



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker — Dominic Sherony



Wrinkled Shield Lichen — Susan Squires



Gray-cheeked Thrush — Bruce Mactavish

SSAC Annual Report

2010-2011

Prepared by the Species Status Advisory Committee

THE COMMITTEE

The Species Status Advisory Committee (SSAC) was established under the *Endangered Species Act* which was passed on December 13, 2001. Its role is to review and recommend to the responsible Minister on species status designations and re-designations based on the best scientific, traditional and local ecological knowledge available for the species.

MEMBERSHIP

The Act allows for a committee of up to nine members. The committee started the year with eight members. Mr. Roger Gallant tendered his resignation in September 2010. Therefore at the end of 2010-2011, the committee consisted of seven members:

Dr. Christine Campbell (Chair) - Aquatic invertebrates
Dr. Luise Hermanutz - Plant ecology, conservation biology
Dr. Thomas Knight – Freshwater fish, small mammals
Dr. Paul Marino – mosses, terrestrial invertebrates
Mr. John E. Maunder - General natural history, plants, invertebrates, vertebrates
Dr. William Montevecchi - Birds
Mr. Mac Pitcher – General natural history, lichens

Two additional members, with expertise in the areas of insects and the Labrador region, are currently being sought.

The secretariat to the SSAC is provided by the Wildlife Division. The role of the secretariat is to help organize meetings and keep minutes, arrange contracts, and provide other necessary logistical support to the Committee. The current secretariat is managed by:

Dr. Emily Herdman, Ecosystem Management Ecologist
Biodiversity and Endangered Species Program, Wildlife Division
Department of Environment and Conservation
PO Box 2007, 117 Riverside Dr.
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 7S1

THE MINISTER AND THE DEPARTMENT

Responsibility for species at risk, the *Endangered Species Act* and the SSAC rests with the Department of Environment and Conservation. Ministers Charlene Johnson and Ross Wiseman were responsible for the Department during the period covered by this report. The Committee was able to meet with Minister Johnson on October 8, 2010.

MEETINGS AND BUSINESS

The Committee met three times in the 2010-2011 fiscal year: April 21, 2010 in St. John's, June 21, 2010 via teleconference, and October 7 and 8, 2010 in St. John's. Items discussed related to the determination of priority species for which status reports should be prepared, the review of reports and the carrying out of species assessments, and the selection of potential new committee members. Considerable time was also spent on the transparency and accountability process, and the issue of timely response to status recommendations.

Additional time was spent by members outside the confines of the meetings reviewing and revising status reports, developing priority lists, developing plans and reports as required under the *Endangered Species Act* and the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, contacting potential candidates for SSAC membership, and preparing correspondence to the Minister.

PROCEDURES

While every effort is made to convene meetings only when all members can be present, a quorum of 50%+1 of the membership will be the minimum required to hold a meeting.

Voting on procedural matters is on the basis of a simple majority of members present but, in the event of a status recommendation to the Minister, failing a consensus, a two thirds majority of all members, whether present or not, will be required.

CRITERIA

The criteria for decisions on the level of risk for a species (endangered, threatened, vulnerable) follow those of the federal COSEWIC committee, which in turn are based on those of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) with minor adjustments for local circumstances and conditions. A copy of the COSEWIC criteria can be found in Appendix 1.

STATUS REPORTS AND PRIORITY LISTS

All finalized SSAC status reports are available on the SSAC website (see address below). The status report template designed by the SSAC is recorded in Appendix 2.

Priority lists are presently being updated and will be posted to the SSAC website as they become available.

<http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/env/wildlife/endangeredspecies/ssac/index.html>

Reports commissioned in 2008-2009, final review expected 2011-2012

Mammals

- Arctic Hare (*Lepus arcticus*)

Reports commissioned in 2009-2010, assessments completed in 2010-2011

Birds

- Yellow bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*)
- Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) – On the basis of new information presented in this update report, *C. minimus* within the Province is now recognized as consisting of two subspecies:
 - [1] Newfoundland Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus minimus*) [insular Newfoundland and the Labrador Straits area]
 - [2] Northern Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus aliciae*) [the remainder of Labrador]The two subspecies were assessed separately within a single report.

