

# Glossary

## A

**Adaptive breeding:** Breeding of plant and animals to produce offspring that are better suited for current or future conditions.

**Agricultural land:** Any land, regardless of zoning, on which agricultural operations take place (see also Agricultural Operation).

**Agricultural management practices:** Activities related to agricultural production. Includes regular, periodic, sporadic and one-time-only practices.

**Agricultural operation:** A farm, ranch or other agricultural operation producing agricultural products for sale. Also includes feedlots, greenhouses, mushroom houses and nurseries; farms producing Christmas trees, fur, game, sod, maple syrup or fruit and berries; beekeeping and poultry hatchery operations; operations with alternative livestock (bison, deer, elk, llamas, alpacas, wild boars, etc.) or alternative poultry (ostriches, emus, etc.), when the animal or derived products are intended for sale; backyard gardens if agricultural products are intended for sale; operations involved in boarding horses, riding stables and stables for housing and/or training horses even if no agriculture products are sold. Sales in the past 12 months not required but there must be the intention to sell.

**Agroforestry:** A land management approach that deliberately combines the production of trees with other crops and/or livestock.

**Alleycropping:** Growing crops (e.g., grains, forages, vegetables etc) between trees planted in rows.

**Amphibian:** See Wildlife.

**Aquatic area or zone:** A body of water (e.g., stream, river, wetland, lake).

**Aquatic ecosystem:** Any water environment, such as streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands, in which plants and animals interact with the chemical and physical features in that environment.

**Aquatic species:** [from the *Species at Risk Act*] a wildlife species that is a fish or a marine plant, as defined in the federal *Fisheries Act* (see fish, and see marine plant).

## B

**Behavioural control:** Applies to insects. It takes advantage of insect responses to colours (e.g., yellow traps), odours (e.g., attractant-baited traps, sex pheromone dispensers for mating disruption), and light (e.g., black light traps, insect electrocuters) (see also Integrated Pest Management).

**Beneficial Management Practice:** A practice which, when implemented singly or in combination, will reduce any adverse environmental impacts of agricultural activities without sacrificing economic productivity. A Beneficial Management Practice becomes a Best Management Practice when it is successfully implemented in the unique environmental, agronomic, economic, and operating circumstances existing in a particular situation.

**Biodiversity:** The variety of life. Biodiversity includes all forms of life such as bacteria, fungi, grasses, shrubs, trees, agricultural crops, insects, amphibians, reptiles, wild and domestic animals and humans. Biodiversity can be divided into three levels of organization, (a) genetic diversity, (b) species diversity, and, (c) ecosystem diversity.

**Biodiversity Management Plan:** A process that optimizes the relationship between biodiversity, farm management techniques, crop requirements and land use. Refer to page 11-1 of the Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan *Reference Guide*.

**Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification Zone:** The Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) system divides British Columbia into 14 different ecological zones based on vegetation, soils, and climate.

**Biological control:** Control of weeds or insect pests by exposing them to their natural enemies.

**Blue-listed:** Includes any ecological community, and indigenous species and subspecies considered to be of special concern (formerly vulnerable) in British Columbia. Elements are of special concern because of characteristics that make them particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events. Blue-listed elements are at risk, but are not Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened. As determined by the Conservation Data Centre.<sup>1</sup>

**Buffer:** A specially managed area that is used to separate farm activities from sensitive areas, such as a strip of crop vegetation, often grass or trees; some can act as a “treatment system” to remove contaminants before they reach the sensitive area such as a stream or wetland.

**Buzz pollination:** See Pollination.



**Chemical control:** Uses pesticides to control pests. New less toxic, more target-specific products (often referred to as reduced-risk pesticides) are replacing older broad spectrum synthetic pesticides in order to reduce risks to food, environmental and human safety. These products on average cost more, and require more precise application timing and frequency. (see also Integrated Pest Management).

**Climate change:** [from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Article 1] “a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.”

**Coarse woody debris:** Logs, stumps, or large branches that have fallen or been cut and have been left on the ground, or trees that have died but remain standing.

**Connectivity:** See Corridor.

**Conservation covenant:** [in BC] is a written agreement between a landowner and a conservation organization (e.g., The Land Conservancy of BC). In the voluntary agreement, the landowner promises to protect the land in ways specified in the covenant. The covenant is filed in the BC Land Titles Office.

**Corridor:** A travel route that connects areas of plant and wildlife habitat, permits plant and wildlife movement across agricultural land, and provides food, shelter and protection from predators for organisms.

