

## Appendix D: A Guide to Appendices P to U: Significant Species Reported in Ontario's Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands

COLUMN/FIELD	INTERPRETATION/EXPLANATION
<b>COMMON NAME:</b>	The nomenclature used follows the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) current standard (February, 1999).
<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME:</b>	The nomenclature used follows the NHIC current standard (February, 1999). "***" indicates an Ontario species only found in coastal wetlands
<b>NHIC S-RANK:</b>	<p>Provincial (or Sub-national) ranks are used by the Natural Heritage Information Centre to set protection priorities for rare species and natural communities. These ranks are not legal designations. The most important factors considered in assigning provincial ranks are the total numbers of known, extant sites in Ontario, and the degree to which they are potentially or actively threatened with destruction. Other criteria include the number of known populations considered to be securely protected, the size of the various populations, and the ability of the taxon to persist at its known sites. The taxonomic distinctness of each taxon has also been considered. Hybrids, introduced species and taxonomically dubious species, subspecies and varieties have generally not been included. By comparing the global and provincial ranks, the status, rarity, and the urgency of conservation needs can be ascertained. Provincial ranks have been assigned using the best available scientific information, and have been reviewed by a group of experts on the flora and fauna of Ontario. The NHIC evaluates provincial ranks on a continual basis. Species with ranks of S1, S2, S3, S3S4 (as of February 1999) are referred to in the text as provincially significant. In Appendices P to U, species with these ranks that are found in coastal wetlands are presented as significant species.</p> <p><b>S1</b> – Extremely rare in Ontario; usually 5 or fewer occurrences in the province or very few remaining individuals; often especially vulnerable to extirpation.</p> <p><b>S2</b> – Very rare in Ontario; usually between 5 and 20 occurrences in the province or with many individuals in fewer occurrences; often susceptible to extirpation.</p> <p><b>S3</b> – Rare to uncommon in Ontario; usually between 2 and 100 occurrences in the province; may have fewer occurrences, but with a large number of individuals in some populations; may be susceptible to large-scale disturbances.</p> <p><b>S4</b> – Common and apparently secure in Ontario; usually with more than 100 occurrences in the province.</p> <p><b>S5</b> – Very common and demonstrably secure in Ontario.</p> <p><b>SH</b> – Historically known from Ontario, but not verified recently (typically not recorded in the province in the last 20 years); however suitable habitat is thought to be still present in the province and there is reasonable expectation that the species may be rediscovered.</p> <p><b>SR</b> – Reported for Ontario, but without persuasive documentation which would provide a basis for either accepting or rejecting the report.</p> <p><b>SRF</b> – Reported falsely from Ontario.</p> <p><b>SX</b> – Apparently extirpated from Ontario, with little likelihood for rediscovery. Typically not seen in the province for many decades, despite searches at known historic sites.</p> <p><b>SE</b> – Exotic; not believed to be a native component of Ontario's flora or fauna.</p> <p><b>SU</b> – Unranked. SU species are possibly rare in Ontario, but there is insufficient information available to assign a more accurate rank.</p> <p><b>?</b> – Following a rank indicates some degree of uncertainty.</p>

	<p><b>B</b> following a bird rank indicates breeding.</p> <p><b>N</b> following a bird rank indicates non-breeding.</p> <p><b>Rank ranges</b>, e.g. S3S4 indicates that the Ontario rank is either S3 or S4, but that the information currently available is insufficient to determine which rank applies.</p>
<b>COSEWIC:</b>	<p>Status assigned by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, following the most recent COSEWIC list (November 2002) (<a href="http://www.cosewic.gc.ca">www.cosewic.gc.ca</a>).</p> <p><b>EXP – Extirpated.</b> A species no longer existing in the wild in Canada, but occurring elsewhere.</p> <p><b>END – Endangered.</b> A species facing imminent extirpation or extinction.</p> <p><b>THR – Threatened.</b> A species likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed.</p> <p><b>SC – Special Concern*.</b> A species of special concern because of characteristics that make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events.</p> <p><b>NAR – Not at Risk**.</b> A species that has been evaluated and found to be not at risk.</p> <p><b>DD – Data Deficient***.</b> A species for which there is insufficient scientific information to support status designation.</p> <p>* Formerly described as “Vulnerable” from 1990 to 1999, or “Rare” prior to 1990.  ** Formerly described as “Not in Any Category”, or “No Designation Required.”  *** Formerly described as “Indeterminate” from 1994 to 1999 or “ISIBD” (insufficient scientific information on which to base a designation) prior to 1994.</p>
<b>COSSARO:</b>	<p>Status assigned by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (September 2002) based on recommendations of a Ministry technical committee called the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO). Endangered species (END) are protected under the province’s <i>Endangered Species Act</i>. (<a href="http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/VTEEElist_2002_eng.pdf">www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/VTEEElist_2002_eng.pdf</a>)</p> <p><b>END – Endangered.</b> Any indigenous species of fauna or flora that, on the basis of the best available scientific evidence, is indicated to be threatened with immediate extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its Ontario range.</p> <p><b>END-R – Endangered Species regulated under the provincial <i>Endangered Species Act</i>.</b></p> <p><b>THR – Threatened.</b> Any indigenous species of fauna or flora, that on the basis of the best available scientific evidence, is indicated to be experiencing a definite non-cyclical decline throughout all or a major portion of its Ontario range, and that is likely to become an endangered species if the factors responsible for the decline continue unabated.</p> <p><b>VUL – Vulnerable.</b> Any indigenous species of fauna or flora that is represented in Ontario by small but relatively stable populations, and/or that occurs sporadically, or in a very restricted area of Ontario, or at the fringe of its range, and that should be monitored periodically for evidence of a possible decline. Vulnerable should now be used for species formerly designated as Rare by MNR.</p> <p><b>NIAC – Not in Any category.</b></p> <p><b>IND – Indeterminate.</b></p>
<b>LAKE/ CONNECTING CHANNEL:</b>	<p>The main body of water associated with the location of the coastal wetland for which the occurrence of a significant species has been reported. See DATA SOURCES for occurrence information sources.</p>
<b>BREEDING (CONFIRMED/ PROBABLE):</b>	<p><b>For significant bird species only (Appendix S).</b> The main location of breeding activity, confirmed or probable, for the occurrence of a significant bird species, or other breeding status information.</p>