Reports commissioned in 2009-2010, status in progress

Lichens

- Wrinkled Shield Lichen (*Pannaria lurida* ssp. *russellii*) – field work completed, seeking author

Reports commissioned in 2010-2011, final review expected 2011-2012

Vascular Plants

- Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*) – author Bruce Roberts
- Griscom's Arnica (*Arnica griscomii*) – contract being finalized
- Woolly Arnica (*Arnica angustifolia* subsp. *tomentosa*) – contract being finalized

Priority species identified as requiring additional information

Vascular Plants

- Mountain Bladder Fern (*Cystopteris montana*)
- Eastern Star Sedge (*Carex radiata*)

Lichens

- Matchstick Lichen (*Pilophorus fibula*)

<http://www.env.gov.nl.ca/env/wildlife/endangeredspecies/ssac/index.html> solicits “Expressions of Interest” for these species.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Three taxa (species or subspecies) recommended to the Minister on October 21, 2006 (Mackenzie's Sweetvetch, Rattlesnakeroot and Northern Bog Aster) were listed on August 11, 2010 as **Endangered** under the Province's *Endangered Species Act*.

Recommendations for a further four species or subspecies were submitted to the Minister on October 7, 2010 (note that Lindley's Aster and Bobolink follow from 2008-2010 assessments, Vreeland's Coralroot from 2008-2009):

Endangered

Vreeland's Striped Coralroot (*Corallorhiza striata* var. *vreelandii*)

Lindley's Aster (*Symphyotrichum ciliolatum*)

Threatened

Newfoundland Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus minimus*)

Vulnerable

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)

Northern Gray-cheeked Thrush *C. m. aliciae* and Bank Swallow *Riparia riparia* were assessed as **Not at Risk** and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius* was assessed as **Data Deficient**.

Ministerial decisions remain outstanding on twelve species recommendations submitted to government in 2007-08, specifically Graceful Felt Lichen, Bodin's Milkvetch, Oval-leaved Creeping Spearwort, Rock Dwelling Sedge, Shaved Sedge, Cutleaf Fleabane, Sharpleaf Aster, Alaska Rein Orchid, Water Pygmyweed, Tradescant's Aster, Gmelin's Watercrowfoot, and Feathery False Solomon's Seal. Ministerial correspondence indicated a decision on these species will be forthcoming in the near future. Discussion was initiated with the Minister and Deputy Minister as to how the SSAC might help to expedite future decisions, so that the time-sensitive legislative requirements of the *Endangered Species Act* can be more closely met.

THE FUTURE

In most cases status reports for species on the priority lists have to be contracted out to individuals with detailed knowledge about the species under consideration. The number of status reports that can be commissioned and evaluated will depend primarily upon the SSAC budget, author availability and the capacity of the Committee to review and assess the reports. The priority will be to find authors and commission reports for 4 new species over the next year. It is anticipated that only a portion of those will be completed and assessed before March 31, 2012.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. COSEWIC criteria.

Appendix 2. Status Report template

Appendix 3. Chronology of assessments completed by the Species Status Advisory Committee

Appendix 1.

COSEWIC quantitative criteria and guidelines for the status assessment of species.

