

Endangered Species and Spaces

Home
Up
Table of Contents
Introduction
Classification Systems
Mammals
Birds
Amphibians and Reptiles
Freshwater Fishes
Invertebrates
Vascular Plants
Non-Vascular Plants
Plant Communities
Protected Areas
Summary-Conclusions
Appendix

[Up](#)
[Exotic Birds](#)
[Exotic Species References](#)

11.1 Exotic Birds

(Adapted from Harding and Alder, 1999 - Living landscapes Website - in prep.).

Starlings and English sparrows, of which the former is a serious predator of native birds' eggs and nestlings, are easily recognized exotic birds. The crested myna of Vancouver is merely an interesting curiosity. The other introduced birds in British Columbia, however, are "exotic" in both meanings of the word: alien, and interesting. They include the game birds northern bobwhite, California quail, ring-necked pheasant, chukar, wild turkey (now becoming abundant in parts of the East Kootenay), gray partridge and American black duck, as well as the non-game species, rock dove (common domestic pidgeon), mute swan and Eurasian skylark. Of these, only the wild turkey and pheasant have established sizeable wild populations in the Columbia Basin. Some California quail, chukar and gray partridges can still be seen in the Thompson Okanagan, and may also occur in the Columbia Basin.

For information on exotic fish, mammals, invertebrates, vascular plants and range weeds, see Harding, Lee E. and Allison Alder, 1999 -Living Landscapes website.

Table 12: Number of Native and Alien Species in British Columbia

Taxonomic Group	Alien	Native	%
Mammals	12	131	8.4
Birds	14	434	3.1
Reptiles	4	15	21.1
Amphibians	2	18	10
Freshwater Fish	11	60	15.5
Vascular plants	662	2475	21.1
Aquatic Macrophytes	11	156	7.1
Wildflowers	114	951	9.3
All Beetles	248	3378	6.8

Source: Harding, L. 1994. Biodiversity in British Columbia. pp.161.

[[Home](#)] [[Up](#)] [[Exotic Birds](#)] [[Exotic Species References](#)]