**Critical habitat:** See Habitat.

**Cultural control:** These practices make the environment less attractive to pests and less favourable for their survival, dispersal, growth and reproduction, as well as promoting the pest's natural controls such as predators. The objective is to achieve reduction in pest numbers, either below economic injury levels, or sufficiently to allow natural or biological controls to take effect. Examples include the design of integrated polycultures, management of adjacent environments, use of companion crops, crop rotations, and timing of seeding, harvesting and field operations. (see also Integrated Pest Management).

## D

**Daylighting:** The removal of culverts to restore natural watercourses by opening them up to daylight.

**Desertification:** The progressive destruction of existing vegetation cover to form desert. This can occur due to inappropriate grazing, deforestation, the burning of extensive areas and climatic variations such as drought. Once formed, deserts can only support a sparse range of vegetation.

**Drainage Management Plan:** Provides guidance on the operation and maintenance of drainage systems, including constructed ditches and channelized and natural streams. See page 9-33 in the Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan *Reference Guide* and the EFP *Drainage Management Guide*.

## E

**Ecological community:** A term used by the BC Conservation DC to include natural plant communities and plant associations, and the full range of ecosystems that occur in British Columbia. Ecological communities may represent ecosystems as small as a vernal pool, or as large as an entire river basin, an ecoregion, or a biogeoclimatic zone.

**Ecological compensation areas:** Areas of native or restored native habitat on agricultural land (also see Habitat).

**Ecological goods and services:** The benefits Canadians; including agricultural producers, receive from healthy ecosystems on agricultural land. Examples include water regulation, erosion control, nutrient cycling, and pollination.

**Ecosystem:** The complex set of interactions between living organisms and their environment. Ecosystems include plants, insects, fish, birds, animals, water and soil.

**Edge effect:** Differences in microclimates (air and soil temperature, wind, light and humidity) in the area where different plant communities meet.

**Endangered:** A species facing imminent extirpation or extinction; as designated by the BC *Wildlife Act* and/or the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.<sup>ii</sup>

**Energy flow:** The travel of energy through ecosystems. For example, energy from the sun is converted by plants into plant tissue. Plant tissue is eaten by a deer to provide them with energy. A wolf may eat that deer for its own energy. When that wolf dies, it decomposes and provides food or energy for micro-organisms. Unlike nutrients and water, energy is not recycled; most of it is lost as heat.

**Enhancing:** Includes all actions and management activities on the farm that *improve* existing riparian habitat, *restore* lost habitat, or *create* new riparian habitat where none existed previously.

**Environment:** [from the *Environmental Management Act*] The air, land, water and all other external conditions or influences under which humans, animals and plants live or are developed.

**Environmental impact:** A measurable change to the environment from an activity or action; may be negative or positive.

**Environmentally sensitive area:** May be a sensitive water body, habitat area or wildlife population on a non-production area on a farm that is sensitive to farm activities, such as pesticide contaminated runoff.

**Environmental Farm Plan (EFP):** Is a voluntary and confidential process used by individual producers to systematically identify environmental risks and benefits from their operation, and to develop an action plan to mitigate the risks. The EFP process allows producers to set priorities for actions which address on-farm environmental concerns, as well as those which serve the public interest. Producers who develop EFPs may be eligible for technical and financial assistance for implementation of their on-farm action plans through the National Farm Stewardship Program and the Greencover Canada Program. Workshops and take-home workbook are free of charge.

**Evapotranspiration rates:** Rate of evaporation of moisture from plants and soil surfaces and water transpired by plants. Hot and windy conditions generate high rates of evapotranspiration.

**Extinct:** A species that no longer exists; as designated by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC).<sup>iii</sup>

**Extirpated:** A species that no longer exists in the wild in British Columbia, but does occur elsewhere. Ecological communities that no longer exist in British Columbia, but do occur elsewhere.<sup>iv</sup>

## F

**Farmscaping:** Designing and maintaining habitats that attract and support beneficial organisms, such as natural pest predators and native pollinators.

**Fish:** [from the federal *Fisheries Act*] Includes fish or parts of fish, shellfish, crustaceans, marine animals and any parts of shellfish, crustaceans or marine animals, and the eggs, sperm, spawn, larvae, spat, and juvenile stages of fish, shellfish, crustaceans and marine animals.

**Fish bearing stream:** A stream that has, or is likely to have, fish at anytime.

**Fish passage:** [from the *Water Act*] Fish in a stream are able to pass by or through in both upstream and downstream directions.

