



Summary of the draft Management Plan for the

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE

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 Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) has been listed as Special Concern under SARA since 2019.

Description and Distribution

The Red-necked Phalarope is a small shorebird. Named for the bright chestnut plumage around the neck, the rest of the body is black or gray (head, back, wings) and white (underwings, chin, and belly). Females are larger and more brightly colored than the males during the breeding season. In the winter, both are white (head and breast), and gray (wings and mantle), with a black streak through and behind the eye and a dark patch on the crown.

The Red-necked Phalarope breeds across the arctic with an estimated 74% of the North American population breeding in Canada, primarily in Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nunavut, coastal Newfoundland and northern Quebec. The Red-necked Phalarope migrates offshore along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts as well as overland in the Prairies and winters off the coast of South America in the Humboldt Current.

Habitat Needs

The Red-necked Phalarope breeds near Arctic tundra wetlands with open water and few shrubs. Unusually, females compete for mates and males provide all parental care. The species spends the entire non-breeding season on the water, either at sea, or in wetlands



Female Red-necked Phalarope ©Willow English

and waterbodies, especially salt lakes along the inland migratory route.

Threats to the Species' Survival

- Habitat loss as climate change dries arctic ponds and allows shrubby vegetation to expand into the tundra.
- Reduced productivity due to climate change (e.g. earlier breeding resulting in reduced food availability for nestlings).
- Decreased survival during the non-breeding season due to increasingly severe ENSO fluctuations which likely decrease food availability offshore.
- Lost food resources in salt lakes as climate change induced drought and poor water management practices increase salinity.
- Increased mortality during the non-breeding season due to offshore plastic pollution.
- Increased mortality due to oil spills and chronic oil contamination.

Management Objective

The management objectives for the Red-necked Phalarope are to:

1. Determine a reliable population estimate and trend by 2030.
2. Have stable or increasing trends measured over a period of ten years by 2040.

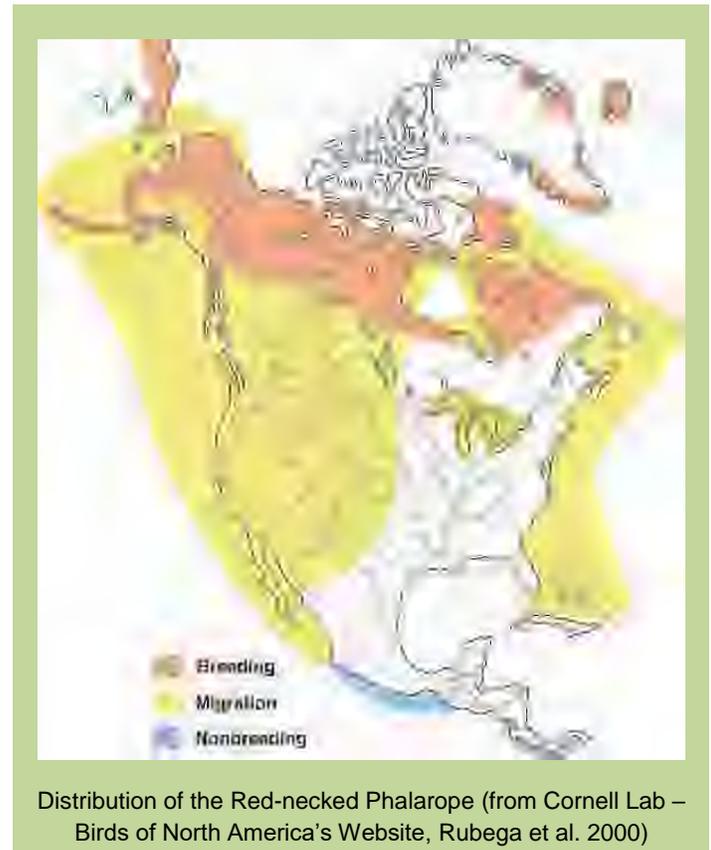
Strategies to Help Meet Objectives

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

- Centralizing data from past site surveys in a shared database and tracking the North American migration routes and determine the turnover and residency times at migratory stopover sites.
- Calculating new population estimates and trends.
- Conserving water and managing watersheds surrounding migratory stopover sites to maintain appropriate water levels and salinities in saline lakes.
- Identifying and protecting climate change resilient areas on the breeding grounds and migratory route.
- Working with international partners to support seabird protection within the Humboldt Current Large Marine Ecosystem on the wintering grounds.
- Considering the Red-necked Phalarope in environmental assessments for projects that increase the risk of either chronic or catastrophic oil spills in key areas for the species and ensuring that these areas have oil spill response plans in place which adequately consider offshore seabirds in place.
- Determining where Red-necked Phalaropes ingest most plastics.
- Investigating changes in zooplankton abundance at key migratory stopovers (e.g., Bay of Fundy) and wintering grounds

How You Can Help

- Learn more about the Red-necked Phalarope, its habitat needs, and the threats to its survival 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 and databases such as eBird.



