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Summary of the draft Management Plan for the

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER

Under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA), a management plan must be developed for each species listed as Special Concern in order to identify measures for the conservation of the species. This document highlights the key sections of the draft management plan.

Species Conservation Status

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*, formerly *Tryngites subruficollis*) is listed as Special Concern under SARA since 2017.

Description and Distribution

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is a medium-sized shorebird. This species is marked with dark brown spots or streaks along the crown and sides of the breast, and narrow, dark-brown streaks edged in buff along the feather shafts on their back, scapulars, upper tail, and wing coverts. Male, female, and juvenile plumage is similar. The species has yellow legs and a black bill.

An estimated 75% of the global Buff-breasted Sandpiper population breeds in Canada. The species breeds in low densities in the tundra along the coastline of Alaska (U.S.), Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. In the spring, the species migrates mostly in the Prairie Provinces. In the fall, the species migrate on a broad front, from British Columbia to Newfoundland.

Habitat Needs

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is an upland species, preferring to breed on the drier, elevated ridges of the tundra. Males display in small groups (leks) in moist meadows. Females nest away from lek sites, in well-drained grassy tundra. During migration, the species



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

congregates in natural or managed short-grass (less than 10 cm in height) areas, such as pastures and ploughed fields.

Threats to the Species' Survival

- Habitat loss from wind farm encroachment and direct mortality from collisions with wind turbines at important stopover (in the U.S.) and wintering sites (in South America).
- Permanent habitat loss in the non-breeding period due to fire suppression; resource extraction; conversion to pine, eucalyptus, and acacias plantations; and invasive non-native species.
- Decreased survival in the non-breeding period due to exposition to pesticides and reduced food availability, especially when natural habitats or pastures are not available.
- Decreased survival of juveniles during migration and decreased nesting success on breeding grounds due to severe weather events.

Management Objective

Over a period of 10 years (2025 to 2035), maintain or, if possible, increase the Buff-breasted Sandpiper population size.

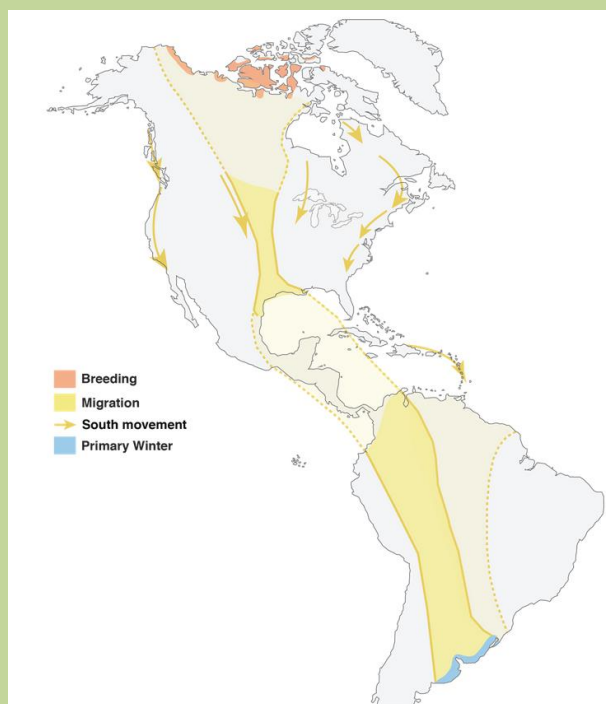
Strategies to Help Meet Objectives

Broad strategies to address the threats to the survival and recovery of the species include:

- Provide resources to landowners through stewardship programs to consider Buff-breasted Sandpiper habitat needs (such as short-grass and adequate soil moisture) when managing their land;
- Protect habitat at sites of key importance;
- Develop new international partnerships for conservation and maintain existing ones;
- Centralize data from past surveys and complete the analysis of tracking studies that identify sites with high densities of Buff-breasted Sandpipers;
- Determine fine-scale landscape features that predict habitat usage on non-breeding grounds;
- Evaluate current and past population monitoring methods and identify the most appropriate methods to assess progress towards the management objective;
- Identify the natural processes that created and maintained suitable habitats to develop land-use practices beneficial for the species.
- Determine level of exposure of the species to pesticide and herbicide and effects of those contaminants on survival, fitness and food availability.

How You Can Help

- Learn more about the Buff-breasted Sandpiper, the threats to its survival and its habitat needs at www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html;
- Practice voluntary stewardship activities and beneficial management practices, for example:
 - Work in cooperation with Environment and Climate Change Canada and/or local conservation groups to conserve important habitat; and
 - Avoid activities that could harm the species or its habitat.
- Submit observation data to conservation data centres (such as eBird).



