

# Action Plan for the Porsild's Bryum (*Mielichhoferia macrocarpa*) in Canada

## Porsild's Bryum



2019



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada

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3

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16 For copies of the action plan, or for additional information on species at risk, including  
17 the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) Status  
18 Reports, residence descriptions, recovery strategies, and other related recovery  
19 documents, please visit the [Species at Risk \(SAR\) Public Registry](#)<sup>1</sup>.

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22  
23 **Cover illustration:** © René J. Belland 2005

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25  
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<sup>1</sup> [www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html)

## 37 Preface

38

39 The federal, provincial, and territorial government signatories under the [Accord for the](#)  
40 [Protection of Species at Risk \(1996\)](#)<sup>2</sup> agreed to establish complementary legislation and  
41 programs that provide for effective protection of species at risk throughout Canada.

42 Under the *Species at Risk Act* (S.C. 2002, c.29) (SARA), the federal competent  
43 ministers are responsible for the preparation of action plans for species listed as  
44 Extirpated, Endangered, and Threatened for which recovery has been deemed feasible.  
45 They are also required to report on progress within five years after the publication of the  
46 final document on the SAR Public Registry.

47

48 Under SARA, one or more action plan(s) provides the detailed recovery planning that  
49 supports the strategic direction set out in the recovery strategy for the species. The plan  
50 outlines what needs to be done to achieve the population and distribution objectives  
51 (previously referred to as recovery goals and objectives) identified in the recovery  
52 strategy, including the measures to be taken to address the threats and monitor the  
53 recovery of the species, as well as the proposed measures to protect critical habitat that  
54 has been identified for the species. The action plan also includes an evaluation of the  
55 socio-economic costs of the action plan and the benefits to be derived from its  
56 implementation. The action plan is considered one in a series of documents that are  
57 linked and should be taken into consideration together. Those being the COSEWIC  
58 status report, the recovery strategy, and one or more action plans.

59

60 The Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for the Parks  
61 Canada Agency is the competent minister under SARA for the Porsild's Bryum and has  
62 prepared this action plan to implement the recovery strategy, as per section 47 of  
63 SARA. To the extent possible, it has been prepared in cooperation with the provinces of  
64 British Columbia, Alberta, and Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunavut Territory, as  
65 per section 48(1) of SARA.

66

67 Success in the recovery of this species depends on the commitment and cooperation of  
68 many different constituencies that will be involved in implementing the directions and  
69 actions set out in this action plan and will not be achieved by Environment and Climate  
70 Change Canada and the Parks Canada Agency, or any other jurisdiction alone. All  
71 Canadians are invited to join in supporting and implementing this action plan for the  
72 benefit of the Porsild's Bryum and Canadian society as a whole.

73

74 Implementation of this action plan is subject to appropriations, priorities, and budgetary  
75 constraints of the participating jurisdictions and organizations.

76

77 The recovery strategy sets the strategic direction to arrest or reverse the decline of the  
78 species, including identification of critical habitat to the extent possible. It provides all

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<sup>2</sup> [www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding.html#2](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-act-accord-funding.html#2)

79 Canadians with information to help take action on species conservation. When critical  
80 habitat is identified, either in a recovery strategy or an action plan, SARA requires that  
81 critical habitat then be protected.

82  
83 In the case of critical habitat identified for terrestrial species including migratory birds  
84 SARA requires that critical habitat identified in a federally protected area<sup>3</sup> be described  
85 in the *Canada Gazette* within 90 days after the recovery strategy or action plan that  
86 identified the critical habitat is included in the public registry. A prohibition against  
87 destruction of critical habitat under ss. 58(1) will apply 90 days after the description of  
88 the critical habitat is published in the *Canada Gazette*.

89  
90 For critical habitat located on other federal lands, the competent minister must either  
91 make a statement on existing legal protection or make an order so that the prohibition  
92 against destruction of critical habitat applies.

93  
94 If the critical habitat for a migratory bird is not within a federal protected area and is not  
95 on federal land, within the exclusive economic zone or on the continental shelf of  
96 Canada, the prohibition against destruction can only apply to those portions of the  
97 critical habitat that are habitat to which the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* applies  
98 as per SARA ss. 58(5.1) and ss. 58(5.2).

