

NWT Species at Risk Listing Decisions

YELLOWKNIFE (August 27, 2026) – The [Conference of Management Authorities](#) (CMA), established under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* to manage and recover species at risk in the Northwest Territories (NWT), has reached consensus on listing **northern leopard frog** and **western toad** on the [NWT List of Species at Risk](#). Both listings will be effective for 10 years.

[Northern leopard frog](#) has been uplisted to **Endangered** from its previous status as a **Threatened** species. In the NWT, northern leopard frogs have only been found near the Slave, Taltson, Tethul and Tazin rivers in the South Slave region. The population in the NWT is small, genetically distinct, and geographically isolated, which means if this population disappears, it would be difficult to replace.

[Western toad](#) will remain on the NWT List of Species at Risk as a **Threatened** species. In the NWT, western toads are at the northern edge of their range and are only found in the Liard River basin. Western toads are long-lived, and females may only breed once in their lifetime, which limits their ability to recover from population declines.

Additional species information and supporting documents, including the status reports, assessments and consensus agreements, are available at www.nwt-species-at-risk.ca.

For more information contact:

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Quick facts:

- The [Conference of Management Authorities](#) (CMA) is the group of wildlife co-management boards and governments that share management responsibility for the conservation and recovery of species at risk in the NWT. All CMA decisions are made by consensus of the Management Authorities.
- Northern leopard frog and western toad, like all amphibians, are particularly sensitive to threats.
- Northern leopard frog occurs only in a small area of the NWT and there are reports of declines from local communities. Northern leopard frog faces increasing threats from disease, drought, wildfire, and human disturbances such as hydro development.
- Western toad has a small range in the NWT and is vulnerable to threats. A disease outbreak could be harmful to the western toad population, in particular if combined with other stressors or threats that reduce immunity to diseases.
- Completed in 2017, the [Management Plan for Amphibians in the Northwest Territories](#) provides guidance for maintaining healthy and viable populations of amphibian species across their NWT range. It will continue to guide co-management partners on how to support the survival of these species.

Links:

- [Northern leopard frog](#) and [western toad](#) – NWT species webpages
- [Status Report and Assessment for Canadian Toad, Western Toad and Northern Leopard Frog in the NWT](#) (2025)
- [Management Plan for Amphibians in the Northwest Territories](#) (2017)
- [Progress Report on the Management of Amphibians in the NWT \(2017-2021\)](#) (2022)