

Saskatchewan Activity Restriction Guidelines for Sensitive Species

These guidelines aim to assist proponents during the planning of proposed projects. Pre-planning and avoidance of key habitats of sensitive species during sensitive periods is preferred. If your project activities fall within the listed set-back distances, please contact the Ministry of Environment at centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca early in the planning stage to minimize impacts to sensitive species.

Taxon, Taxa	Key Wildlife Features	Restricted Activity Periods	Setback Distances by Disturbance Category with Examples Provided		
			Low E.g., foot traffic, vehicles <1 ton including ATVs, operating oil or gas wells, pipelines) *FOOT TRAFFIC ONLY (FTO) is indicated for select taxa)	Medium E.g., vehicles >1 ton, plough-in pipeline, operating compressor station or battery. *In the case of FTO, small vehicles and ATVs are a medium disturbance.	High E.g., road, battery or compressor station construction, seismic, drilling rigs, trench-in pipeline, blasting, mines, gravel pit, quarries, rock crushing, asphalt batching, - renewable energy projects.

AMPHIBIANS

Great Plains Toad (<i>Anaxyrus cognatus</i>)	Breeding and overwintering habitat	Year Round	10 m	400 m	500 m
Canadian Toad (<i>Anaxyrus hemiophrys</i>)	Breeding and overwintering habitat	Year Round	0 m FTO	90 m	90 m
Plains Spadefoot (<i>Spea bombifrons</i>)	Breeding and overwintering habitat	Year Round	0 m FTO	90 m	90 m
Northern Leopard Frog (<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>)	Breeding and overwintering habitat	Year Round	10 m	200 m	500 m

REPTILES

Snapping Turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>)	Nesting Site	Mar. 15-June 30	0 m FTO	400 m	400 m
Eastern Yellow -bellied Racer (<i>Coluber constrictor flaviventris</i>)	Hibernacula	Apr. 1-Sept. 30	100 m	200 m	1000 m
		Oct. 1-Mar. 31	0 m FTO	200 m	200 m
Smooth Greensnake (<i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>)	Hibernacula	Apr. 1-Sept. 30	50 m	200 m	200 m
		Oct. 1-Mar. 31	0 m FTO	200 m	200 m
Plains Hog-nosed Snake (<i>Heterodon nasicus</i>)	Hibernacula	Apr. 1-Sept. 30	50 m	200 m	200 m
		Oct. 1-Mar. 31	0 m FTO	200 m	200 m
Prairie Rattlesnake (<i>Crotalus viridis viridis</i>)	Hibernacula	Apr. 1-Sept. 30	100 m	200 m	200 m
		Oct. 1-Mar. 31	0 m FTO	200 m	200 m
Greater Short-horned Lizard (<i>Phrynosoma hernandesi</i>)	Eroded Slopes (blue-shale outcrops)	Mar.15-Nov. 15	50 m	200 m	200 m

BIRDS

*Breeding Bird is characterized by: territorial behaviour; calling to competing male, mate or young; singing; courtship displays; carrying food or nest materials etc., and; presence of nest or young found incidentally.

Trumpeter Swan (<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>)	Breeding Bird*	Apr. 1-July 31	500 m	1000 m	1000 m
Greater Sage-Grouse (<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>)	SARA Emergency Protection Order (EPO)	Year Round	Refer to the Emergency Protection Order (EPO)		
	Non-EPO Lek	Year Round	500 m	3200 m	6400 m
	Habitat	Year Round	1000 m	1000 m	1000 m
Sharp-tailed Grouse (<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>)	Lek	Mar. 15-May 15	200 m FTO	400 m	400 m
Loons (<i>Gavia sp.</i>) and Colonial Nesting Grebes (Eared, Western, and Clark's Grebes) ¹	Breeding Bird* or Breeding Grebe Colony	May 15-July 15	100 m	200 m	200 m
American Bittern (<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 15	100 m	150 m	350 m
Colonial Nesting Birds (American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, ² White-faced Ibis and Glossy Ibis)	Nesting Colony	Apr. 1-July 31	500 m	1000 m	1000 m
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)	Nest Site	May 1-Aug. 15	500 m	1000 m	1000 m
Cooper's Hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>)	Nest Site	Apr. 1-July 31	200 m	400 m	400 m
Ferruginous Hawk (<i>Buteo regalis</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 15-July 15	500 m	750 m	1000 m
Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>)	Nest Site	Feb. 15-July 15	500 m	1000 m	1000 m
Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 15-July 15	500 m	750 m	1000 m
Whooping Crane (<i>Grus americana</i>)	Staging Area	May 1-Nov. 1	500 m	1000 m	1000 m
Yellow Rail (<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 15	100 m	150 m	350 m
Snowy Plover (<i>Charadrius nivosus</i>)	High-water Mark	May 1-July 31	200 m	400 m	600 m
		Aug. 1-Sept. 30	100 m	400 m	600 m
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus circumcinctus</i>)	High-water Mark	May 1-July 31	200 m	400 m	600 m
		Aug. 1-Sept. 30	100 m	400 m	600 m
Mountain Plover (<i>Charadrius montanus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 31	200 m	400 m	500 m