99  
100 For any part of critical habitat located on non-federal lands, if the competent minister  
101 forms the opinion that any portion of critical habitat is not protected by provisions in or  
102 measures under SARA or other Acts of Parliament, or the laws of the province or  
103 territory, SARA requires that the Minister recommend that the Governor in Council make  
104 an order to prohibit destruction of critical habitat. The discretion to protect critical habitat  
105 on non-federal lands that is not otherwise protected rests with the Governor in Council.

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<sup>3</sup> These federally protected areas are: a national park of Canada named and described in Schedule 1 to the *Canada National Parks Act*, The Rouge National Park established by the *Rouge National Urban Park Act*, a marine protected area under the *Oceans Act*, a migratory bird sanctuary under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* or a national wildlife area under the *Canada Wildlife Act* see ss. 58(2) of SARA.

## 110 **Acknowledgments**

111

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119 Environment); Chris Pasztor (British Columbia Ministry of Natural Gas Development);  
120 and Joanne Tuckwell (Parks Canada Agency).

121

## 122 **Executive Summary**

123

124 Porsild's Bryum (*Mielichhoferia macrocarpa*) is a small brilliant green moss, often  
125 associated with waterfalls and calcareous rock and known to occur in at least 17  
126 populations throughout Canada. It was listed as Threatened on the *Species at Risk Act*  
127 (SARA) Schedule 1 in 2011.

128

129 This action plan complements the *Recovery Strategy for the Porsild's Bryum in Canada*  
130 (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016) and will be implemented in British  
131 Columbia, Alberta, Nunavut and Newfoundland. The proposed recovery measures in  
132 this action plan address the objective set out in the recovery strategy for the entire  
133 population and distribution of Porsild's Bryum in Canada.

134

135 No additional critical habitat is identified in this action plan, but it is expected that as the  
136 Schedule of Studies is completed, additional critical habitat may be identified and  
137 presented in an updated recovery strategy or action plan(s). Critical habitat identified in  
138 the species' recovery strategy is located on non-federal land and a federal protected  
139 area and proposed measures to protect this critical habitat are presented in section 1.4  
140 of this action plan.

141

142 The recovery measures included in this action plan are required to implement the  
143 recommended recovery approaches outlined in the recovery strategy. Recovery  
144 measures proposed for the Porsild's Bryum are related to five broad strategies:  
145 (1) inventory and monitoring, (2) research, (3) outreach / stewardship, (4) habitat  
146 management, and (5) reintroduction and/or population augmentation.

147

148 The socio-economic evaluation was completed and it was determined that the direct  
149 and indirect costs of implementing this action plan are anticipated to be low over the  
150 short term (2019-2023) and the long term (2023 onwards). The implementation will  
151 benefit other species, habitat and ecosystems.

152

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# 1. Recovery Actions

## 1.1 Context and Scope of the Action Plan

The taxonomic designation of Porsild's Bryum has changed over time. At the time of the 2003 COSEWIC assessment, it was considered to be in the genus *Mielichhoferia* (*Mielichhoferia macrocarpa* (Hooker) Bruch & Schimper ex Jaeger & Sauerbeck). It was then placed in the genus *Bryum* (*Bryum porsildii* (I Hagen) Cox & Hedderston) and more recently in the genus *Haplodontium* (*Haplodontium macrocarpum* (Hooker) Spence). The currently accepted name of the species is *Haplodontium macrocarpum*. These names are synonymous and all refer to the Porsild's Bryum.

Porsild's Bryum was assessed as Threatened by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in 2003, then subsequently listed as such on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) in 2011 using the name *Mielichhoferia macrocarpa*. As such, this is the name used for the purposes of this action plan.

Porsild's Bryum is a small brilliant green moss associated with shaded calcareous cliffs or rock outcrops and continuous or intermittent seepage (COSEWIC 2003; Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016). The distribution extent has changed little since it was assessed by COSEWIC in 2003. It is known to occur in at least 17 populations in Canada: 1 in British Columbia, 6 in Alberta, 7 in Newfoundland and Labrador, and 3 in Nunavut (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016). There is limited information available to determine reliable trends in the population though loss of individuals and colonies, and a decline in habitat quality, has been noted at some locations (COSEWIC 2003). Porsild's Bryum has slow regeneration, limited dispersal ability, and narrow substrate requirements that likely make recovering from threats such as drought, temperature extremes, recreational activities, or stochastic events difficult (COSEWIC 2003; Belland and Limestone Barrens Species at Risk Recovery Team 2006).