**Fish screening:** See Intake.

**Flushing bar:** An aluminum bar with dangling chains that is mounted horizontally on the front end of haying equipment. As the tractor moves, chains or belts hanging from the bar rustle the grass and scares nesting birds and other wildlife out of the path of the equipment.

**Food web:** A diagram that represents the feeding relationships between organisms within an ecosystem. Food webs generally consist of a series of interconnecting food chains and it is important to understand that they are

representative diagrams—only some of the many possible relationships can be shown in such a diagram and it is typical to include only one or two carnivores at the highest level.

**Free passage of water and fish:** Instream structures constructed so as not to restrict “normal” passage of water and fish (i.e., culverts designed to pass the flood flow and allow fish to move through freely).

## G

**Genetic diversity:** Genetic variation found in a population or in a species. For example, in a herd of Hereford cows, each cow is slightly genetically different from each other.

**Grazing Management Plan:** Assists producers with ensuring long-term, environmentally-sound and economically-viable grazing management practices. See page 3-1 in the Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan *Reference Guide* and the EFP *Grazing Management Guide*.

## H

**Habitat:** The air, soil, water, food and cover components of the environment on which a plant or animal depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes such as eating, staying safe from predators, and reproducing.

**Aquatic habitat:** Habitat in water (see also Aquatic ecosystem).

**Critical habitat:** [from the *Species at Risk Act*] The habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of a listed wildlife species and that is identified as the species' critical habitat in the recovery strategy or in an action plan for the species.

**Fish habitat:** [from the federal *Fisheries Act*] Spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.

**Native habitat:** Includes aquatic and terrestrial habitat. Habitat that has not been significantly altered by human activity from its original state and is able to support native species. Dominated by native vegetation.

**Patch:** A contiguous area of native habitat that supports native species, providing food, refuge and an area to raise young. For example, a stand of trees or an area of native grassland.

**Terrestrial habitat:** Habitat on land.

**Wildlife habitat:** [from the *Wildlife Act*] The air, soil, water, food and cover components of the environment on which wildlife or species at risk depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.

**Habitat restoration:** Returning disturbed areas to native habitat through removal of non-native species and/or restoration of native species. Ideally, ecosystem functions will return when habitat is restored (see also Native habitat).

**Hedgerow:** A row of shrubs and/or trees enclosing or separating fields (see also Shelterbelt).

**Hibernacula:** Hibernation sites. Can be for snakes, bears and other BC species that hibernate over winter.

**Hydrologic cycle (water cycle):** The continuous cycle by which water enters the atmosphere through evaporation and transpiration from soils, vegetation, lakes, rivers, streams; oceans and other bodies of water, accumulates as water vapour in clouds; and, returns to the ground as precipitation (e.g., rain, snow).

**Hyphae:** Fine, threadlike strings of fungal cells that make up the fruiting bodies of a fungus.



**Indigenous:** Born, growing or produced naturally (native) in an area, region, or country. Endemic.

**Ingrowth:** excessive tree recruitment, primarily by shade-tolerant species, such as interior Douglas-fir, within low-density, open forests. Ingrowth often results in the retrogression of understory plant communities, the loss of habitat for sensitive wildlife species, and an increased risk of catastrophic wildfires. Changes in forest structure within ingrown forests reduce forage availability for wildlife and livestock.

**Inputs:** Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers.

**Insectary plants:** Plants that attract beneficial insects such as native bees and pest predators.

**Intake:** A structure or mechanism to divert water into a domestic or irrigation system.

**Fish screening:** A specific design to both prevent fish from being drawn into a water system (with screen openings that do not exceed 2.54 mm) and to prevent fish being forcefully drawn against the screen (by ensuring low intake water velocity), as outlined in *Water Intakes*, on page 9-13 of the Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan *Reference Guide*.

**Integrated Pest Management:** (a) A management method requiring pests to be monitored in order to target pesticide applications, with the expectation that pesticide use will be reduced; (b) [from the *Pesticide Control Act*] Decision making process that uses a combination of techniques to suppress pests and that must include but is not limited to the following elements: (i) planning and managing ecosystems to prevent organisms from becoming pests; (ii) identifying potential pest problems; (iii) monitoring populations of pests and beneficial organisms, pest damage and environmental conditions; (iv) using injury thresholds in making treatment decisions; (v) reducing pest populations to acceptable levels using strategies that may include a combination of biological, physical, cultural, mechanical, behavioural and chemical controls; (vi) evaluating the effectiveness of treatments.