<b>NON-BREEDING:</b>	<p><b>For significant bird species only (Appendix S).</b></p> <p>The main location of non-breeding activity, for the occurrence of a significant bird species, or other non-breeding status information.</p>
<b>HABITAT DESCRIPTION:</b>	General habitat condition(s) preferred by species.
<b>COMMENTS:</b>	<p><b>For unconfirmed records of significant vascular plants only (Appendix U).</b></p> <p>Further information on species habitat, species status, and species taxonomy, clarifying why a record may be unconfirmed according to the experts consulted.</p>
<b>DATA SOURCES:</b>	<p><b>Vascular Plant Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species status and occurrence verification:</b> W. Bakowsky, pers. com., 1996; J. Jalava, pers. com., 1996; M.J. Oldham, pers. com., 1996; D. Sutherland, pers. com., 1996</li> <li>• <b>Supporting Studies for species occurrence location:</b> OMNR Wetland Evaluations; Oldham, 1996</li> </ul> <p><b>Fish Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species status and occurrence verification:</b> A. Dextrase, pers. com., 1996; D. Sutherland, pers. com., 1996</li> <li>• <b>Supporting studies for species occurrence location or habitat descriptions:</b> Jude and Pappas, 1992; Lane <i>et al.</i>, 1996; Lee <i>et al.</i>, 1980; Mandrak and Crossman, 1993; Mandrak and Crossman, 1992; Meredith and Houston, 1988; Minns <i>et al.</i>, 1995; Parker <i>et al.</i>, 1987a, b; Parker and McKee, 1984; Scott and Crossman, 1973</li> <li>• no fish species identified in OMNR wetland evaluations</li> </ul> <p><b>Reptile and Amphibian Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species status and occurrence verification:</b> J. Jalava, pers. com., 1996; M.J. Oldham, pers. com., 1996; D. Sutherland, pers. com., 1996</li> <li>• <b>Supporting studies for species occurrence location:</b> OMNR Wetland Evaluations</li> <li>• <b>Supporting studies for habitat descriptions:</b> Harding, 1997</li> </ul> <p><b>Bird Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species status and occurrence verification:</b> W. Bakowsky, pers. com., 1996; M. Cadman, pers. com., 1996; J. Jalava, pers. com., 1996; M.J. Oldham, pers. com., 1996; D. Sutherland, pers. com., 1996;</li> <li>• <b>Supporting studies for species occurrence location:</b> Prince <i>et al.</i>, 1992; OMNR Wetland Evaluations; Cadman <i>et al.</i>, 1987</li> <li>• <b>Supporting studies for habitat descriptions:</b> Cadman <i>et al.</i>, 1987</li> </ul> <p><b>Lepidoptera Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species status and occurrence verification:</b> D. Sutherland, pers. com., 1996</li> <li>• <b>Supporting studies for species occurrence location:</b> OMNR Wetland Evaluations</li> </ul> <p><b>Unconfirmed Significant Vascular Plant Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species status and occurrence verification:</b> W. Bakowsky, pers. com., 1996; J. Jalava, pers. com., 1996; M.J. Oldham, pers. com., 1996; D. Sutherland, pers. com., 1996;</li> <li>• <b>Supporting Studies for species occurrence location:</b> OMNR Wetland Evaluations; Oldham, 1996</li> </ul>