



**Parks Canada Management Action Plan
2023 Spring Reports of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development—Thursday, 20 April 2023**

[Report 3—Discretionary Powers to Protect Species at Risk](#)

Paragraph Number in Report	CESD Recommendation	Parks Canada Response	Description of Final Expected Outcome/Result	Expected Final Completion Date (Month & Year)	Action Plan and Key Milestones (Description/Date - Month & Year)	Responsible Lead	Directorate (s)
						(Position Title)	
3.32	Environment and Climate Change Canada, in collaboration with the provinces and territories and with input from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Parks Canada as appropriate, should establish a transparent approach to providing advice on the protection of wildlife species and critical habitat to allow for timely and informed recommendations on the use of safety net and emergency order provisions. This approach should be predictable and include timelines for developing the advice	<i>Agreed.</i> Parks Canada, as appropriate, will provide input to Environment and Climate Change Canada, on a transparent approach for providing advice on the protection of wildlife species and critical habitat to allow for timely and informed recommendations on the use of safety net and emergency order provisions.	Timely input provided to Environment and Climate Change Canada, as appropriate, as they finalize internal guidance on a process for advising and gathering information solicited from stakeholders and partners on the use of discretionary provisions under SARA.	November 2024	Parks Canada, as appropriate, will provide timely input to Environment and Climate Change Canada as they finalize internal guidance for providing advice on the protection of wildlife species and critical habitat to allow for timely and informed recommendations on the use of safety net and emergency order provisions , in support of the implementation of the <i>Policy on Assessing Imminent Threat</i> under Sections 29 and 80 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> and the <i>Policy on Critical Habitat Protection on Non-Federal Lands</i> . (November 2024)	Director, Conservation Strategy Branch	Protected Areas Establishment and Conservation Directorate



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	based on the context of the situation (for example, the size of the geographic area being considered and the extent of consultations). The department should make available to the public the expected timelines for different scenarios (such as more local versus more national in scope and more complex).						



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3.56	Environment and Climate Change Canada, in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Parks Canada as appropriate, should complete its guidance for developing and updating Species at Risk Act policies. The guidance document should include elements such as a consistent approach for policy development and a process for the regular review of policies.	<i>Agreed.</i> Parks Canada, as appropriate, will provide input to Environment and Climate Change Canada, as it completes guidance for developing and updating <i>Species at Risk Act</i> policies.	Timely input provided to Environment and Climate Change Canada, as appropriate, as they finalize ECCC’s Guidance for Developing and Updating Species at Risk Act Policies, which supports the renewal and completion of policies under the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> .	September 2023	Parks Canada will provide input, as appropriate, to Environment and Climate Change Canada to finalize the Guidance for Developing and Updating Species at Risk Act Policies document. (September 2023)	Director, Conservation Strategy Branch	Protected Areas Establishment and Conservation Directorate



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3.59	Environment and Climate Change Canada, in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Parks Canada as appropriate, should renew and complete its relevant policies on the use of the provisions of the Species at Risk Act for sections 11, 61, and 80 and should develop policies on the use of the provisions of the act for sections 34 and 35. In doing so, Environment and Climate Change Canada should address areas such as gaps and inconsistencies in its policies and actively engage Indigenous groups	<i>Agreed.</i> Parks Canada, as appropriate, will provide input to Environment and Climate Change Canada, including advice and potential considerations for renewal and completion of relevant policies on the use of provisions of the Species at Risk Act for applicable sections noted. Parks Canada will also consider the input of Indigenous groups and stakeholders external to the federal government in its provision of input to Environment and Climate Change Canada.	Timely input provided to Environment and Climate Change Canada, as appropriate, as they finalize and publish the Policy on Assessing Imminent Threat under Sections 29 and 80 of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> on the Species at Risk Public Registry. Timely input provided to Environment and Climate Change Canada, as appropriate, as they finalize and publish the Policy on Critical Habitat Protection on Non-Federal Lands on the Species at Risk Public Registry.	January 2025	At appropriate milestones of policy development, Parks Canada will provide timely input to Environment and Climate Change Canada as they complete relevant policies on the use of provisions of the <i>Species at Risk Act</i> including: the Policy on Assessing Imminent Threat under Sections 29 and 80 of the Species at Risk Act and the Policy on Critical Habitat Protection on Non-Federal Lands. (January 2025)	Director, Conservation Strategy Branch	Protected Areas Establishment and Conservation Directorate



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	and other stakeholders external to the federal government (for example, other levels of government, non-governmental organizations, and Canadian citizens) and take their input into consideration.		Support Environment and Climate Change Canada, as appropriate, in partner and stakeholder engagement to solicit feedback and input on the on the two policies mentioned above.				