The recovery strategy identifies the following population and distribution objective for Porsild's Bryum:

"To maintain or increase the number of colonies, and sub-populations for all known extant populations of Porsild's Bryum, while also maintaining or increasing the distribution of colonies and sub-populations within each population, and, where feasible, to reestablish the species to locations where it has been extirpated and previously known to exist."  
(Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016)

This action plan addresses all populations of Porsild's Bryum in Canada and should be considered along with the *Recovery Strategy for Porsild's Bryum in Canada* (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016). The recovery strategy provides more details on the strategic direction and approaches for recovery of Porsild's Bryum, critical habitat information, and background information on the species and its threats.

244  
245 Provincial recovery documents for Porsild's Bryum have been developed in Alberta  
246 (Alberta Porsild's Bryum Recovery Team 2010) and Newfoundland and Labrador  
247 (Belland and Limestone Barrens Species at Risk Recovery Team 2006). These  
248 documents summarize provincial-specific distribution and habitat patterns, threats,  
249 recovery initiatives, etc.

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255 **1.2 Measures to be Taken and Implementation Schedule**

256

257 **Table 1. Implementation Schedule**

#	Recovery Measures	Priority <sup>a</sup>	Threats or objectives addressed	Timeline
<b>Broad Strategy: Inventory and Monitoring</b>				
1	Conduct field surveys to locate Porsild's Bryum populations and subpopulations, both within and adjacent to the species' known range and in other potential locations deemed to have suitable habitat, to determine the species complete population size and distribution. Alberta Porsild's Bryum Recovery Team (2010), Belland and Limestone Barrens Species at Risk Recovery Team (2006), and Environment and Climate Change Canada (2016) identify areas of particular interest.	High	Knowledge gaps	Ongoing to 2023
2	Survey all sites to determine baseline population sizes, and identify threats and their impacts.	High	Knowledge gaps; All threats	Ongoing to 2021
3	Develop and implement a long-term monitoring program which examines population sizes and dynamics, colony numbers, threats, habitat trends (e.g., air temperature, relative humidity, and water quality), and microclimate trends at selected sites throughout the species' range.	High	Knowledge gaps; All threats	By 2021, then regularly (frequency dependent on location)
<b>Broad Strategy: Research</b>				
4	Develop and implement a research plan to determine the detailed biological needs of the species (e.g., physiological tolerances to light and temperature, water chemistry and substrate requirements, and resilience to disturbance), and habitat conditions.	High	Knowledge gaps; All threats	Ongoing to 2021
5	Further identify limiting factors and natural threats not already presented in the <i>Recovery Strategy for the Porsild's Bryum in Canada</i> (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016).	High	Knowledge gaps	By 2021

6	Create a habitat model to predict species presence at potential sites.	Low	Knowledge gaps	Ongoing to 2022
7	Develop minimum viable population estimates.	Low	Knowledge gaps	By 2028
<b>Broad Strategy: Outreach / Stewardship</b>				
8	Develop educational material (e.g., brochures, displays at interpretative centres, and signage within protected areas) and other outreach initiatives to increase public understanding of threats to the species and promote stewardship.	Medium	Recreational activities	Ongoing to 2021
9	Work with various levels of government, stakeholders, and the general public to identify solutions for minimizing known threats (e.g., preventing campfires at Whitehorse Creek, Alberta, or preventing recreational use of cliffs at Ribbon Creek, Alberta).	Medium	Recreational activities; Industrial activity	Ongoing to 2021
10	Where appropriate, collaborate with industrial partners to minimize the effects of industrial activities (e.g., road dust in Mountain Park, Alberta). Avenues for collaboration include (but are not limited to) regular meetings / discussions, the development of beneficial management practices, and reviewing work procedures.	Medium	Industrial activity	Ongoing to 2021
11	Encourage the involvement of the public and industrial stakeholders in implementation efforts, including monitoring (where feasible) (e.g., through <i>Adopt-a-Plant Alberta</i> program).	Medium	Recreational activities; Industrial activity; Knowledge gaps	By 2021
<b>Broad Strategy: Habitat Management</b>				
12	Ensure critical habitat for extant populations on federal lands is legally protected.	High	Recreational activities; Industrial activity	Completed)
13	Work with provinces and landowners to secure effective protection of critical habitat for extant populations on non-federal lands.	High	Recreational activities; Industrial activity	By 2020
14	Install and maintain fencing, signage, etc. in strategic locations to conserve subpopulations vulnerable to recreational activities	Medium	Recreational activities	Ongoing to 2021, then as required

