



Mr. Gordon Blackned
Chairperson
Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board
PO Box 580
4 Chief Isaiah Salt Road
Waskaganish QC J0M 1R0

December 3, 2021

OBJECT: Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board (EMRWB) approval of the Recovery Strategy for the Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) in Canada

Dear Mr. Blackned,

I am writing to you to request that the Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board (EMRWB) approve, at your earliest convenience, the Recovery Strategy for the Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) in Canada in accordance with the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement, articles 13.2.2(d)(i) and 15.3.1.

The Bank Swallow was listed as Threatened under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) in 2017. SARA requires that a recovery strategy be developed for each species listed as Extirpated, Endangered, and Threatened to reduce known threats and to support the recovery of species at risk.

In March 2021, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) invited the EMRWB to comment on a draft of the recovery strategy for the Bank Swallow as part of the jurisdictional review phase. In June 2021, ECCC posted a proposed version of the recovery strategy on the Species at Risk Public Registry for a 90-day period for public comment.

At the regular EMRWB meeting in August 2021, the EMRWB passed a resolution to exercise their role of approval of this recovery strategy and discussed how they would inform beneficiaries of the opportunity to comment on the recovery strategy. A fact sheet highlighting the key sections of the proposed recovery strategy was sent by ECCC to the Cree coastal communities and inviting them to provide any comments they might have. ECCC did not receive any comments from the Cree communities as a result of this outreach. ECCC received comments on the proposed version of the recovery strategy from the EMRWB in September 2021. ECCC carefully considered all comments received during the public consultation, including those from the EMRWB, and has now finalized the proposed version of the recovery strategy, which is attached to this letter.

Environment and Climate Change Canada is looking forward to the implementation of this recovery strategy and proceeding with measures for the recovery and protection of the Bank Swallow and hopes the EMRWB can make a decision in the near future. When sending your decision to the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of the Environment, please copy me (julie.spallin@ec.gc.ca).

We appreciate the Board's ongoing participation in the conservation of species at risk in Canada. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Spallin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Julie Spallin
Director General, Wildlife Management
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada

Enclosure:

Proposed Final Recovery Strategy for the Bank Swallow (Riparia riparia) in Canada