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

Cover photos:

Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid © ECCC, photo: Gary Allen
 Cerulean Warbler © ECCC, photo: Karl Egressy
 Blanding's Turtle © ECCC, photo: Ryan M. Bolton

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Sensitivity: Normal

s2]M5yx6 g]En,

]b7N ttc6 gnZ4nE/sMs6g6 vtm4mb s8k4. m5N.

Good morning Teresa,

This item was received as information during last night's meeting. Thanks.

Tamar Mukyunik
Manager



From: Tufts, Teresa (EC) <teresa.tufts@canada.ca>

Sent: January 17, 2020 12:30 PM

Subject: Buff-breasted Sandpiper draft Management Plan for review

Good day,

We are seeking comments on the draft Management Plan for the Buff-breasted Sandpiper. This bird breeds along the coast of the Kitikmeot region and as far north as Melville, Bathurst, and Devon Islands. During migration, the Buff-breasted Sandpiper passes through the Kivalliq region of Nunavut.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper was listed as Special Concern under the federal *Species at Risk Act* in 2017. For species of Special Concern, a management plan must be developed to identify measures for its conservation. Attached are a factsheet and a complete draft of the Management Plan for your review. If you have any comments on the draft plan, please send them to me by **February 21, 2020**.

Many thanks and best regards,

Teresa Tufts 𐤔𐤕𐤕𐤓 𐤕𐤕𐤕𐤓

Species at Risk Biologist
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
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Archived: June 15, 2022 1:34:11 PM

From: [Smith, Caryn](#)

Sent: November 23, 2020 11:51:20 AM

To: [Svoboda, Michael \(EC\)](#)

Cc: [Kyle Ritchie \(kritchie@nwmb.com\)](#); [Roberts, Hayley \(EC\)](#); [Gissing, Drikus](#); [Machtans, Craig \(EC\)](#)

Subject: Re: ACTION; Support to post Management Plans for HOG, BBSP and RNPH

Sensitivity: Normal

Hi Michael,

The GN has no issue with these documents being posted for public comment.

Thanks for reaching out to us on this matter.

All the best,
Caryn

From: Svoboda, Michael (EC) <michael.svoboda@canada.ca>

Sent: November 23, 2020 11:34 AM

To: Smith, Caryn <CSmith@GOV.NU.CA>

Cc: Kyle Ritchie (kritchie@nwmb.com) <kritchie@nwmb.com>; Roberts, Hayley (EC) <hayley.roberts@canada.ca>; Gissing, Drikus <DGissing@GOV.NU.CA>; Machtans, Craig (EC) <craig.machtans@canada.ca>

Subject: ACTION; Support to post Management Plans for HOG, BBSP and RNPH

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Caryn:

Hope you are all doing well.

We are seeking GN support to post three Management Plans (Horned Grebe, Red-necked Phalarope and Buff-breasted Sandpiper) for public comment period.

GN would have seen them during the first Jurisdictional Review, and since there were only limited edits a second jurisdictional review is being skipped.

Attached are the three Management Plans and their factsheets.

If you could let us know by December 7th 2020 or earlier would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Michael Svoboda
Head, Conservation Planning and Stewardship
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
Michael.Svoboda@canada.ca

Service Canadien de la faune
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

[illegible]

hayley.roberts@ec.gc.ca / ▷ᑦᑲᑕ▷ᑦ: +1 (867) 979-7045, ▷ᑦᑲᑕ▷ᑲᑦᑕᑦᑲᑦ: +1 (867) 222-0112

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Archived: November 19, 2021 9:23:31 AM

From: [Roberts, Hayley \(ECCC\)](#) [Roberts, Hayley \(ECCC\)](#)

Sent: November 18, 2021 3:42:00 PM

To: [Roberts, Hayley \(ECCC\)](#) [Roberts, Hayley \(ECCC\)](#)