**Integrated Riparian Management:** Riparian buffers are managed forest and shrubs in areas bordering lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands. Integrated riparian management systems are used to enhance and protect aquatic and riparian resources as well as generating income from timber and non-timber forest products. Similar to shelter and timberbelts, integrated riparian management systems can employ a wide variety of tree and shrub species, with specific plantings tailored to suit the specific growing conditions and production opportunities.

**Invasive alien species:** [from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and *An Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada* 2004]: non-native plants, animals, and micro-organisms that spread when introduced outside of their natural distribution and cause serious and often irreversible damage to Canada's ecosystems, economy, and society.

**Irrigation Management Plan:** Assists producers with optimizing water use, hence improving water management during drought, long-term climate change and competing uses for water resources. See page 9-15 in the Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan *Reference Guide* and the EFP *Irrigation System Assessment Guide*.

## K

**Keystone species:** Species that support ecosystem function in a unique and significant manner through their activities; the effect is disproportionate to their numerical abundance. Their removal initiates changes in ecosystem structure and often loss of diversity. Examples of keystone species are salmon, badgers, grizzly bears, Pileated Woodpeckers, and whitebark pine.

## M

**Mechanical control:** Uses barriers or devices such as window screens, rodent traps, netting, fly paper, horticulture cloth and mulches to exclude or destroy pests. These practices may reduce the need for pesticides (see also Integrated Pest Management).

**Migration:** Regular, periodic movements of wildlife, usually away from and back to a place of origin. Many birds undertake seasonal migrations, typically in the spring and fall, to find more favourable conditions of temperature, food, or water. Such migrations may involve a change of latitude, altitude, or both, and are intended to provide a suitable breeding area.

**Monitoring:** The process of checking, observing, or keeping track of something for a specified period of time or at specified intervals.

## N

**Native bee:** Also called pollen or solitary bees, includes bumble bees. Bees that are indigenous to an area (see also Native species). There are about 3500 species of native bees in North America.<sup>v</sup> Some native bees found in BC include the Mason bee, the leafcutter bee, the carpenter bee, the bumblebee, and the berry bee (see also Pollination; Pollinator; Native Pollinators).

**Native habitat:** See Habitat.

**Native pasture:** Fields with native plant cover, usually dominated by native, perennial grasses, which are used for grazing livestock.

**Native pollinator:** Indigenous organisms whose activities result in plant pollination; includes native bees, birds, some insects and nectar-feeding bats. Excludes honey bees (see also Pollination; Pollinator; Native Bee).

**Native species:** [from the BC *Wildlife Amendment Act* 2004] A species that is (a) indigenous to BC, or (b) has extended its range into BC from another part of North America, unless the species was introduced by human intervention or activities, or any part of the extension of its range within North America was aided by human intervention or activities. Native species refer to species that naturally occur in an area, such as antelope sage brush in the Okanagan. Native species includes plants and animals.

**Natural cycle:** A course or series of events that recurs regularly over an interval of time. For example, the reproduction cycles of species, and predator-prey cycles. Also includes (but is not limited to) the water cycle (hydrologic cycle) and nutrient cycles.



**Natural disturbance:** a natural event that directly alters the structure of ecosystems (e.g., fire, flood, insect outbreak, landslide).<sup>vi</sup>

**Natural process:** A process existing in or produced by nature (rather than by the intent of human beings).<sup>vii</sup>

**Non-timber forest products:** Products of biological origin other than wood derived from forests, other wooded land and trees outside forests; may be gathered from the wild or produced in forest plantations, agroforestry schemes and from trees outside forests. Examples include berries, mushrooms, floral greenery, and nutraceuticals.

**Not at Risk:** A species that has been evaluated and found to be not at risk; as designated by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.<sup>viii</sup>

**Noxious weed:** [from the *Weed Control Act*] A weed designated by regulation to be a noxious weed, and includes the seeds of the noxious weed; specified in Weed Control Regulation, Schedule A. Noxious weeds are typically non-native plants that have been introduced to BC without insect predators and plant pathogens to keep them under control.<sup>ix</sup>

## O

**Old-growth:** For the purpose of quantitative analysis, old growth is defined as all Coast region forests more than 250 years old, Interior forests dominated by lodgepole pine or deciduous species more than 120 years old, and all other Interior forests more than 140 years old.<sup>x</sup>

**Organism:** A living thing.

## P

**Patches:** See Habitat.

**Pest:** [from the *Pesticide Control Act*] An injurious, noxious, or troublesome living organism, but does not include a virus, bacteria, fungus, or internal parasite that exists on humans or animals (also see weed).

