



SUBMISSION TO THE NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD  
FOR

Information:

Decision: X

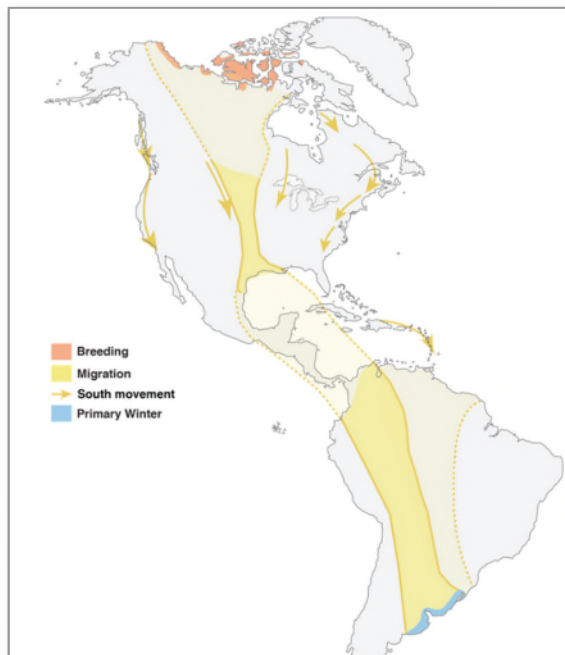
**Issue:** Request for decision to approve the *Management Plan for the Buff-breasted Sandpiper* (*Tryngites subruficollis*) in Canada under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA).



Buff-breasted Sandpiper at Seal River Estuary  
Important Bird Area © Christian Artuso

**Background:**

- The Canadian range of the Buff-breasted Sandpiper spans three jurisdictions: Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and Yukon. Within Nunavut, it is found in all three regions (Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtaaluk).
- The Canadian Arctic supports about 87% of the North American breeding range.



Distribution of the Buff-breasted Sandpiper (from Cornell Lab – Birds of North America's Website, McCarty et al. 2017)



North American breeding distribution of the Buff-breasted Sandpiper (courtesy J. Rausch, Environment Canada). The species is distributed sparsely across the depicted breeding range, taken from the COSEWIC Status Report (2013).

- The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is currently listed as Special Concern (2017) under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). In 2012, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assessed the Buff-breasted Sandpiper as Special Concern based on both historical large-scale and recent population declines as well as on-going threats from loss of specialized habitat on both the wintering grounds and along migration routes.
- NWMB approved the designation of the Buff-breasted Sandpiper as Special Concern under SARA in 2014.
- As required under SARA for species listed as Special Concern a management plan was developed (Appendix A). A summary of this document in English and Inuktitut can be found in Appendix B.
- Management plans do not contain a description of critical habitat as it is not required for species listed as Special Concern.

## Consultation:

### First Jurisdictional Review (First Draft)

- The draft management plan for the first Jurisdictional Review was distributed on January 2020 and included a factsheet in both English and Inuktitut to:
  - Ekaluktutiak HTA
  - Bathurst Inlet HTA
  - Gjoa Haven HTA
  - Kurtairojuark HTA
  - Omingmaktok HTA
  - Spence Bay HTA
  - Arviat HTO
  - Baker Lake HTO

- Aqigiq HTO
  - Agiggiaq HTO
  - Arviq HTO
  - Issatik HTO
  - Mittimatalik HTO
  - Iviq HTO
  - Resolute Bay HTA
  - Government of Nunavut
  - Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
  - Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
  - Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board
  - Kivalliq Wildlife Board
  - Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board
- The Arviat HTO responded in February 2020 that they did not have any comments or feedback.
  - The Government of Nunavut indicated in November 2020 they had no issue with the document being posted for public comment period.
  - Appendix C contains communication records and documents shared during the First Jurisdictional Review.

*Proposed Posting (90-Day Public Comment Period)*

- The [proposed recovery document](#) was posted on the Species at Risk Registry on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for a 90-day public comment period which ended on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. An extension of the typical 60-day comment period in light of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic to allow for more time to gather input.
- An email containing the proposed management plan as well as a summary factsheet in both English and Inuktitut was sent on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to all recipients who received the document at the first jurisdictional review as well as:
  - Kitikmeot Inuit Association,
  - Kivalliq Inuit Association
  - Qikiqtani Inuit Association
  - Hamlet of Pond Inlet
  - Hamlet of Resolute Bay
  - Hamlet of Grise Fiord
  - Hamlet of Cambridge Bay
  - Hamlet of Gjoa Haven
  - Hamlet of Kugaaruk
  - Hamlet of Taloyoak
  - Hamlet of Arviat
  - Hamlet of Baker Lake
  - Hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet
  - Hamlet of Rankin Inlet
  - Hamlet of Nauyasat
  - Hamlet of Whale Cove
- Appendix C contains communication and records from the public comment period (updated Factsheet, emails)

**Next Steps:**

- Environment and Climate Change Canada is now prepared to post the recovery document on the Species at Risk Public Registry as final.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada is providing the recovery document to the NWMB for final approval decision as per the NLCA s. 5.2.34

**Recommendation:**

- That the NWMB approve the final Management Plan for the Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) in Canada under the federal Species at Risk Act as per the NLCA s.5.2.34.

Prepared by:  
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July 2022