and setting a future long-term plan. The Strategy allows for a strengthened ability for the government to respond to extreme weather events such as wildfires, flooding, and heatwaves. Some measures of the include:

- Expanded role for the BC Wildfire Service to provide enhanced wildfire prevention and preparedness
- Development of a provincial flood strategy and flood resilience plan
- Development of an extreme heat preparedness plan
- Investments in watershed restoration to reduce impacts of flooding and droughts

The Strategy is a part of the [CleanBC Roadmap to 2030](#), developed to expand and accelerate climate action in BC.

Dormancy and Shutdown Regulation Notification and Follow-up Obligations

[The Dormancy and Shutdown Regulation](#) (DSR) sets timelines by which restoration at all dormant and former sites must occur. The DSR establishes notification and follow-up obligations to ensure companies (permit holders) communicate regularly about decommissioning, assessment, and restoration work planned. Notification and follow-up obligations of prescribed activities set out in [Sections 13 and 14](#) of the DSR ensures local Indigenous communities, landowners and local governments are informed of activities affecting their use of the land. To achieve compliance with the intermediate activity timelines set out in the DSR, all permit holders are required to complete all proper notifications. Records of all notifications are to be maintained and provided to the Commission upon request.

Changes to Crown Land Access for Offsite Investigations



As of 6 June 2022, the [BC Oil and Gas Commission \(BC OGC\) will no longer accept](#) “Access to Crown Land for Offsite Investigation” application forms to secure permission for use of Crown Land for investigative purposes. Applications must now be made for an Associated Oil and Gas Activity for Investigative Use through the Application Management System (AMS). Additionally, if offsite remediation is required, authorization for use of Crown Land must be made through an application for an Associated Oil and Gas Activity for Site Remediation in AMS.

The [Site Remediation and Reclamation Manual](#) has been updated to reflect this change.

Did You Know?

Wildlife Assessments

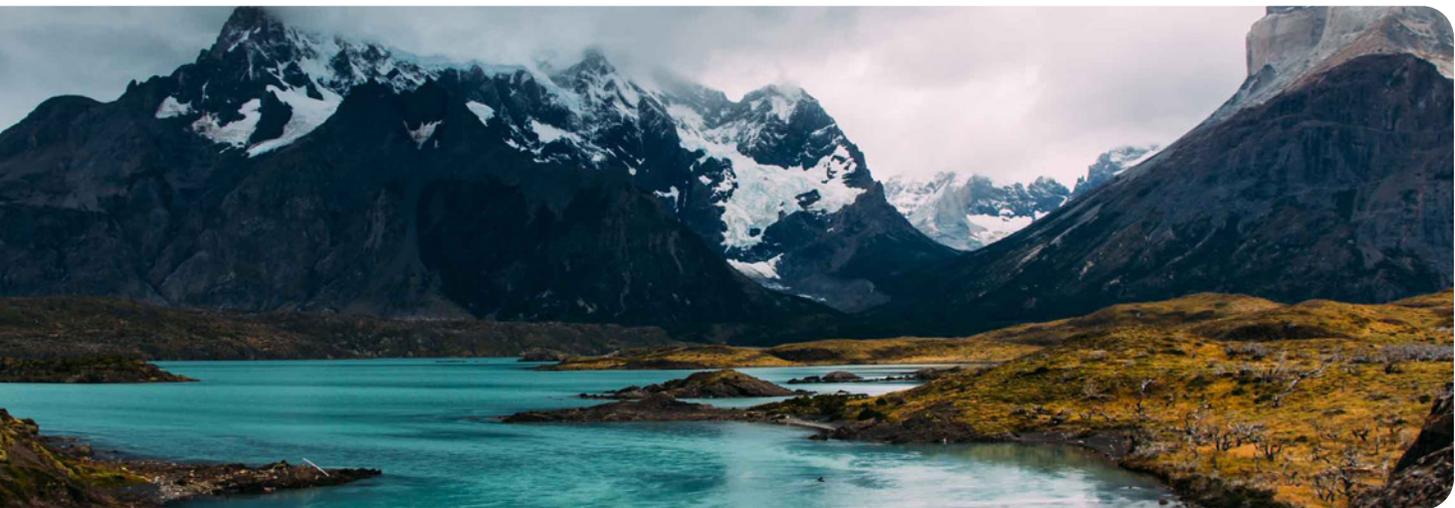
When planning construction or other field activities, identify and delineating present wildlife and habitat features is a critical step for project planning. In Alberta and British Columbia, it is the duty of a project proponent to demonstrate due diligence through conducting wildlife surveys prior to construction or disturbance taking place. A wildlife survey must be conducted by a qualified professional to identify any key wildlife features within the vicinity of the project. Key wildlife features can include, but are not limited to, dens, burrows, nests, mineral licks, and any other indicator of wildlife presence.

In Alberta, proponents may be required to conduct a wildlife survey under [the Wildlife Act](#) or [Public Lands Act](#). The [Wildlife Sweep Protocol](#) outline the general process for how to conduct a wildlife sweep and information required to be documented.

In British Columbia, proponents may be required to conduct a nest survey under the [Wildlife Act](#) or obtain permits to remove wildlife features.

Additional requirements or conditions may be applicable under the [Migratory Birds Convention Act](#) or the [Species at Risk Act](#), depending on project specifics. It is recommended to engage a professional as soon as possible to determine applicable requirements to your project.

For more information on wildlife surveys or assistance with your project, please contact Jamie Peters, Regulatory Manager, at Jamie.Peters@integratedsustainability.ca



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Integrated Sustainability acknowledges that our Vancouver Office is located on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Selíwítlh (Tsilil-Waututh) Nations.

Furthermore, we also acknowledge that our Calgary Office is located on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. We thank all these peoples for having cared for these lands and waters since time out of mind.