**Exotic pest:** Non-native species of pests.

**Pest record:** A record of pest monitoring and of the control methods used on-farm.

**Pollination:** The transfer of pollen from the anthers of a flower to the stigma of the same type of flower. Pollination is required for plant fertilization. Without fertilization plants cannot produce seeds and associated fruits.

**Buzz pollination:** A highly efficient type of pollination used by bumblebees and some other solitary bees in which they grab a flower and use their flight muscles to vibrate the anthers, thus dislodging pollen.

**Pollinator:** An organism that moves pollen from the anthers to the stigmas of flowers. For example, bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, some flies, some wasps, and nectar feeding bats.

**Predator:** Any organism that lives by preying on other organisms (e.g., cougar, bear, predatory insects).

**Predator control:** Methods to control or reduce the impact wildlife has on agricultural operations. For example, habitat modification, cultural management, fencing, netting, scare tactics, repellents, trapping, and use of firearms.



**Proper functioning condition:** Refers to a condition in which an ecosystem is able to organize and regulate itself without management intervention and continues to perform key ecological functions that both support its functioning and generate ecosystem goods (like food and fibre) and services (like decomposition, water treatment and pollination).

## R

**Raptor:** See Wildlife.

**Red-listed:** Includes any ecological community, and indigenous species and subspecies that is extirpated, endangered, or threatened in British Columbia. Extirpated elements no longer exist in the wild in BC, but do occur elsewhere. Endangered elements are facing imminent extirpation or extinction. Threatened elements are likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed. Red-listed species and subspecies have or are candidates for official Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened Status in BC under the *Wildlife Act*. Not all red-listed taxa will necessarily become formally designated. Placing taxa on these lists flags them as being at risk and requiring investigation. Determined by the BC Conservation Data Centre.<sup>xi</sup>

**Refugia:** Areas that remain unchanged while surrounding areas change markedly; the unchanged areas thereby provide refuges for species that require specific habitats.

**Reptile:** See Wildlife.

**Retaining:** Refers to keeping existing habitats intact.

**Riparian, area or zone:** (a) transition area between watercourses and the surrounding, usually drier, upland areas, (b) the area of land that is adjacent to a stream, river, lake or wetland, and contains vegetation that, due to the presence of water, is distinctly different from the vegetation of adjacent upland; in dry locations, is easily identified by the green vegetation in contrast to the browns and yellows of the drier uplands.

**Riparian Management Plan:** Assist producers with the management and restoration of riparian habitat in agricultural areas. See page 7-10 in the Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan *Reference Guide* and the EFP *Riparian Management Field Workbook*.

**Riparian vegetation:** Plant communities dependent upon the presence of free water near the ground surface (high water table).

## S

**Semi-natural:** Semi-natural areas include features such as shelterbelts, hedgerows, fencerows, pastures, haylands, buffers, and road margins. These features can contain both native and non-native plant and animal species.

**Sensitive Ecosystem Inventories (SEI):** Systematically identifies and maps rare and fragile ecosystems in a given area. The purpose is to identify remnants of rare and fragile terrestrial ecosystems and to encourage land use decisions that will ensure the continued integrity of these ecosystems. Project by the BC Ministry of Environment.

**Shelterbelt:** Windbreak of living trees and shrubs established and maintained for protection of farm lands or buildings (see also Windbreak).

**Snag:** Any standing dead, dying, or defective tree that is at least three metres tall.

**Special Concern:** A species that is particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events but is not an endangered or threatened species; as designated by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.<sup>xii</sup>

**Species:** [from the *BC Wildlife Amendment Act 2004*] A species, subspecies, variety or genetically or geographically distinct population of (a) animals, (b) fish, (c) plants, or (d) other organisms, except bacteria and viruses.

**Species at risk:** Any plant or animal that is determined to be in danger of disappearing from the wild because their population is small, they have a small range and/or they require habitats that are drastically reduced or in danger of being lost altogether. Species at risk can include mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, molluscs, vascular plants, mosses and lichens.<sup>xiii</sup>

**Species diversity:** The variety of species.

**Species richness:** The number of species present in a given area.

**Stewardship:** The conducting, supervising or managing of something, especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. For example, stewardship of biodiversity on agricultural land.

**Strip cropping:** The alternation of crop rows and/or forages across the slope of the land to slow water runoff and reduce erosion.

