

A photograph of a person standing on a wooden boardwalk in a lush, mossy forest. The person is looking up at a massive tree trunk. The forest is filled with green ferns and moss, creating a vibrant and natural setting. The text "What do you want your community to look like?" is overlaid on the image in white, bold font.

**What do you want your community  
to look like?**



Clean air

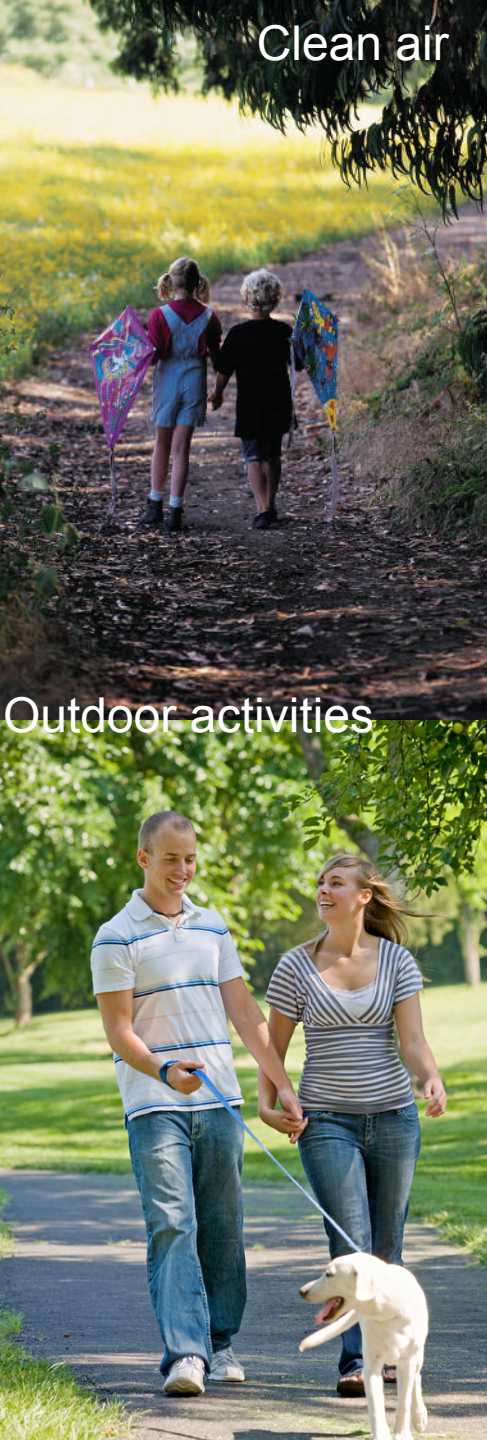
# What is important to your community?

Outdoor activities

Clean  
water

Local food

Healthy soil





# Can the Species at Risk Act be a tool to help you reach your goals?

## BC South Coast: Overlap with Critical Habitat for Species at Risk

### Legend

- Pacific Water Shrew
- Sand-verbena Moth
- Vesper Sparrow
- Oregon Forestsnail
- Oregon Spotted Frog
- Coastal Giant Salamander
- Barn Owl (western pop.)
- Townsend's Mole
- Whitebark Pine
- Sharp-tailed Snake
- Seaside Bone Lichen
- Edward Beach Moth
- Marbled Murrelet Draft CH
- Blue-grey Taildropper Slug
- Batwing Vinyl Lichen



North American Datum 1983  
UTM Zone 11N  
1:1,500,000

0 5 10 20 30 40 50  
Km

Critical Habitat data:  
CWS, Environment Canada

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# Legal context for species at risk in BC

- Provincial and local governments can provide protection for species at risk through existing tools
  - Water Act
  - Wildlife Act
  - Green bylaws
- SARA provides protection to federally listed species on all land types across Canada



# SARA on private land

- Landowners and managers can choose how to conserve species and their habitat
- Environment Canada can support these actions
- At the end of the day, species and their habitat must be “effectively protected”



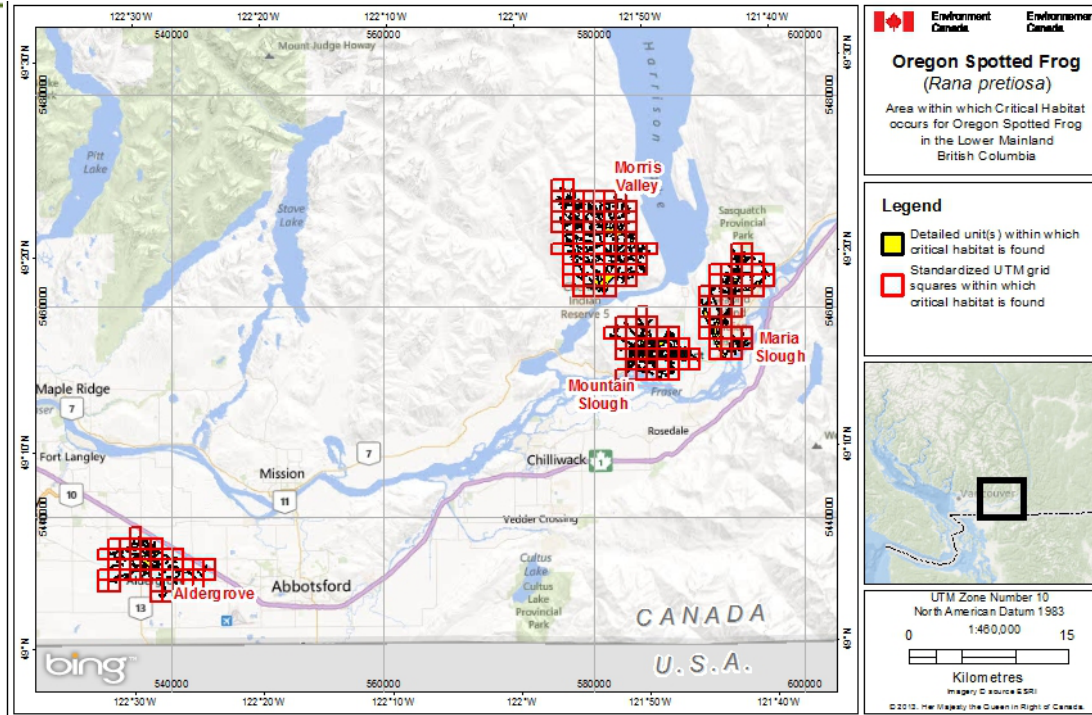
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# How we identify Critical Habitat