	Endangered	Threatened
A. Declining Total Population		
Reduction in population size based on any of the following 4 options and specifying a-e as appropriate:		
	> 70 %	> 50 %
(1) population size reduction that is observed, estimated, inferred, or suspected in the past 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is longer, where the causes of the reduction are clearly reversible AND understood AND ceased, based on (and specifying) any combination of a-e below.		
	> 50 %	> 30 %
(2) population size reduction that is observed, estimated, inferred or suspected over the last 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is longer, where the reduction or its causes may not have ceased OR may not be understood OR may not be reversible, based on (and specifying) any combination of a-e below.		
(3) population size reduction that is projected or suspected to be met within in the next 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is longer (up to a maximum of 100 years), based on (and specifying) any combination of b-e below.		
(4) population size reduction that is observed, estimated, inferred, projected or suspected over any 10 year or 3 generation period, whichever is longer (up to a maximum of 100 years), where the time period includes both the past and the future, AND where the reduction or its causes may not have ceased OR may not be understood OR may not be reversible, based on (and specifying) any of a-e below.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) direct observation b) an index of abundance appropriate for the taxon c) a decline in area of occupancy, extent of occurrence and/or quality of habitat d) actual or potential levels of exploitation e) the effects of introduced taxa, hybridisation, pathogens, pollutants, competitors or parasites 	

B. Small Distribution, and Decline or Fluctuation

1. Extent of occurrence	< 5,000 km ²	< 20,000 km ²
Or		
2. Area of occupancy	< 500 km ²	< 2,000 km ²
For either of the above, specify at least two of a-c:		
(a) either severely fragmented or known to exist at # locations	≤ 5	≤ 10
(b) continuing decline observed, inferred or projected in any of the following:		
i) extent of occurrence		
ii) area of occupancy		
iii) area, extent and/or quality of habitat		
iv) number of locations or populations		
v) number of mature individuals		
(c) extreme fluctuations in any of the following:	> 1 order of magnitude	> 1 order of magnitude
i) extent of occurrence		
ii) area of occupancy		
iii) number of locations or populations		
iv) number of mature individuals		

C. Small Total Population Size and Decline

Number of mature individuals	< 2,500	< 10,000
and 1 of the following 2:		
(1) an estimated continuing decline rate of at least	20% in 5 years or 2 generations (up to a maximum of 100 years in the future)	10% in 10 years or 3 generations (up to a maximum of 100 years in the future)
	in the future)	in the future)
(2) continuing decline, observed, projected, or inferred, in numbers of mature individuals and at least one of the following (a-b):		

	Endangered	Threatened
(a) fragmentation--	(i) no population estimated	(i) no population estimated

population structure in the form of one of the following:

to contain >250 mature individuals

to contain >1,000 mature individuals

(ii) at least 95 % of mature individuals in one population

(ii) all mature individuals are in one population

(b) extreme fluctuations in the number of mature individuals

D. Very Small Population or Restricted Distribution

(1) Number of mature individuals

< 250

< 1,000

(2) Applies only to threatened: Population with a very restricted area of occupancy or number of locations such that it is prone to the effects of human activities or stochastic events within a very short time period in an uncertain future, and thus is capable of becoming highly endangered or even extinct in a very short time period.

(not applicable)

area of occupancy typically < 20 km² or number of locations < 5

E. Quantitative Analysis

Indicating the probability of extinction in the wild to be at least:

20% in 20 years or 5 generations, whichever is longer (up to a maximum of 100 years)

10% in 100 years

Special Concern:

those species that are particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events but are not endangered or threatened species.

Species may be classified as being of Special Concern if:

- a. the species has declined to a level of abundance at which its persistence is increasingly threatened by genetic, demographic or environmental stochasticity, but the decline is not sufficient to qualify the species as Threatened; or
- b. the species is likely to become Threatened if factors suspected of negatively influencing the persistence of the species are neither reversed nor managed with demonstrable effectiveness; or
- c. the species is near to qualifying, under any criterion, for Threatened status; or
- d. the species qualifies for Threatened status but there is clear indication of rescue effect from extra-limital populations.

