

CRITICAL HABITAT INTERDEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM

Other Internally Prioritized Species (OIPS) project guidance

The Critical Habitat Interdepartmental Program (CHIP) may have additional funds available for projects targeting Other Internally Prioritized Species (OIPS). These species consist of high priority species for conservation which require targeted species-specific actions. Funding for OIPS CHIP projects is not guaranteed and depends on available funds.

GUIDELINES FOR OIPS PROJECT PROPOSAL

- Fill out the preliminary assessment of CHIP project type available in the Excel document provided at the time of the Call for proposals in order to determine what type of CHIP project to submit.
- In order to be eligible for these OIPS specific additional funds, OIPS focused project must only target OIPS.
- **All CHIP eligibility criteria apply to these projects and the project proposal process is the same as for regular CHIP projects, aside from a) needing to target OIPS only, and b) implementing species-specific targeted actions for these species. Projects targeting only 1 OIPS and projects without an ecosystem-based approach will not be penalized.**
- Use the Excel and Word documents as your project proposal provided in the CHIP Call for Proposals email. A CHIP Project Type Assessment tab is available in the Excel document to determine if you should be taking the OIPS CHIP project path.
- Follow the guidance below in order for information on priorities for funding and priority work for each species or species group.
- Species-specific actions and their benefits to the species must be clearly described in your project proposal.
- Necessary SARA permits will be required prior to the start of the activities they pertain to, when applicable. CHIP reserved the right to reject proposals for which required SARA permits are not obtained and valid.

OIPS CHIP PROJECT CATEGORIES

OIPS are separated into 4 categories: Migratory birds, Endangered Bats, High Focus species and Other species.

1. **Should your project pertain to OIPS in more than one of the categories below, ensure to submit separate proposals for each OIPS category.**
2. **Proposals must be based on Funding Priorities for each species or species category, and must demonstrate how top priority work will be addressed.**

The tables below lists all eligible OIPS per species category, and include the identified priorities for funding, as well as top priority work for each species or species group. Your project proposal(s) must describe how

those priorities will be addressed for each species or species category and must rely on the species recovery document(s).

Migratory birds

One OIPS CHIP project proposal can include multiple species of migratory birds, on multiple properties, as long as each species has species-specific targeted actions planned and project takes place in the same geographic area. Should you target multiples species of migratory birds in different regions/provinces/territories, submit one project proposal per area covered. Projects will not be penalized for targeting only 1 species of migratory birds.

MIGRATORY BIRDS	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
FUNDING PRIORITIES	<p>Top priority work: Identify key gaps/needs in Schedule of Studies or from other conservation plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival rates or determining causes of population declines; • Impacts on habitat and productivity; • Investigating and better understanding threats; • Identify and address causes of mortality; • Activities to reduce key threats or activities likely to destroy critical habitat in Canada; • Activities to protect critical habitat or key sites in Canada (including roosts, stopover sites, etc.); also includes stewardship activities. 			
Bicknell's Thrush	Birds	QC, NB, NS, PE	Threatened	2
Burrowing Owl	Birds	BC, AB, SK, MB	Endangered	6; 7; 8; 10
Marbled Murrelet	Birds	BC	Threatened	10
Piping Plover (circumcinctus subspecies)	Birds	AB, SK, MB, ON	Endangered	5; 6 ; 8
Piping Plover (melodus subspecies)	Birds	QC, NB, NS, PE, NL	Endangered	1
Red Knot (rufa subspecies)	Birds	AB, MB, NB, NL, NT, NS, NU, ON, PE, QC, SK	Endangered	1; 2
Roseate Tern	Birds	QC, NB, NS	Endangered	1
Whooping Crane	Birds	AB, MB, SK, NT	Endangered	-

Next page: Endangered Bats

Endangered Bats

One OIPS CHIP project can include multiples species of bats, on multiple properties in the same area, and species-specific actions can be the same for each bat species targeted. These projects will not be penalized for targeting only 1 species of bats.