Bcc: '[JAlqatuqtuq@tunngavik.com](#)'; '[dlee@tunngavik.com](#)'; '[envofficer@kitia.ca](#)'; '[attima@hadlari.com](#)'; '[execdir@kitia.ca](#)'; '[krwb@niws.ca](#)'; 'Pamela Wong'; '[kwb@niws.ca](#)'; '[dningeongan@kivalliqinuit.ca](#)'; '[reception@kivalliqinuit.ca](#)'; '[cambay@kitikmeothto.ca](#)'; '[cambay@krwb.ca](#)'; '[mlimousin@cambridgebay.ca](#)'; '[chimo@kitikmeothto.ca](#)'; '[bathurst@kitikmeothto.ca](#)'; '[gjoa@kitikmeothto.ca](#)'; '[Gjoa@krwb.ca](#)'; '[saogjoa@qiniq.com](#)'; '[kugaaruk@kitikmeothto.ca](#)'; 'Joshua Kringorn'; '[saokug@qiniq.com](#)'; '[taloyoak@kitikmeothto.ca](#)'; '[taloyoak@krwb.ca](#)'; '[sao@taloyoak.ca](#)'; 'Dorianna Kuksuk'; '[sao@arviat.ca](#)'; '[bakerlake@kivalliqhto.ca](#)'; '[bksao@northwestel.net](#)'; '[aqigiq@kivalliqhto.ca](#)'; '[htochester@qiniq.com](#)'; '[sao_hamlet@qiniq.com](#)'; '[rankin@kivalliqhto.ca](#)'; '[rankinhto@qiniq.com](#)'; '[sao@rankininlet.ca](#)'; '[arviq@kivalliqhto.ca](#)'; '[repulsebayhto@qiniq.com](#)'; '[saonaujaat@qiniq.com](#)'; '[issatik@kivalliqhto.ca](#)'; '[whalecovehto@qiniq.com](#)'; '[sao@whalecove.ca](#)'; '[mayor@whalecove.ca](#)'

Subject: FOR COMMENT: Proposed Management Plan for Buff-breasted Sandpiper in Canada (DUE: February 15 2022)

Sensitivity: Normal

Attachments:

[Buffbreasted-Sandpiper_mp_Factsheet_ENG.pdf](#) [Buffbreasted-Sandpiper_mp_Factsheet-IKK.pdf](#)
; [mp_buff_breasted_sandpiper_e_proposed.pdf](#) [Buffbreasted-Sandpiper_mp_Factsheet-IKB.pdf](#)

Hello,

I am writing to notify you that the proposed Management Plan for **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** in Canada was posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry on November 17th, 2021, for a **90-day public comment period** which ends on **February 15th 2022**. Buff-breasted Sandpipers breed along the coast of the Kitikmeot region and as far north as Melville, Bathurst, and Devon Islands. During migration, the Buff-breasted Sandpiper passes through the Kivalliq region of Nunavut. Comments received from provinces, territories, wildlife management boards, and Indigenous governments across Canada were considered in the drafting of the current version of the Management Plan. Following the 90-day public comment period, the Department will then have 30 days to consider the comments received, after which the final version of the Management Plan will go to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board for decision. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board process is the final stage before the Management Plan will be posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry as final. Note that as a species of special concern, there are no general prohibitions or critical habitat requirements for this species.

You can read the proposed Management Plan and comment at: [Management Plan for the Buff-breasted Sandpiper \(Tryngites subruficollis\) in Canada - Document search - Species at risk registry](#). I have also attached the Management Plan to this email for your convenience. You can also provide comments directly to me at hayley.roberts@ec.gc.ca.

There is also a Factsheet attached in both English and Inuktitut that provides an overview of the species and the Management Plan. If you require the email in Inuktitut please let me know and I can provide that for you.

I welcome your participation in this matter.

Hayley Roberts / H<Δ< 5>^c

Pronouns: She/Her

Species at Risk Biologist, Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
hayley.roberts@ec.gc.ca / Tel: +1 (867) 979-7045, Cell: +1 (867) 222-0112

****NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS ENDING****

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Species Conservation Status

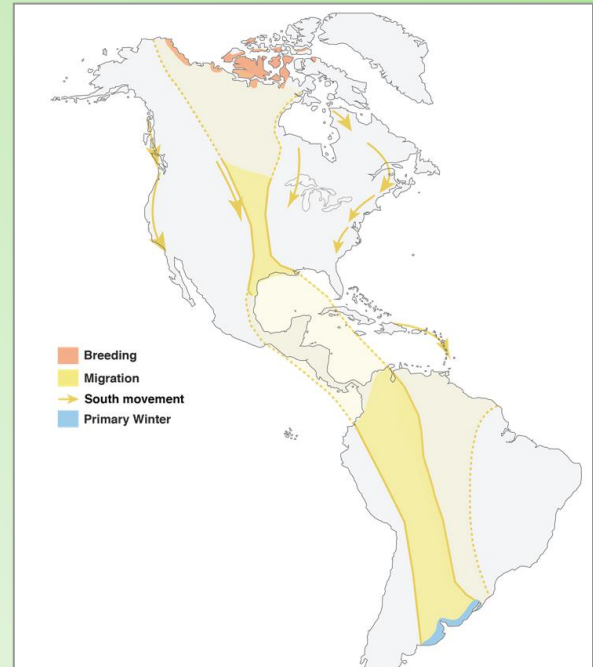
The Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*, formerly *Tryngites subruficollis*) is listed as Special Concern under SARA since 2017.