Examples of reasons why a species may qualify for "Special Concern":

- A species that is particularly susceptible to a catastrophic event (e.g., a seabird population near an oil tanker route)
- A species with very restricted habitat or food requirements for which a potential threat to that habitat or food supply has been identified (e.g., a bird that forages primarily in old-growth forest, a plant that grows primarily on undisturbed sand dunes, a fish that spawns primarily in estuaries, a snake that feeds primarily on a crayfish whose habitat is threatened by siltation)
- A recovering species no longer considered to be Threatened or Endangered but not yet clearly secure

Examples of reasons why a species may not qualify for "Special Concern":

- A species existing at low density in the absence of recognized threat (e.g., a large predatory animal defending a large home range or territory)
- A species existing at low density that does not qualify for Threatened status for which there is a clear indication of rescue effect

Environment Canada | Canadian Wildlife Service | Species at Risk

Date Published: 2003-04-28

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URL of this page: http://www.cosewic.gc.ca/eng/sct0/Assessment_process_tbl2_e.cfm

Appendix 2.

Status Report Template.

DRAFT

The Status of
[English Common Name]
(*[Scientific Name]* no author or date here)
in Newfoundland and Labrador

[Image of taxon]

Photo: [Photographer; plus any permissions required]

prepared for
THE SPECIES STATUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

by
[Author Name]
[Author Address]

Submitted: [Date]

[Format report exactly as indicated in this template, except where impractical. Arial font; use 12pt for main body of text. Use Canadian English; not American English. Always italicize the Latin term “*et al.*”]

STATUS REPORT

[Full Scientific Name, including author; in general, use the SSAC-specified “designatable unit” (ie. species, subspecies, variety, etc.); however, the report writer may suggest a modification of the specified “designatable unit” if report-based research suggests a better alternative]

[Common Name (English)]; [Common Name (French, aboriginal, and/or local) – if available] [Refine according to the level of “designatable unit” used, if required (ie. Newfoundland Arctic Hare)]

[Name of population(s) (if applicable)]

Synonyms: [Full Scientific Name, including author; list several entries, if applicable; synonyms should be assignable to the “designatable unit” only; clear *errors* should be excluded, but may be discussed in the “Systematic/Taxonomic Clarifications” section]

Family: [Latin Name] [(Common Name)]

Life Form: [examples: “Herbaceous, perennial, amphibious forb”; “Animal, vertebrate, bird, woodpecker” ... there is no exact taxonomy here.].

[Systematic/Taxonomic Clarifications (if required)]

[A systematic/taxonomic clarification may be critical to properly understanding the precise taxon being discussed, and/or to facilitate more precise delimitation of global, national or even provincial distributions.

A brief entry should be inserted here if such is critical to the general understanding of the main text, and to the ability of the reader to assess the status of the species being reported upon.

A more detailed systematic/taxonomic clarification may, nevertheless, be critical to a more comprehensive technical understanding of the subject as a whole; if so, a more detailed entry should be placed in Appendix B.

In some cases, both a brief entry and a more detailed entry may be useful.]

Distribution

Global: (Figure x [if required])

North America (excluding Canada) [if the taxon being reported upon occurs only in Canada, simply state that fact]:

[Country: vertically list country headings: e.g.: United States, Greenland, Mexico, St.-Pierre et Miquelon (France)] [For each country, include a general statement of national distribution, followed by a comprehensive listing of individual states where the taxon being reported upon is found (if applicable), in logical geographical order]

[Other Continents or Individual Political Jurisdictions] [if required] [vertically list continents, and included countries, where the taxon is found, in logical geographical order]

National [i.e. Canada]: (Figure x) [if required]

[Include a general statement of national distribution, followed by a list of provinces where the taxon is found, in logical geographical order]

Provincial: (Figure x)

[List all known occurrence localities (or, if localities are particularly numerous, list localities more generally), in logical geographical order.]

[List localities separately for Newfoundland, and for Labrador]

[Note any qualifications, and/or discrepancies.]

[In all cases, distribution entries should refer only to the specific “designatable unit” being reported upon; not to the “species as a whole”... unless there is some specific reason for doing so.]

[In all cases, if a taxon is migratory and/or nomadic, distinguish between breeding and wintering/other distributions; if appropriate, also note distribution during the migratory period.]

[In all cases, cite references.]