Long-billed Curlew (<i>Numenius americanus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	Apr. 15-July 15	100 m	200 m	200 m
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Staging Area	May 15-Jun. 30 Aug. 1-Aug. 31	500 m	500 m	1000 m
Gulls and Terns (<i>Laridae</i>), except Ring-billed and California Gulls ³	Nesting Colony	May 1-July 15	200 m	400 m	400 m
Short-eared Owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	Mar. 25-Aug. 1	100 m	300 m	500 m
Great Gray Owl (<i>Strix nebulosa</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 1-July 15	100 m	400 m	400 m
Barred Owl (<i>Strix varia</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 1-July 15	100 m	400 m	400 m
Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)	Breeding Bird*	Apr. 1-July 15	200 m	300 m	500 m
		July 16-Oct. 15	100 m	200 m	500 m
		Oct. 16-Mar. 31	10 m	200 m	500 m
Western Screech Owl (<i>Megascops kennicottii</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 1-July 15	100 m	400 m	400 m
Eastern Screech-Owl (<i>Megascops asio</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 1-July 15	100 m	400 m	400 m
Northern Hawk Owl (<i>Surnia ulula</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 1-July 15	100 m	400 m	400 m
Common Poorwill (<i>Phalaenoptilus nuttallii</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-Aug. 31	0 - 50 m	100 m	200 m
Eastern Whip-poor-will (<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-Aug. 31	0 - 50 m	100 m	200 m
Common Nighthawk (<i>Chordeiles minor</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-Aug. 31	0 - 50 m	100 m	200 m
Chimney Swift (<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 31	0 - 50 m	150 m	300m
Red-headed Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	Apr. 15-June 30	0 m FTO	100 m	100 m
Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>)	Nest Site	Apr. 1-Aug. 15	300 m	500 m	1000 m
Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>)	Nest Site	Mar. 15-July 15	500 m	750 m	1000 m
Olive-sided Flycatcher (<i>Contopus cooperi</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-Aug. 31	0 - 50 m	150 m	300m
Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-Aug. 15	50 m	250 m	400 m
Sage Thrasher (<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 15 – July 31	100m	200 m	200 m
Sprague's Pipit (<i>Anthus spragueii</i>)	Breeding Bird*	Apr. 21-Aug. 31	50 m	200 m	250 m
Chestnut-collared Longspur (<i>Calcarius ornatus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 31	25 m	100 m	200 m

McCown's Longspur (<i>Rhynchophanes mccownii</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 31	25 m	100 m	200 m
Canada Warbler (<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 31	0 - 50 m	150 m	300 m
Rusty Blackbird (<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>)	Breeding Bird*	May 1-July 31	0 - 50 m	150 m	300 m

MAMMALS

Black-footed Ferret (<i>Mustela nigripes</i>)	Residence or Prairie Dog Colony	Year Round	0 m FTO	250 m	500 m
Black-tailed Prairie Dog (<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>)	Colony	Year Round	0m FTO	250 m	500 m
Ord's Kangaroo rat (<i>Dipodomys ordii</i>)	Den	Year Round	50 m	250 m	500 m
Swift Fox (<i>Vulpes velox</i>)	Den	Feb. 15-Aug. 31	500 m	500 m	2000 m
	Den	Sept. 1-Feb. 14	100 m	500 m	2000 m
Bats (<i>Vespertilionidae</i>)	Roost/Foraging Site	Year Round	100 m	500 m	500 m

PLANTS

Federal and provincial plants of concern

1. Those plants listed under SARA as endangered, threatened, special concern or extirpated. 2. Those plants listed in the <i>Wildlife Act, 1998</i> .	Occurrence	Year Round	0 m FTO	30 m All examples of Low and Medium except FTO	300 m
1. Those plants listed on the SKCDC tracking list (e.g., usually ranked S1, S2, S3, SX, SH).	Occurrence	Year Round	0 m FTO	30 m	

FISH

Proponents should be aware of the following listed fish species and the waters in which they live. Contact the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (contacts below) if your project is in, or near, these waters.

Bigmouth Buffalo (<i>Ictiobus cyprinellus</i>)	The Qu'Appelle basin, including the waters of Buffalo Pound, Last Mountain, Pasqua, Echo, Mission, Katepwa (The Fishing Lakes), Crooked and Round lakes.
Chestnut Lamprey (<i>Ichthyomyzon castaneus</i>)	The waters of the Qu'Appelle River below the outlet of Round Lake and the upper Assiniboine basin including the Whitesand River and Shell River.
Lake Sturgeon (<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>)	The waters of the North Saskatchewan, South Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Rivers (including large connected waters such as the Torch River) and the waters of the Churchill River below the confluence of the Reindeer River.
Shortjaw Cisco (<i>Coregonus zenithicus</i>)	The waters of Reindeer Lake, Lake Athabasca, Black, Giles Lake and Wapata lake.

¹Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) and Eared Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*)

²American White Pelican (*Pelicanus erythrorhynchos*), Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*), Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), Great Egret (*Ardea alba*), Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*), Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*), Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*), and Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)

³Gulls (*Larus sp.*, *Leucophaeus sp.*, *Chroicocephalus sp.* and Ross's Gull, (*Rhodostethia rosea*), except California Gull (*Larus californicus*) and Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*)