- “To the extent possible, based on the best available information”
- Linked to population & distribution objectives



CH ID is comprised of:

- A geographic location or area within which CH is found
- Biophysical attributes



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# Recovery strategies guide the way

- Federally listed SAR with draft recovery strategies in the south coast region:
  - Extirpated = 5
  - Endangered = 2
  - Threatened = 11

British Columbia Recovery Strategy Series

## Recovery Strategy for the Pacific Water Shrew (*Sorex bendirii*) in British Columbia



Prepared by the Pacific Water Shrew Recovery Team



Ministry of  
Environment

June 2009



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# We need your help to:



© Douglas Trapp / International Barn Owl Restoration Project

- Review & comment on listing and recovery documents
- Implement:
  - recovery activities
  - habitat protection
  - threat abatement
  - ensure habitat is protected on municipal-owned lands



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# Working Together to Protect CH



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# Critical Habitat Effective Protection Assessment (CHEPA)

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- Critical Habitat must be protected, but how this occurs is flexible
- On provincial and private lands Environment Canada is required to assess whether effective protection is in place



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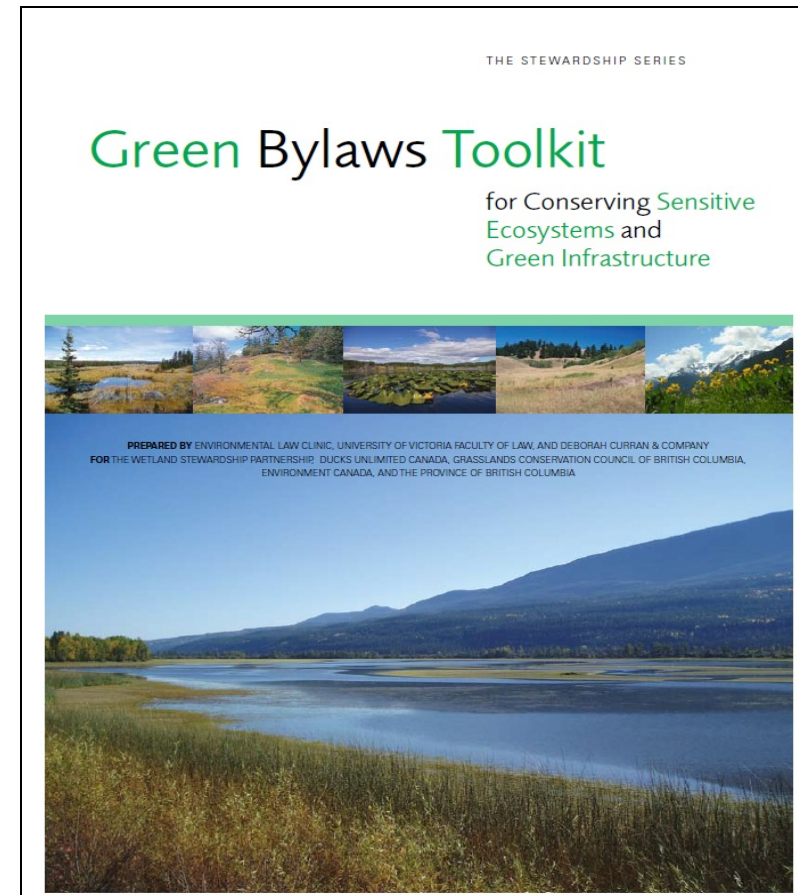
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# Critical Habitat Protection– What we hope local governments can provide

- Help us provide landowners with information
- Advice on what existing protection mechanisms are in place
- Tools to support Critical Habitat protection (e.g., bylaws)
- Regulate and Steward:
  - Green bylaws, Zoning, Permitting, Covenants, Stewardship agreements



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# Critical Habitat Protection— What CWS can provide

- Ecological Gifts Program
- Funding programs
- Data to assist in land use planning
- Green Bylaws Toolkit (developed in partnership)





# Critical Habitat Protection– Where we could collaborate



- Partnerships such as SCCP
- Regional Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
- Mapping, technical, planning support
- Co-developed resources: e.g. stewardship practices
- Ecological Goods and Services and conservation funds
- Other?



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