Annotated Global Range Map [if required; show overall global species range, broken

down into lower taxon range units if such exist]

Figure x. Global distribution of [taxon]

Annotated National Range Map [if required; show overall national species range, broken down into lower taxon range units if such exist]

Figure x. National distribution of [taxon]

Annotated Provincial Range Map

[Good quality outline map of Newfoundland and/or Labrador, identifying individual known occurrence localities. If a migratory/nomadic taxon, distinguish between breeding/nesting localities, and other occurrence localities if required. Show overall provincial species range, broken down into lower taxon range units if such exist]

[With regard to St.-Pierre et Miquelon: since the archipelago is geographically part of Newfoundland, it is generally useful to map and discuss SPM distributions as if they were part of the political entity of Newfoundland.]

Figure x. Known occurrence localities for [taxon] in Newfoundland and Labrador:
[List localities.]

[For all maps: if a map is from the literature or from the Internet, obtain written permission to use, and record that permission in the figure caption; otherwise re-draft. Make map symbols large enough to be seen properly; if colours are used, make sure that they are of different enough contrast to be distinguishable in black-and-white printed copies; treat breeding and “other” distributions separately (ie. use different symbols); additionally, for provincial map/s, treat historical and recent distributions, as well as verified and unverified records, separately; if things get too complicated, add additional maps.]

Description

[BRIEFLY describe the organism, in a way that presents a good visual impression to the layperson. If deemed to be useful, a more detailed description, including photographs, may be placed in Appendix B. Obtain permission to use all photos, if necessary, and credit appropriately.]

Habitat

[Briefly describe the habitat. If a migratory/nomadic species, distinguish between breeding/nesting habitats and other occurrence-related habitats. Begin with a general description of habitat throughout the taxon's range. Follow up with a more detailed description of its habitat within Newfoundland and Labrador. If habitat differs significantly between occurrence localities, it may be necessary to describe habitat specifically for each locality. A photo of the organism in its habitat may be useful to include here, if the habitat does not vary too greatly between occurrence localities. Obtain permission to use all photos, if necessary, and credit appropriately. If appropriate, a more detailed description, including photographs, may be placed in Appendix B. For plants, and for aquatic taxa in general, soil and water chemistry may be a particularly important factor. Climatic factors, both micro- and macro- should also be discussed. For smaller organisms, microhabitat/microclimate may be just as significant, or even more significant, than gross habitat/climate.]

Overview of Biology

[Briefly outline life history details, demographic information, generation time, and ecology, *as each is pertinent to conservation*. If appropriate, a more detailed description may be placed in Appendix B.]

Population Size and Area of Occupancy

[Briefly describe present population size, and area of occupancy [make sure you understand the definition of "area of occupancy"], for each Provincial occurrence locality, where this is possible. Where populations are dispersed, a direct calculation of AO may not be possible; however, in some cases, proxies may be useful, such as the estimated total area of several individual territories or home ranges. A general statement addressing the entire/larger range of the taxon may also be useful. For migratory and/or nomadic taxa, the population size and area of occupancy entries may need specific comment. Briefly discuss methodologies for arriving at the figures presented, where applicable. Information could be provided in table format if appropriate. Ensure that the information from this report section both documents and agrees with that also placed in the technical summary, and in other related report sections.]

Aboriginal, Traditional and Local Ecological Knowledge

[Outline any known applicable aboriginal, traditional and/or local ecological knowledge. The report writer is responsible for contacting local aboriginal resources.]

Trends

[Describe known trends in distribution, population, and habitat. If sufficient data are available, a graphical figure should be included. Ensure that the information from this report section both documents and agrees with that also placed in the technical summary, and in other related report sections.]

Threats and Limiting Factors

[Outline actual or imminent threats and limiting factors affecting populations or habitats; if a taxon is migratory and/or nomadic, also treat threats and limiting factors within breeding versus wintering/other distributions separately; if appropriate also note threats and limiting factors during the migratory/nomadic period. Briefly indicate scale and immediacy of threats. A RENEW Threat Assessment Table, which ranks threats by value, may be useful. Describe any additional potential threats. Consider threats to the taxon in all parts of its range and life cycle. Briefly present the results of any available Population Viability Analysis (PVA). A more detailed analysis may be placed in Appendix B.]

