



Consultations on the potential Listing of Lumpfish, Ringed Seal, Beluga and Harbour Porpoise under the *Species at Risk Act*

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is now conducting consultations with Indigenous organizations, stakeholders, and other parties who may be interested in, or potentially affected by, the potential listing of Lumpfish, Ringed Seal, Beluga (Eastern High Arctic-Baffin Bay Population), and Harbour Porpoise (Northwest Atlantic Population) under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Outcomes from the consultations will be considered by DFO when making a recommendation on whether these species should be added to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk.

The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assessed Lumpfish as **Threatened** in 2017, Ringed Seal as **Special Concern** in 2019, reassessed Beluga (Eastern High Arctic-Baffin Bay Population) as **Special Concern** in 2020, and assessed Harbour Porpoise (Northwest Atlantic Population) as **Special Concern** in 2022.

If Lumpfish is listed as threatened, the prohibitions under SARA would immediately come into effect in Canadian waters. It would be illegal to kill, harm, harass, capture, take, possess, collect, buy, sell, or trade Lumpfish. A recovery strategy and one or more action plans would be developed collaboratively with our co-management partners to support recovery of the species. Critical habitat, necessary for Lumpfish survival and recovery, would also be protected once identified.

If Ringed Seal, Beluga (Eastern High Arctic-Baffin Bay Population), and/or Harbour Porpoise (Northwest Atlantic Population) are listed as species of Special Concern under SARA, the prohibitions would not apply. If listed, one or more management plans would be developed collaboratively with co-management partners that would include conservation measures.

We would like to hear your thoughts on the potential impacts of adding or not adding Lumpfish, Ringed Seal, Beluga (Eastern High Arctic-Baffin Bay Population), and Harbour Porpoise (Northwest Atlantic Population) to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk under SARA. Please visit:

canada.ca/species-at-risk-registry (click on consultations) or contact:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada Species at Risk Program

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Please provide your comments by December 22, 2023.

For more information on the SARA or aquatic species at risk, please visit: [SARA Registry](#)