	(e.g., Ribbon Creek Lower and Upper, Whitehorse Creek 2, and Whitehorse Creek Boulder), if deemed necessary for population survival and recovery.			
15	When feasible, restore habitat at damaged locations. The necessity, extent and type of restoration will be site specific.	Medium	Recreational activities; Industrial activity; Stochastic events	As required
<b>Broad Strategy: Reintroduction and Population Augmentation</b>				
16	Develop reintroduction protocols.	Medium	All threats	By 2022
17	Determine the feasibility of reintroduction and population augmentation and identify priority sites for implementation.	Medium	All threats	By 2023
18	Re-introduce plants to restored habitat and/or implement population augmentation, if deemed feasible.	Medium	All threats	As required
19	Monitor effectiveness of reintroductions.	Medium	All threats	For at least 5-10 years post reintroduction

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ª "Priority" reflects the degree to which the measure contributes directly to the recovery of the species or is an essential precursor to a measure that contributes to the recovery of the species. High priority measures are considered those most likely to have an immediate and/or direct influence on attaining the population and distribution objectives for the species. Medium priority measures may have a less immediate or less direct influence on reaching the population and distribution objectives, but are still important for the recovery of the population. Low priority recovery measures will likely have an indirect or gradual influence on reaching the population and distribution objectives, but are considered important contributions to the knowledge base and/or public involvement and acceptance of the species.

## 264 **1.3 Critical Habitat**

265

### 266 **1.3.1 Identification of the Species' Critical Habitat**

267

268 Critical habitat of Porsild's Bryum was partially identified in section 7 and Appendix A of  
269 the federal recovery strategy (Environment and Climate Change Canada 2016). The  
270 recovery strategy also contains details about the identified critical habitat including its  
271 geospatial extent and biophysical attributes (section 7.1) (Environment and Climate  
272 Change Canada 2016). Please refer to that document for details.

273

274 Given the best available information, no additional critical habitat for Porsild's Bryum  
275 can be identified in this action plan. Critical habitat will be updated in an amended  
276 recovery strategy or additional action plan once the Schedule of Studies is completed.  
277 Refer to section 7.2 of the federal recovery strategy for a Schedule of Studies  
278 necessary to complete critical habitat identification (Environment and Climate Change  
279 Canada 2016).

280

### 281 **1.3.2 Activities Likely to Result in Destruction of Critical Habitat**

282

283 Examples of activities likely to result in the destruction of critical habitat may be found in  
284 section 7.3 of the federal recovery strategy (Environment and Climate Change Canada  
285 2016).

286

## 287 **1.4 Proposed Measures to Protect Critical Habitat**

288

### 289 **1.4.1 Proposed protection measures on Federal Lands**

290

291 Critical habitat of Porsild's Bryum in Nunavut is identified within Quttinirpaaq National  
292 Park of Canada and has been legally protected by the process outlined in subsection  
293 58(2) of SARA, as well as by the *Canada National Parks Act*. In addition, the Parks  
294 Canada Agency may use existing management tools to prevent destruction of critical  
295 habitat, such as posting notices, restricting access to the area, and educating visitors.

296

### 297 **1.4.2 Proposed protection measures on Non-federal Lands**

298

299 With regard to critical habitat on non-federal lands, Environment and Climate Change  
300 Canada will work with the Governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Nunavut, and  
301 Newfoundland and Labrador to report on critical habitat protection.

302

303 SARA requires that if, after consulting with the appropriate provincial or territorial minister,  
304 the Minister is of the opinion that the laws of the province or territory do not effectively  
305 protect the critical habitat of the species, then the Minister must make a recommendation to  
306 Governor in Council that an order be put in place to prevent the destruction of critical  
307 habitat.