[If “critical habitat” (habitat necessary for the survival of the species) is identified/identifiable, include description and provincial location. Any precise location information should be placed in Appendix A.]

Existing Protection

[Outline existing protection; including occurrence in protected or management areas, or under stewardship agreements.]

Special Significance

[Outline any known scientific or cultural significance of the taxon.]

Cited References

[Provide a complete list of literature and/or similar references that are cited either within the main text or within any of the included appendices. List references with a space between each, using hanging indents.

Examples for literature citations:

Arnason, T., R. J. Hebda, and T. Johns. 1981. Use of plants for food and medicine by native peoples of eastern Canada. *Canadian Journal of Botany* 59: 2189-2325.

Fernald, M. L. 1950. *Gray's Manual of Botany*. Eighth edition. American Book Company. lxiv + 1632 pp.

Examples for Web citations (record full document title, full URL, and "date last accessed:")

Meades, S. J., S. G. Hay, and L. Brouillet. 2000. Annotated checklist of the vascular plants of Newfoundland and Labrador.
<http://digitalnaturalhistory.com/meades.htm> (Last accessed October 15, 2007)

DeGrace. J. 1974. Limestone resources of Newfoundland and Labrador. Report 74-2. Department of Mines and Energy, Mineral Development Division. St. John's, Newfoundland. [web version available at:
<http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/publications/geology/DeGrace.pdf> (Last accessed October 13, 2007)]

Personal Communications [if required]

[For each entry, include professional affiliations and a statement of relevant expertise.]

Additional Sources of information [if required]

Collections Examined

[List by institution, citing the number of specimen lots examined.]

Rank or Status

[A suggested format is presented below. Use the latest Newfoundland and Labrador rank/status data, available from the Provincial Wildlife Division. Additional data, for adjacent jurisdictions, are available from sources including (but not necessarily exclusive to) NatureServe Explorer, and Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council (CESCC). 2006. Wild Species 2005. Cite sources used.]

Global	
G-rank	
IUCN	
National	
N-rank	
National General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
COSEWIC	
Provincial	
Provincial General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
Newfoundland S-rank	
Newfoundland General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
Labrador S-rank	
Labrador General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
Adjacent Jurisdictions	
Nova Scotia S-Rank	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
Nova Scotia General Status	
Prince Edward Island S-Rank	
Prince Edward Island General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
New Brunswick S-Rank	
New Brunswick General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]
Québec S-Rank	
Québec General Status	[e.g. May be at risk (2)]

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Distribution and Population Information	Criteria Assessment
<i>Extent of occurrence (EO)(km²) [breeding only]</i>	[make sure you understand the definition of “extent of occurrence” ... the area of an unindented polygon encompassing the entire range of the taxon within in the applicable jurisdiction]
<i>Area of occupancy (AO) (km²) [breeding only]</i>	[make sure you understand the definition of “area of occupancy”]
<i>Number of extant locations [breeding only]</i>	
<i>Specify trend in # locations, EO, AO (decline, stable, increasing, unknown)</i>	
<i>Habitat trend: specify declining, stable, increasing or unknown trend in area, extent or quality of habitat</i>	
<i>Generation time (average age of parents in the population) (indicate years, months, days, etc.)</i>	
<i>Number of mature individuals (capable of reproduction) in the Provincial population (or, specify a range of plausible values)</i>	
<i>Total population trend: specify declining, stable, increasing or unknown trend in number of mature individuals or number of populations</i>	
<i>Are there extreme fluctuations (>1 order of magnitude) in number of mature individuals, number of locations, AO and/or EO?</i>	
<i>Is the total population severely fragmented (most individuals found within small and isolated populations) [breeding only]</i>	
Rescue Effect (immigration from an outside source)	
<i>Does species exist elsewhere?</i>	[Y or N]
<i>Status of the outside population(s)?</i>	
<i>Is immigration known or possible?</i>	
<i>Would immigrants be adapted to survive here?</i>	
<i>Is there sufficient habitat for immigrants here?</i>	

[If the insular Newfoundland situation is significantly different from the Labrador situation, or if populations in the two areas are significantly disjunct, include separate entries for each region.]