ENDANGERED BATS	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
FUNDING PRIORITIES	<p><u>Top priority work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key gaps/needs that relate to the identification of maternity roosts as Critical Habitat (i.e., biophysical attributes/locations); • Reducing adult anthropogenic mortality (e.g., wind turbines and exclusions from buildings); • Reducing the impacts of White-nose Syndrome on infected and vulnerable populations. 			
Little Brown Myotis	Mammals (terrestrial)	AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NT, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT	Endangered	1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10; 11
Northern Myotis	Mammals (terrestrial)	AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NT, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT	Endangered	1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 9
Tri-colored Bat	Mammals (terrestrial)	NB, NS, ON, QC	Endangered	1; 2; 4; 5

Next page: High Focus species

High Focus species

One OIPS CHIP project can include only one High Focus species, and species-specific actions must be planned for the species. Priority work for each High Focus species is identified in the table below.

HIGH FOCUS SPECIES	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
Spotted Owl (<i>caurina</i> subspecies)	Birds	BC	Endangered	10
FUNDING PRIORITIES	<p>Top priority work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for critical habitat protection efforts; • Support for the Spotted Owl captive breeding and reintroduction program in BC; • Support for the operational Barred Owl control program; • Promoting habitat stewardship, expanding silvicultural guidelines, and implementing monitoring and research activities. 			
Western Chorus Frog, Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Canadian Shield population	Amphibians	QC, ON	Threatened	4
FUNDING PRIORITIES	<p>Top priority work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement legal or stewardship measures and support Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) at the local and landscape levels to increase population size, the areas of occupied habitat and connectivity, and reduce the impact of threats; • Restore or create habitats to promote the recolonization (natural or via the reintroduction of individuals) of portions of the historical range and increase connectivity between local populations; • Develop and implement standardized annual surveys and monitor created or restored habitats in order to determine population trends, monitor threats, and clarify the area occupied by the GLSLCS population; • Establish partnerships to implement training/outreach/restoration/reintroduction/research programs and projects. <p><u>Note: All projects and activities MUST respect existing protection and emergency order prohibitions in place (s.58 and s.80) where they apply.</u></p>			

Next page: Other species

Other species

One OIPS CHIP project proposal can include one or multiple species of Other species, on multiple properties, as long as each species has species-specific targeted actions planned and project takes place in the same geographic area. Should you target multiples species of Other species in different regions/provinces/territories, submit one project proposal per area covered. Projects will not be penalized for targeting only 1 species in this category.

OTHER SPECIES	Taxonomic Group	Region	SARA Status	Priority Place #
Poweshiek Skipperling	Arthropods	MB	Endangered	-
Why at risk?	Habitat loss through the conversion of prairie to cultivated or non-native grassland, habitat degradation (prescribed and wild fires, prolonged or chronic over-grazing, succession, and haying)			
Top priority work	Obtain accurate population and distribution data. Identify life and feeding history. Develop conservation guidelines. Determine the effects of prairie management practices on survival and abundance.			
Vancouver Island Marmot	Mammals (terrestrial)	BC	Endangered	-
Why at risk?	Native predators, ecosystem modification from post-logging forest succession, habitat loss from climate change			
Top priority work	Habitat protection, restoration, private land stewardship, captive breeding, population augmentation, reintroduction/translocation of captive-bred species, monitoring			
Whitebark Pine	Vascular plants	BC, AB	Endangered	8
Why at risk?	White Pine Blister Rust, climate change, fire and fire suppression, and Mountain Pine Beetle			
Top priority work	Increase the frequency of trees that have resistance to White Pine Blister Rust and Improve mapping and inventory data in order to meet objectives and address other threats			
Woodland Caribou, Atlantic-Gaspésie population	Mammals (terrestrial)	QC	Endangered	-
Why at risk?	Logging and wood harvesting, excessive predation, transportation and service corridors, biological resource use, residential and commercial development, energy production and mining, invasive and problematic species			
Top priority work	Undertake landscape-level planning that considers current and future Gaspésie caribou habitat requirements; Increase and maintain the quantity/quality of suitable habitat; Increase/stabilize adult survival and calf survival, Monitoring/reducing disturbance.			