308

309 The implementation of conservation measures is an important complementary strategy  
310 for preserving this species' critical habitat. Environment and Climate Change Canada

311 will work with the applicable provinces, non-governmental organizations, and individuals  
312 to facilitate the implementation of conservation measures.  
313  
314

## 315 **2. Evaluation of Socio-Economic Costs and of Benefits**

316  
317 The *Species At Risk Act* requires that an action plan include an evaluation of the  
318 socio-economic costs of the action plan and the benefits to be derived from its  
319 implementation (SARA 49(1)(e), 2002). This evaluation addresses only the incremental  
320 socio-economic costs of implementing this action plan from a national perspective as  
321 well as the social and environmental benefits that would occur if the action plan were  
322 implemented in its entirety, recognizing that not all aspects of its implementation are  
323 under the jurisdiction of the federal government. It does not address cumulative costs of  
324 species recovery in general nor does it attempt a cost-benefit analysis. Its intent is to  
325 inform the public and to guide decision making on implementation of the action plan by  
326 partners.  
327

328 The protection and recovery of species at risk can result in both benefits and costs. The  
329 Act recognizes that "*wildlife, in all its forms, has value in and of itself and is valued by*  
330 *Canadians for aesthetic, cultural, spiritual, recreational, educational, historical,*  
331 *economic, medical, ecological and scientific reasons*" (SARA 2002). Self-sustaining and  
332 healthy ecosystems with their various elements in place, including species at risk,  
333 contribute positively to the livelihoods and the quality of life of all Canadians. A review of  
334 the literature confirms that Canadians value the preservation and conservation of  
335 species in and of themselves. Actions taken to preserve a species, such as habitat  
336 protection and restoration, are also valued. In addition, the more an action contributes to  
337 the recovery of a species, the higher the value the public places on such actions  
338 (Loomis and White 1996; Fisheries and Oceans Canada 2008). Furthermore, the  
339 conservation of species at risk is an important component of the Government of  
340 Canada's commitment to conserving biological diversity under the *International*  
341 *Convention on Biological Diversity*. The Government of Canada has also made a  
342 commitment to protect and recover species at risk through the Accord for the Protection  
343 of Species at Risk. The specific costs and benefits associated with this action plan are  
344 described below.  
345

## 346 2.1 Policy Baseline

347  
348 The provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and Newfoundland and Labrador, the  
349 Territory of Nunavut, and the federal government have access to many legislative,  
350 regulatory, and management tools for the conservation and stewardship of Porsild's  
351 Bryum (e.g., endangered species legislation, protected areas legislation, and  
352 environmental assessments). For example, Porsild's Bryum is listed as Endangered  
353 under Alberta's *Wildlife Act* and Threatened under Newfoundland and Labrador's  
354 *Endangered Species Act*. In addition, the populations in Nunavut occur within a national  
355 park and are subject to the *Canada National Parks Act* while the population in British  
356 Columbia occurs within a provincial park subject to British Columbia's *Park Act*.

357  
358 Both Alberta and Newfoundland and Labrador have published recovery strategies for  
359 the species and recovery activities have been initiated in Alberta (AESRD 2013).  
360 For example, microclimatic sensors were installed at the Mountain Park population in  
361 Alberta (2011-12) to document key temperature and relative humidity conditions during  
362 the growing season. In addition, baseline site characteristics, including water and rock  
363 chemistry data, was obtained from several of the Alberta populations (AESRD 2013).  
364 A sign was erected at one site in Alberta near a popular campground by to inform  
365 campers about several plant species present, including Porsild's Bryum, and the  
366 importance of protecting them. Nationally, field surveys have recently (ca. 2015) been  
367 conducted at several of the populations of Porsild's Bryum in Canada in support of an  
368 updated COSEWIC status report.

369  
370 Industrial policies and work procedures already in place may also contribute to the  
371 implementation of this action plan and thus the conservation of Porsild's Bryum.  
372 For example, dust levels along a haul road servicing a coal mine site adjacent to  
373 Mountain Park, Alberta, have been monitored to inform potential mitigative measures to  
374 reduce any impact to the species (Alberta Government 2014).

375  
376 Additionally, many recovery measures can be carried out by federal or provincial  
377 species at risk funding programs, contributions by recovery biologists, or research by  
378 university partners.