Appendix A. Population Information

[This appendix contains population-related information in support of the main report. The main report should reference entries in Appendix A, with the exception of detailed maps.]

Recently Verified Occurrences/Range Use (recorded within the last 25 years)

[Verified occurrences consist of observations supported by the collection of a voucher specimen (i.e., a sample to be identified/confirmed by experts and deposited in a museum); or well-documented, diagnostic, photographs; or well-documented field observations meeting the observational standards for verification accepted by reputable workers in any particular field (this is particularly relevant to bird or mammal field observations). Note: records from databases or Internet listings may or may not qualify as “verified” records; knowledgeable judgment is required here; when in doubt, such records should be included in the “Other Observations ...” section.]

[For all occurrence records, where data is available: note [1] dates of observation/collections, [2] general and specific occurrence localities (including lat/long or UTM coordinates (specify datum), where available), [3] habitat, [4] estimates of population size and area of occupancy (where available), [5] observer and/or collector, and [6] collection/museum catalogue number and/or photo reference (if applicable). Where detailed information is available, and where practical, records should be listed by individual site. Otherwise, or in addition, the records may be compiled into one or more summarizing tables.]

[List Newfoundland records separately from Labrador records; also separate St.-Pierre et Miquelon records, if included.]

Historical Verified Occurrences/Range Use (recorded prior to the last 25 years)

[For all occurrence records, where data is available: note [1] dates of observation/collections, [2] general and specific occurrence localities (including lat/long or UTM coordinates (specify datum), where available), [3] habitat, [4] estimates of population size and area of occupancy (where available), [5] observer and/or collector, and [6] collection/museum catalogue number and/or photo reference (if applicable). Where detailed information is available, and where practical, records should be listed by individual site. Otherwise, or in addition, the records may be compiled into one or more summarizing tables.]

[List Newfoundland records separately from Labrador records; also separate St.-Pierre et Miquelon records, if included.]

Other Observations (Unverified)

[While unverified, all records listed here should, nevertheless, be considered to be basically credible. May include some or all records from databases and internet lists; see additional comments above]

[For all occurrence records, where data is available: note [1] dates of observation/collections, [2] general and specific occurrence localities (including lat/long or UTM coordinates (specify datum), where available), [3] habitat, [4] estimates of population size and area of occupancy (where available), [5] observer and/or collector, and [6] collection/museum catalogue number and/or photo reference (if applicable). Where detailed information is available, and where practical, records should be listed by individual site. Otherwise, or in addition, the records may be compiled into one or more summarizing tables.]

[List Newfoundland records separately from Labrador records; also separate St.-Pierre et Miquelon records, if included.]

Recent Search Effort (areas searched within the last 25 years with estimate of effort)

[A comprehensive accounting of the efforts of earlier researchers, and, if applicable, any additional efforts by the author of the report.]

Potential Sites Unexplored

[Analysis of the potential of as yet unexplored sites to harbour the taxon being reported upon.]

Appendix B. Supplementary Details

[This appendix should contain all supplementary details that are considered to be useful additional background support for the main report (other than population-related information, which should be placed in Appendix A). The main report should contain ONLY information that is critically required for actually assigning species status. The main report should reference entries included in Appendix B.]

Taxonomic Clarifications

[Detailed entry, if required]

Description

[Detailed entry, if required. Photos if required.]

Habitat

[Detailed entry, if required. Photos if required.]

Biology

[Detailed entry, if required]

Threats and Limiting Factors

[Detailed entry, if required. Include precise or sensitive information about critical habitat.]

Collections Examined

[Detailed entry, if required. Indicate museum/institutional collections, and catalogue/collection numbers.]

