

Western Screech-Owl (*kennicottii* ssp)



© David Stiles

Status: These owls have experienced a 90% decline in population in SW coastal BC over the past 15 years.

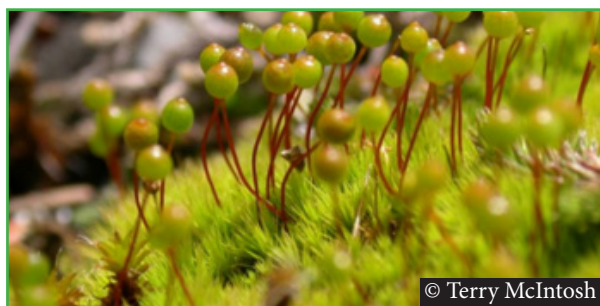
Natural History: Peak breeding is in early spring

with dispersing in mid-summer. They are present year-round in mixed forests and eat a wide variety of food. They use cavities in large trees or nesting boxes for their clutch of up to seven eggs.

Threats: Habitat loss, including removal of wildlife trees, and predation by increasing populations of Barred Owls.

Listen for: High-pitched “bouncing ball” call.

Rigid Apple-Moss



© Terry McIntosh

Status: This moss has only been recorded in eight locations in BC, all within the Georgia Basin.

Natural History: It occurs in shallow soils, rock outcroppings and warm, south-facing slopes. Seed dispersal is in January and February.

Threats: Limited distribution, non-native vegetation encroachment, and changes in fire and grazing regimes.

Look for: Small (1-3 cm height) with globular spore capsules in spring.

How Can I Help?

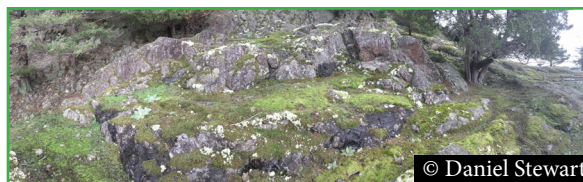
We would like to know:

1. What you saw;
2. Where you saw it (GPS would be great, otherwise a full description of the location);
3. Is this public or private land? If private, who owns the land?
4. How many you saw;
5. At what date and time you saw the species;
6. Did you take any photographs?
7. Anything else that would help us find the same spot.

Call 1.604.989.1007

Email atheneecological@gmail.com

Thank you. There will be a series of presentations to outline the results.



© Daniel Stewart

Our Partners and Supporters

BC Bat Team
BC Conservation Data Centre
BC Parks
City of Powell River
Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Partnership
Islands Trust Fund
LafargeHolcim
Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy
Malaspina Land Conservancy Society
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Powell River Regional District
Salish Coast Land and Marine Conservation Society
Sharp-tailed Snake Recovery Team
South Coast Bat Conservation Society
Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project
Western Screech Owl Working Group

This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

Canada



© Daniel Stewart photos

Species at Risk Conservation
Coastal Douglas-Fir and Associated Ecosystems
Within the Powell River Regional District

Who We Are

The Coastal Douglas-Fir (CDF) biogeoclimatic zone covers the coastline of eastern Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast.

The CDF zone is home to the highest number of species and ecosystems at risk in BC. These “species at risk” face numerous threats including large scale habitat loss, and competition from invasive species. Many are declining at an alarming rate.

This two-year study, funded by the federal government’s Habitat Stewardship Program, focuses on Coastal Douglas-Fir and associated ecosystems in the Powell River Regional District area.

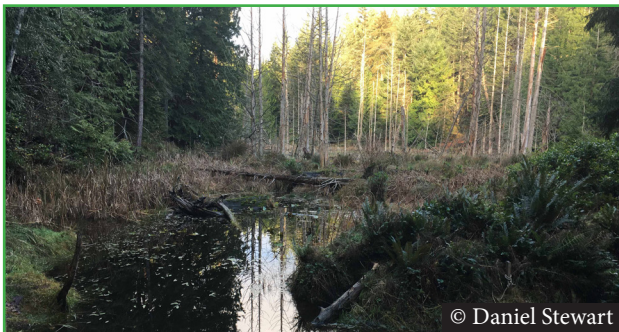
We need your help to achieve the study’s goals.

Project Goals

1. Identify and map species at risk populations and habitats;
2. Formally protect priority habitats;
3. Create management plans for protected habitats;
4. Carry out ecosystem restoration;
5. Engage and educate stakeholders in stewardship.

We Need Your help

We have outlined six species at risk on the following three pages. Because the study area is vast, we need help with finding them. On the back column we have provided information on how to contact us with your findings.



Western Toad



Status: Around 60% of the world’s Western Toads live in BC, but this species has seen steep declines in many parts of its range. Only toad in BC.

Natural History: Adults congregate in breeding areas (open, sunny wetlands and lakes) March to June with mass migration of toadlets May to August. Coastal-dwelling adults require forest habitat with coarse woody debris.

Threats: Road mortality, disease and habitat loss.

Look for: Bright stripe down back; warty appearance.

Red-Legged Frog



Status: In BC, these frogs are found only along the coast and adults require mature forest habitat.

Natural History: Adults congregate at breeding ponds (deeper wetlands, often forested) February to April. Juveniles emerge June to August. Usually associated with streams, ponds and marshes.

Threats: Road mortality, habitat loss, invasive species and disease.

Look for: Red colouring beneath hind legs, folds of skin along the back from behind the eyes.

Sharp-tailed Snake



Status: Habitat is confined to southwestern BC.

Natural History: This snake can grow between 20 and 45 centimetres in length. It lives in open forest and talus slopes. South-facing slopes are important for egg laying. It eats mostly slugs.

Threats: Limited distribution, habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation.

Look for: Narrow girth, roughly size of a pencil; tail is tipped by a short spine.

Little Brown Myotis



Status: Currently common across North America.

Natural History: These bats hibernate in caves and abandoned mines during the winter and move to summer roosting spots in April. They use human-made structures (such as attics), caves and hollow trees for resting sites. Diet includes flying insects, grasshoppers some spiders.

Threats: White nose syndrome, habitat loss and cats.

Listen and look for: Often quite noisy, squeaking when they leave or return to their roost; guano on side of building.