## 379 380 2.2 Socio-economic Profile and Baseline

381  
382 The measures outlined in this action plan relate primarily to inventory and monitoring,  
383 research, outreach and education and habitat management. Populations of Porsild's  
384 Bryum occur primarily within federal and provincial protected areas and parks. There  
385 are few communities or individuals that would be affected by the implementation of the  
386 measures identified in the action plan for Porsild's Bryum.

387  
388 Within British Columbia, Porsild's Bryum is only known to occur within Muncho Lake  
389 Provincial Park and in Nunavut all populations are currently known from Quttinirpaaq  
390 National Park. Quttinirpaaq National Park is within the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement  
391 and is an area particularly important to Inuit from Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay.

392 However, the implementation of this action plan (i.e., inventory and monitoring,  
393 research, outreach and education and habitat management) is expected to have little to  
394 no effects on these communities.

395  
396 Although Porsild's Bryum is found outside of federal or provincial protected areas in  
397 Newfoundland and Labrador, a non-governmental organization is actively involved with  
398 conservation and stewardship initiatives in the nearby limestone barrens. This recovery  
399 and conservation partnership has been ongoing in the area for several years in an effort  
400 to restore habitat and promote the long term protection and conservation of Porsild's  
401 Bryum and other species at risk in the area.

402  
403 In Alberta, most of the recovery measures for the species will take place in various  
404 provincial protected areas with varying levels of protection. Potential affected  
405 stakeholders include transmission and telecommunication companies with dispositions  
406 on provincial lands and the mining industry. Porsild's Bryum is found within traditional  
407 territories of numerous First Nations in Alberta, but the implementation of the action plan  
408 (i.e., inventory and monitoring, research, outreach and education and habitat  
409 management) is expected to have little to no effects on these communities.

410

## 411 **2.3 Socio-economic Costs of Implementing this Action Plan**

412

413 Costs are those directly associated with the implementation of the recovery measures  
414 identified in the implementation schedule (Table 1), as well as those encountered as a  
415 result of that implementation. Only the incremental costs are considered and therefore  
416 do not include ongoing actions or initiatives discussed in section 2.1 (Policy Baseline).  
417 The direct and indirect costs of implementing the action plan are expected to be low  
418 (between \$0 and \$5 million) over the short term (2019-2023). Costs at the regional or  
419 provincial scale are expected to be minimal. Long-term (2023 onwards) costs are also  
420 expected to be minimal.

421

422 Social costs are the potential costs associated with implementing the action plan, which  
423 may have an impact on various stakeholders. Because there are a small number of  
424 known occurrences, the majority of occurrences are in protected areas, and there is  
425 lack of human-use associated with this species, the social costs anticipated from the  
426 implementation of this action plan are low.

427

## 428 **2.4 Benefits of Implementing this Action Plan**

429

### 430 **2.4.1 Value of biodiversity to Canadians**

431

432 It is anticipated that this action plan will contribute to the recovery of Porsild's Bryum  
433 and lead to the achievement of the population and distribution objective and the  
434 conservation and protection of habitat for the species.

435

436 Biodiversity is essential for healthy ecosystems, human health, prosperity, security, and  
437 wellbeing. Canadians derive many benefits from biodiversity including recreational,

438 aesthetic, educational, cultural benefits as well as ecological goods and services  
439 essential to human survival. Care for the environment is consistently ranked as one of  
440 Canada's top priorities in public opinion polls<sup>4</sup>. An opinion poll found that three quarters  
441 of Canadian respondents feel that preserving natural areas and the variety of native  
442 plant and animal life in Canada is important to them<sup>5</sup>.

443  
444 The total value of endangered species consists of non-consumptive use values (such as  
445 recreation, spiritual/cultural, research, and education), indirect use values (value of the  
446 ecological role of a species in an ecosystem), and non-use values (i.e., preserving the  
447 benefits of nature for future generations)<sup>6</sup>. Implementing the recovery measures of this  
448 action plan will have a positive impact on society. The direct value of this  
449 implementation, for the preservation or the enhancement of biodiversity, is not easily  
450 estimated.