Archived: August 4, 2022 11:13:39 AM
From: [QWB Administrative Coordinator](#)
Sent: March 24, 2020 4:40:25 PM
To: [Tufts, Teresa \(EC\)](#)
Subject: RE: Red-necked Phalarope draft Management Plan for review
Sensitivity: Normal

Hi Teresa,

Unfortunately, with competing priorities right now, QWB won't be able to provide any comment on the above noted draft management plan.

Just wanted to follow up because I reached out to you on it ❓❓❓

Thanks,

Jenni

From: Tufts, Teresa (EC) <teresa.tufts@canada.ca>
Sent: March 19, 2020 8:23 AM
To: QWB Administrative Coordinator <gwbac@niws.ca>
Subject: RE: Red-necked Phalarope draft Management Plan for review

Hi Jenni,

No, no responses from any of our partners on this yet.

Monitoring in Nunavut already takes place to some extent. Currently, breeding Red-necked Phalaropes are monitored through the Arctic Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring (PRISM). You can find more info on PRISM here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/bird-surveys/shorebird/arctic-program-regional-international-monitoring.html>

The conservation measures proposed to achieve the management objectives outlined in the draft management plan are detailed on page 20 of the draft management plan and copied below. These measures are what are proposed and would move forward into the implementation phase if the plan is approved; meaning there are no concrete plans for Nunavut currently – that would come after approval of the plan and once implementation has commenced.

I hope that helps!

Best,
Teresa





From: QWB Administrative Coordinator <qwbac@niws.ca>
Sent: March 18, 2020 9:49 AM
To: Tufts, Teresa (EC) <teresa.tufts@canada.ca>
Subject: RE: Red-necked Phalarope draft Management Plan for review

Hi Teresa,

Just sorting emails – did anyone get back to you on this?

I'm definitely no expert in the field – I just read the exec summary and distribution section. Curious if any monitoring will be taking place in Nunavut, and if so, did you know where? If I can send that information to our biologist and the Executive Director, might help get some feedback (or determine that they don't have any right now).

Thanks,

Jenni

From: Tufts, Teresa (EC) <teresa.tufts@canada.ca>
Sent: March 12, 2020 11:42 AM
Subject: Red-necked Phalarope draft Management Plan for review

Good day,

We are seeking comments on the draft Management Plan for the Red-necked Phalarope. The Red-necked Phalarope was listed as Special Concern under the federal *Species at Risk Act* in 2019. For species of Special Concern, a management plan must be developed to identify measures for its conservation. This small shorebird breeds throughout much of Nunavut in the summer months and overwinters at sea.

Archived: August 4, 2022 11:23:01 AM
From: [Tamar Mukyunik](#)
Sent: April 28, 2020 12:04:03 PM
To: [Tufts, Teresa \(EC\)](#)
Subject: RE: Red-necked Phalarope draft Management Plan for review
Sensitivity: Normal

Hi,

This item was received as information.
Thanks

Tamar Mukyunik
Manager



From: Tufts, Teresa (EC) <teresa.tufts@canada.ca>
Sent: March 12, 2020 10:42 AM
Subject: Red-necked Phalarope draft Management Plan for review

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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 **May 1, 2020**.

Best regards,

Teresa Tufts

Species at Risk Biologist
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
Teresa.Tufts@canada.ca / Tel: +1 (867) 979 7058

À l'attention de : Teresa Tufts, Biologiste des espèces à risque
Service canadien de la faune
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
Teresa.Tufts@canada.ca / Tél. : +1 (867) 979 7058

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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 HOGGR, 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 HOGGR, 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

michael.svoboda@canada.ca

Archived: June 16, 2022 9:05:35 AM

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

Sent: February 9, 2022 12:26:00 PM

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

Bcc: ikajutit@baffinhto.ca; hto_ab@qiniq.com; htoclyde@qiniq.com; clyde@baffinhto.ca; iviq@baffinhto.ca; hbhta@baffinhto.ca; hbhta@qiniq.com; igloolik@baffinhto.ca; pond@baffinhto.ca; rbhta@qiniq.com; rbhta@baffinhto.ca; aiviq_hunters@qiniq.com; aiviq@baffinhto.ca; amaruq@qiniq.com; amaruq@baffinhto.ca; kimmiruthto@qiniq.com; mayukalik@baffinhto.ca; pang@baffinhto.ca; nativak@baffinhto.ca; sani@baffinhto.ca; sanihta@qiniq.com; panghta@qiniq.com; wildlifeadvisor@niws.ca; fdcqw@niws.ca; info@qia.ca; jgroves@qia.ca

Subject: FOR COMMENT: Proposed Management Plan for the Red-necked Phalarope in Canada (Due: April 20, 2022)

Inuktitut and English

Sensitivity: Normal

Attachments:

[RNPH_Factsheet_2022_Inuktitut.pdf](#)  [mp_red_necked_phalarope_e_proposed.pdf](#)  [RNPH_Factsheet_2022.pdf](#) 

Hello,

I am writing to notify you that the proposed Management Plan for **Red-necked Phalarope** in Canada was posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry on January 20th, 2022, for a **90-day public comment period** which ends on **April 20, 2022**. 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 at: [Species at risk registry \(canada.ca\)](https://speciesatriskregistry.canada.ca). I have also attached the Management Plan to this email for your convenience.