[Additional entries, as appropriate]

Appendix 3

Chronology of Assessments by the Species Status Advisory Committee

Common Name	Scientific Name	SSAC Assessment	Date of Recommendation:	Decision from Government Required By:**	Designated Status or Reason Not Designated:
Low Northern Rockcress	<i>Neotorularia humilis</i>	Endangered	6-Oct-04		Endangered
Gray-cheeked Thrush Reassessed June 21, 2010	<i>Catharus minimus</i>	Vulnerable	4-Nov-05		Vulnerable
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa</i>	Not at Risk		No recommendation required.	
Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Not at Risk		No recommendation required.	
Redwine Caribou Herd	<i>Rangifer tarandus caribou</i> (Redwine Population)			SSAC has decided not to assess populations but species as a whole. This assessment was never completed.	
Blowout Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela limbata labradorensis</i>	Data Deficient		Status report being revised due to new information.	
MacKenzie's SweetVetch	<i>Hedysarum boreale</i> subsp. <i>mackenzii</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06		Endangered
Rattlesnakeroot	<i>Prenanthes racemosa</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06		Endangered
Northern Bog Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum boreale</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06		Endangered
Crowded Wormseed Mustard	<i>Erysimum inconspicuum</i> var. <i>coarctatum</i>	Endangered	21-Oct-06		Endangered
Mountain Fern	<i>Thelypteris quelpaertensis</i>	Vulnerable	21-Oct-06		Vulnerable
Bodin's Milkvetch	<i>Astragalus bodinii</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Shaved Sedge	<i>Carex tonsa</i> var. <i>tonsa</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Cutleaf Fleabane	<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Feathery False Solomon's Seal	<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i> subsp. <i>racemosum</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Sharpleaf Aster	<i>Ocelmena acuminata</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Alaska Rein Orchid	<i>Platanthera foetida</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Gmelin's Watercrowfoot	<i>Ranunculus gmelinii</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Lindley's Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum ciliolatum</i>	Endangered	07-Oct-10	07-Jan-11	Response overdue
Tradescant's Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum tradescantii</i>	Threatened	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Water Pygmyweed	<i>Tillaea aquatica</i>	Vulnerable	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Rock Dwelling Sedge	<i>Carex petricosa</i> var. <i>misandroides</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Oval-leaved Creeping Spearwort	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i> var. <i>ovalis</i>	Endangered	29-May-08	29-Aug-08	Response overdue
Graceful Felt Lichen	<i>Erioderma mollissimum</i>	Endangered	8-May-08	8-Aug-08	Response overdue

Appendix 3: Chronology of Assessments by the Species Status Advisory Committee (continued)

Common Name	Scientific Name	SSAC Assessment	Date of Recommendation:	Decision from Government Required By:**	Designated Status or Reason Not Designated:
Arctic Hare	<i>Lepus arcticus</i>		Report is still in progress; species will be assessed in 2011-2012		
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Vulnerable	07-Oct-10	07-Jan-11	Response overdue
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia riparia</i>	Not at Risk		No recommendation required.	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Data Deficient		No recommendation required.	
Vreeland's Striped Coralroot	<i>Corallorhiza striata</i> var. <i>vreelandii</i>	Endangered	07-Oct-10	07-Jan-11	Response overdue
Gray-cheeked Thrush (Newfoundland subspecies)	<i>Catharus minimus minimus</i>	Threatened	07-Oct-10	07-Jan-11	Response overdue
Gray-cheeked Thrush (Northern subspecies)	<i>Catharus minimus aliciae</i>	Not at Risk		No recommendation required	

**The Lieutenant-Governor in Council shall within 90 days of the minister receiving a written recommendation from SSAC to designate a species, give the minister approval to do one of the following: (a) designate the species under section 7 in the recommended or an equivalent category; (b) designate the species under section 7 in a different category and release to the public the reason for using a different category; or (c) make no designation and release to the public the reason there will be no designation. Section 8 of the Endangered Species Act.

Based on the legislated timeline above, a decision from Government is overdue.