451

## 452 **2.4.2 Eco-tourism and cultural values**

453

454 Eco-tourism is the fastest-growing area of the tourism industry (Mastny 2001;  
455 UNEP 2013). In 2004, this market grew three times faster than the industry as a whole  
456 and the World Tourism Organization estimates that global spending on eco-tourism  
457 is increasing by 20% a year, about six times the industry-wide rate of growth  
458 (TEEB 2008). Many of the Porsild's Bryum subpopulations are already located in or  
459 near parks (see Table 2 of the recovery strategy for details), but it is possible that  
460 education and stewardship activities may lead to a small increase in eco-tourism  
461 activity.

462

## 463 **2.5 Distributional Impacts**

464

465 Porsild's Bryum occurs on provincial, federal, and private properties, and the majority of  
466 sites are within protected areas. Thus, private landowners are not expected to absorb  
467 the direct incremental costs for the species' recovery. Any indirect incremental costs  
468 resulting from the implementation of recovery measures will be shared. Should  
469 additional populations of Porsild's Bryum be discovered on private land through  
470 activities identified in this action plan, the distributional impacts will be re-assessed.

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472

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<sup>4</sup> Canada's Fourth National Report to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, 2010. Available online <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ca/ca-nr-04-en.pdf> Accessed December 3, 2010.

<sup>5</sup> Ipsos Reid Opinion Poll "Nine in Ten (87%) Canadians Say That When Connected to Nature They Feel Happier." Released January 7, 2011, [www.ipsos.ca](http://www.ipsos.ca)

<sup>6</sup> Non-use values include bequest value (satisfaction of knowing that future generations will have access to nature's benefits), altruist value (satisfaction of knowing that other people have access to nature's benefits) and existence value (satisfaction of knowing that a species or ecosystem exists).

### 473 3. Measuring Progress

474  
475 The performance indicators presented in the associated recovery strategy provide a  
476 way to define and measure progress toward achieving the population and distribution  
477 objectives.

478  
479 Reporting on implementation of the action plan (under section 55 of SARA) will be done  
480 by assessing progress towards implementing the broad strategies.

481  
482 Reporting on the ecological and socio-economic impacts of the action plan (under s. 55  
483 of SARA) will be done by assessing the results of monitoring the recovery of the species  
484 and its long-term viability, and by assessing the implementation of the action plan.

485  
486

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535

## 536 **Appendix A: Effects on the Environment and Other Species**

537  
538 A strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is conducted on all SARA recovery  
539 planning documents, in accordance with the [\*Cabinet Directive on the Environmental\*](#)  
540 [\*Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals\*](#)<sup>7</sup>. The purpose of a SEA is to  
541 incorporate environmental considerations into the development of public policies, plans,  
542 and program proposals to support environmentally sound decision-making and to  
543 evaluate whether the outcomes of a recovery planning document could affect any  
544 component of the environment or any of the [\*Federal Sustainable Development\*](#)  
545 [\*Strategy\*](#)'s<sup>8</sup> (FSDS) goals and targets.

546  
547 Recovery planning is intended to benefit species at risk and biodiversity in general.  
548 However, it is recognized that implementation of action plans may also inadvertently  
549 lead to environmental effects beyond the intended benefits. The planning process  
550 based on national guidelines directly incorporates consideration of all environmental  
551 effects, with a particular focus on possible impacts upon non-target species or habitats.  
552 The results of the SEA are incorporated directly into the action plan itself, but are also  
553 summarized below in this statement.

554  
555 The measures set out in this document are expected to have no negative effects on  
556 other species. Many of the measures pertain to inventory / monitoring or research and  
557 therefore should not adversely impact other species. Other actions pertaining to  
558 outreach / stewardship and habitat management may create benefits for the  
559 surrounding habitat and ecosystems.

560

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<sup>7</sup> [www.canada.ca/en/environmental-assessment-agency/programs/strategic-environmental-assessment/cabinet-directive-environmental-assessment-policy-plan-program-proposals.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/environmental-assessment-agency/programs/strategic-environmental-assessment/cabinet-directive-environmental-assessment-policy-plan-program-proposals.html)

<sup>8</sup> [www.ec.gc.ca/dd-sd/default.asp?lang=En&n=CD30F295-1](http://www.ec.gc.ca/dd-sd/default.asp?lang=En&n=CD30F295-1)