There is also a summary fact sheet attached in English and Inuktitut that provides an overview of the document.

Please submit all comments to ec.planificationduretablissement-recoveryplanning.ec@canada.ca or directly to me at Hayley.roberts@ec.gc.ca or 867-222-0112.

I welcome your participation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Hayley Roberts / ᐃᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ

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****

Biologiste des Espèces en Péril, Service Canadien de la faune
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Archived: June 16, 2022 9:10:03 AM

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

Sent: February 9, 2022 12:27:00 PM

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

Bcc: 'bathurst@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'cambay@krwb.ca'; 'cambay@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'gjoa@krwb.ca'; 'gjoa@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'kugluktukhto@qiniq.com'; 'kugluktuk@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'kugluktuk@krwb.ca'; 'kugaaruk@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'kugaaruk@krwb.ca'; 'chimo@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'taloyoak@kitikmeothto.ca'; 'taloyoak@krwb.ca'; 'pwong@krwb.ca'; 'krwb@niws.ca'; 'dirlands@kitia.ca'; 'execdir@kitia.ca'; 'envofficer@kitia.ca'

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Bcc: 'arviat@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'bakerlake@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'aqigiq@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'htocheater@qiniq.com'; 'aiviit@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'rankin@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'rankinhto@qiniq.com'; 'arviq@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'repulsebayhto@qiniq.com'; 'issatik@kivalliqhto.ca'; 'whalecovehto@qiniq.com'; 'kwb@niws.ca'; 'reception@kivalliqinuit.ca'

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

Bcc: 'BDean@tunnigavik.com'; 'pirngaut@tunnigavik.com'; 'kritchie@nwmb.com'; 'jringrose@gov.nu.ca'; 'Aroberto-charron@gov.nu.ca'; 'lleclerc@gov.nu.ca'; 'mcampbell1@gov.nu.ca'

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<Δ^ΔΔ,

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

Sent: February 9, 2022 12:28:00 PM

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

Bcc: 'cao@city.iqaluit.nu.ca'; 'sao@resolute.ca'; 'hamletcedo1@xplornet.com'; 'sao@whalecove.ca'; 'mayor@whalecove.ca'; 'sao_ab@qiniq.com'; 'sao@arviat.ca'; 'blsao@northwestel.net'; 'mlimousin@cambridgebay.ca'; 'muncdsao@capedorset.ca'; 'sao_hamlet@qiniq.com'; 'cao@clyderiver.ca'; 'munch@qiniq.com'; 'saogjoa@qiniq.com'; 'gfsao@qiniq.com'; 'gfasao@qiniq.com'; 'sao_hbhamlet@qiniq.com'; 'sao@igloolik.ca'; 'sao@rankininlet.ca'; 'saokug@qiniq.com'; 'sao@kugluktuk.ca'; 'saonaujaat@qiniq.com'; 'pang_sao@qiniq.com'; 'sao@pondinlet.ca'; 'hamletpond_mayor@qiniq.com'; 'munqik@qiniq.com'; 'sao@sanikiluaq.com'; 'sao@taloyoak.ca'; 'sanisao@qiniq.com'; 'sanimayor@qiniq.com'

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female Red-necked Phalarope ©Willow English

Threats to the Species' Survival

- Habitat loss as climate change dries arctic ponds and allows shrubby vegetation to expand into the tundra.
- Reduced productivity as Red-necked Phalaropes fail to adjust to climate change by breeding earlier and face reduced food availability for nestlings.
- Decreased survival during the non-breeding season due to increasingly severe weather conditions offshore likely decrease food availability offshore.
- Lost food resources in salt lake as climate change induced drought and poor water management practices increase salinity.
- Increased mortality during the non-breeding season due to offshore plastic pollution.
- Increased mortality due to oil spills and chronic oil contamination.



Management Objective

The management objectives for the Red-necked Phalarope is to have stable or increasing population trends by 2040.

Strategies to Help Meet Objectives

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

- Centralizing data from past site surveys in a shared database and tracking the North American migration routes and determine the turnover and residency times at migratory stopover sites.
- Calculating a new population estimates and trends.
- Conserving water and managing watershed surrounding migratory stopover sites to maintain appropriate water levels and salinities in saline lakes.
- Identifying and protecting climate change resilient areas on the breeding grounds and migratory route.
- Working with international partners to support seabird protection within the Humboldt Current Large Marine Ecosystem on the wintering grounds.
- Considering the Red-necked Phalarope in environmental assessments for projects that increase the risk of either chronic or catastrophic oil spills in key areas for the species and ensuring that these areas has oil spill response plans which adequately consider offshore seabirds in place.
- Determining where the Red-necked Phalaropes ingest most plastics.
- Investigating changes in zooplankton abundance at key migratory stopovers (e.g., Bay of Fundy) and wintering grounds

How You Can Help

- Learn more about the Red-necked Phalarope, 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).