Description

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is a medium-sized shorebird. This species is marked with dark brown spots or streaks along the crown and sides of the breast, and narrow, dark-brown streaks edged in buff (light brownish yellow) on their back, upper tail, and wing feathers (when viewed at rest). Male, female, and juvenile plumage is similar. The species has yellow legs and a black bill.



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



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

Distribution

An estimated 75% of the global Buff-breasted Sandpiper population breeds in Canada. The species breeds in low densities in the tundra along the coastline of Alaska, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. On the spring migration, the species follows the Midcontinental Flyway, stopping in the Llanos plains of Columbia and Venezuela before crossing the Gulf of Mexico. In the fall, the species makes multiday stops in southern Saskatchewan, in the Kansas Flint Hills, in southcentral Texas and on the Gulf of Mexico coast.



Habitat Needs

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper is an upland species, preferring to breed on the drier, elevated ridges of the tundra. Males display in small groups (leks) in moist meadows. Females nest away from lek sites, in well-drained grassy tundra. During migration, the species congregates in natural or managed short-grass (less than 10 cm in height) areas, such as pastures and plowed fields.

Threats to the Species' Survival

- Habitat loss from wind farm encroachment and direct mortality from collisions with wind turbines at important stopover (in the U.S.) and wintering sites (in South America).
- Permanent habitat loss in the non-breeding period due to fire suppression; resource extraction; and conversion to pine, eucalyptus and acacias plantations.
- Decreased survival in the non-breeding period due to exposure to pesticides and reduced food availability, especially when natural habitats or pastures are not available.
- Decreased survival of juveniles during migration and decreased nesting success on breeding grounds due to severe weather events.

How You Can Help

- Learn more about the Buff-breasted Sandpiper, the threats to its survival and its habitat needs at www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html;
- Practice voluntary stewardship activities and beneficial management practices, for example:
 - Work in cooperation with Environment and Climate Change Canada and/or local conservation groups to conserve important habitat; and avoid activities that could harm the species or its habitat.
 - Submit observation data to conservation data centres such as eBird.

Management Objectives

Over a period of 10 years (2025 to 2035), maintain the Buff-breasted Sandpiper population size.

Strategies to Help Meet Objectives

Broad strategies to address the threats to the survival and recovery of the species include:

- Encourage the wind energy sector to develop, implement, and promote beneficial management practices to mitigate threats to the Buff-breasted Sandpiper and its habitats where the species is known to occur.
- Conserve habitat at sites of key importance.
- Provide resources to landowners through stewardship programs to consider Buff-breasted Sandpiper habitat needs (such as short-grass and adequate soil moisture) when managing their land;
- Identify the natural processes that created and maintained suitable habitats in order to develop land-use practices beneficial for the species.
- Develop new international partnerships and maintain existing ones, for conservation of the species and its habitat
- Centralize data from past surveys and complete the analysis of tracking studies that identify sites with high densities of Buff-breasted Sandpipers;
- Determine fine-scale landscape features that predict habitat usage on non-breeding grounds;
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For more information, please contact us directly at:

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) – Canadian Wildlife Service Iqaluit
933 Mivvik Street, Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0 PO Box 1870
Phone: 1-867-979-7045 or Email: hayley.roberts@canada.ca

Or visit the Species at Risk Public Registry website at: www.sararegistry.gc.ca

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Important Bird Area © Christian Artuso

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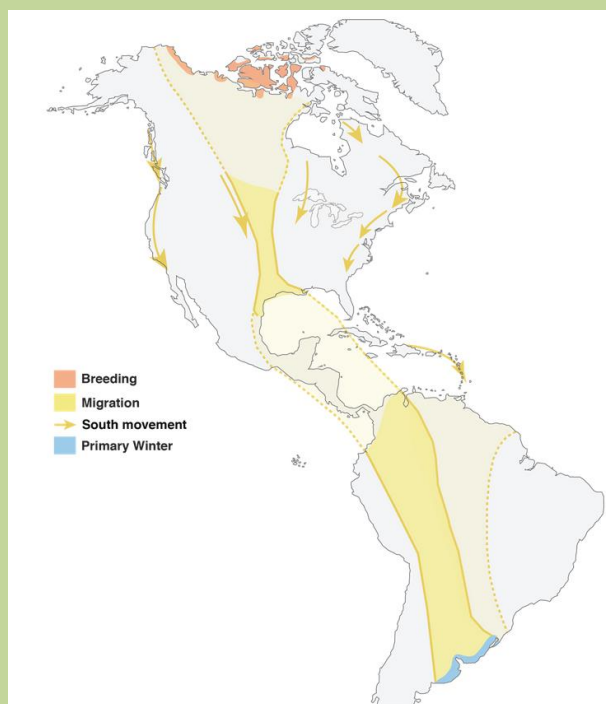
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