**Sustainable agriculture:** Agricultural management practices that meet current and future human needs for food and fibre, for ecological goods and services, and for human health; and that do so by maximizing these societal benefits when all costs and benefits of these practices are considered.

## T

**Tame pasture:** Pasture planted to domesticated or introduced forage species that may require periodic cultural management such as fertilization, weed control, cultivation and re-seeding.

**Threatened:** A species likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed; as designated by the *BC Wildlife Act* and/or the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.<sup>xiv</sup>

## W

**Water:** [from the *Environmental Management Act*] Includes groundwater (as defined in the *Water Act*) and ice.

**Watercourse:** [from the *Forest Practices Code*] A place that perennially or intermittently contains surface water, including a lake, river, creek, canal, spring, ravine, swamp, salt water marsh or bog, and including a drainage ditch leading into the foregoing (also see stream).

**Watershed:** An area of land that collects and discharges water into a single creek or river through a series of small tributaries.

**Weed:** Any plant that is growing where it is not wanted and/or crowds out cultivated plants. Weeds can also crowd out desirable native plants. For information on how to identify common BC weeds, see *Guide to Weeds in BC* [www.weedsbc.ca/](http://www.weedsbc.ca/) and *Field Guide to Noxious and other Selected Weeds of British Columbia* [www.agf.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/weedguid/weedguid.htm](http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/weedguid/weedguid.htm)

**Annual weeds:** Complete their life cycle in less than 12 months, either summer or winter annuals.

**Aquatic weed:** Undesirable plant that grows in water, such as Eurasian watermilfoil.

**Biennial weeds:** Require between 12 and 24 months to complete their life cycle.

**Noxious weed:** [from the *Weed Control Act*] A weed designated by regulation to be a noxious weed, and includes the seeds of the noxious weed; specified in Weed Control Regulation, Schedule A. Noxious weeds are typically non-native plants that have been introduced to BC without insect predators and plant pathogens to keep them under control.<sup>xv</sup>

**Perennial weed:** Survive for several years, either creeping or non-creeping types.

**Wetland:** (a) area of wet soil that is inundated or saturated long enough to promote wetland or aquatic processes as indicated by the presence of poorly drained soils, hydrophytic (water loving) plants, and various kinds of biological activity adapted to a wet environment; (b) [from the *Forest Practices Code of BC Act*] swamp, marsh, bog or other similar area that supports natural vegetation that is distinct from adjacent upland areas.

**Wet meadow:** A meadow where the surface remains wet or moist throughout the growing season, usually characterized by plants such as water-tolerant grasses, sedges and rushes.

**Wildlife:** [from the *Wildlife Act*] Raptors, threatened species, endangered species, game or other species of vertebrates prescribed as wildlife and includes fish, but does not include species at risk.

**Amphibian:** A vertebrate of the class Amphibia and includes the eggs and other developmental life stages. Examples include frogs, toads and salamanders.

**Big game:** (a) any member of the family Cervidae, (b) mountain sheep, mountain goat, bison or pronghorn antelope, (c) bear, cougar or wolf, or (d) a mammal prescribed as big game.

**Bird:** An animal of the class Aves, and its eggs.

**Dangerous wildlife:** Bear, cougar, coyote, or wolf, or a species of wildlife that is prescribed as dangerous wildlife; it is unlawful to feed dangerous wildlife.

**Fish:** Any (a) vertebrate of the order Petromyzontiformes (lampreys) or class Osteichthyes (bony fishes), or (b) invertebrate of the class Crustacea (crustaceans) or class phylum Mollusca (mollusks) from or in non-tidal waters of BC, and includes their eggs and juvenile stages.

**Game:** Big game, small game, game birds and fur bearing animals, and other species prescribed as game.

**Raptor:** A bird of the order Falconiformes known as eagles, falcons, and hawks, or the order Strigiformes known as owls, and includes its eggs.

**Reptile:** A vertebrate of the class Reptilia and its eggs. Examples include snakes and lizards.

**Wildlife feature:** Habitat components that support wildlife species (see also Habitat). For example, trees with nesting cavities, rock piles, downed logs, underground burrows. Can also include constructed features such as bird feeders, nesting boxes and bat houses.

**Wildlife habitat:** See Habitat.

**Windbreak:** A screen, natural or human-made or of vegetation, that reduces wind velocity so as to protect lands, structures, or livestock.

## Y

**Yellow-listed:** All ecological communities and native species that are not at risk in British Columbia.<sup>xvi</sup>

## ENDNOTES

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