

Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Data Dictionary

Revised: July 21, 2021

I. Biodiversity Database

The following fields of data may be included (and may or may not be populated) in occurrence records. Text fields are 255 char max. (and may truncate text).

TAXONOMY						
Field	Type	Definition				
MCODE	TXT	8 character 'Museum Code' (1 to 4 = genus, 5 to 8 = sp+ssp)				
ELCODE	TXT	Unique Identifier of taxon				
SCINAME	TXT	Global Scientific Name of taxon				
COMNAME	TXT	English Common Name of taxon				
NOMCOMMUN	TXT	French Common Name				
LOCATION						
Field	Type	Definition				
SURVEYSITE	TXT	General locality of occurrence				
DIRECTIONS	TXT	Specific locality: e.g. bearings and distance from enduring landmark				
SUBNAT	TXT	Province/State: 2 character ISO code				
COCODE	TXT	County Code (2 chars for province + 4 chars for county name)				
MAPCODE	TXT	Map number: NTS identifier in Canada				
UTME20	INT	Easting in UTM Zone 20				
UTMN20	INT	Northing in UTM Zone 20				
LONDEC	DEC	Decimal Longitude				
LATDEC	DEC	Decimal Latitude				
LOCUNCM	INT	Horizontal precision in metres				
PREC	DEC	Precision in metres by power of 10 (e.g. 3 = 10 to the 3rd = 1000 m = 1 km):				
		prec	common speech	example	unit size	literal range
		6.0	within province	province	1000.0 km	562.3 - 1778.3 km
		5.7	in part of province	'NW NB'	500.0 km	281.2 - 889.1 km
		5.0	within in county	county	100.0 km	56.2 - 177.8 km
		4.7	within 50s of kilometres		50.0 km	28.1 - 88.9 km
		4.0	within 10s of kilometres	BBA grid	10.0 km	5.6 - 17.8 km
		3.7	within 5s of kilometres		5.0 km	2.8 - 8.9 km
		3.0	within kilometres	topo grid	1.0 km	0.6 - 1.8 km
		2.7	within 500s of metres		500.0 m	281.2 - 889.1 m
		2.0	within 100s of metres	ball field	100.0 m	56.2 - 177.8 m
		1.7	within 50s of metres		50.0 m	28.1 - 88.9 m
		1.0	within 10s of metres	boxcar	10.0 m	5.6 - 17.8 m
		0.7	within 5s of metres		5.0 m	2.8 - 8.9 m
0.0	NOT USED	pace	1.0 m	0.6 - 1.8 m		
-1.0	within 10s of centimetres	finger nail	0.1 m	0.1 - 0.2 m		
RARITY / STATUS						
Field	Type	Definition				
NRANK	TXT	National Rarity Rank of taxon (in Canada)				
NPROT	TXT	National Protection Status of taxon (i.e., COSEWIC in Canada)				
NPROTSAR	TXT	National Protection Status of taxon (i.e., SARA in Canada):				
		code	Rank and short definition			
		X	Extinct in Canada and elsewhere			
		XT	Extirpated in Canada but surviving elsewhere			
		E	Endangered in Canada			
		T	Threatened in Canada			
		V	Vulnerable in Canada			
		SC	Special Concern in Canada			
		DD	Data Deficient: data inadequate for assessment			
		NAR	Not At Risk in Canada			
		SRANK	TXT	Subnational (Provincial) Rarity Rank of taxon:		
		code	Rank and short definition			
		SX	Extinct or extirpated in province			
		SH	Historically occurring but currently undetected in province			
		S1	Extremely rare in province			
		S2	Rare in province			

		S3	Uncommon in province
		S4	Widespread, common and apparently secure in province
		S5	Widespread, abundant and demonstrably secure in province
		SE	Exotic in province
		SA	Accidental, infrequent and outside of range within province
		SNA	Ranking not applicable in province
		SNR	Not yet assessed in province
IUCN	TXT	International Union of Conservation Naturalists rarity rank:	
		code	Rank and short definition
		EX	Extinct: no individuals remaining
		EW	Extinct in the Wild: only captive or naturalised survivors
		CR	Critically Endangered: extreme risk of extinction in wild
		EN	Endangered: high risk of extinction in wild
		VU	Vulnerable: high risk of endangerment in wild
		NT	Near Threatened: likely to become endangered soon
		LC	Least Concern: lowest risk, widespread and abundant
		DD	Data Deficient: data inadequate for assessment
		NE	Not Evaluated, not yet assessed against criteria
OBSERVATION			
Field	Type	Definition	
OBSERVER	TXT	Individual(s) that observed the taxon	
OBDATE	TXT	Date of observation (YYYY MM DD)	
OBDATA	TXT	Concatenation of fields below, relating to observation	
OBEVID	TXT	Type of evidence (e.g., specimen, photo)	
OBCOUNT	TXT	Number of individuals at location	
OBABUN	TXT	Relative rarity of taxon at location, e.g. 'common', 'scattered'	
OBSIZE	TXT	Size of individual	
SIZE	TXT	Size of occurrence 'patch' (in m ² , ha or acres)	
OBDESC	TXT	Details of specimen appearance or conditions	
OBPHEN	TXT	Lifestage of individual (e.g., bud, flowering)	
OBSEX	TXT	Male/female if relevant	
OBACTIV	TXT	Activity of individual when observed (e.g., nesting, crossing road)	
OBASSP	TXT	Other taxa associated with the observation	
NOTETAX	TXT	Identifier's note on taxonomic issues	
GENDESC	TXT	Concatenation of fields below, relating to site	
HABITAT	TXT	Habitat characterization of location	
ECODIST	NUM	National Ecological Framework EcoDistrict identifier	
WSCODE	TXT	Quaternary Watershed identifier	
GENCOM	TXT	General Comments: concatenation of Notes (NOTE1, NOTE2, NOTE3)	
COLLECTION			
Field	Type	Definition	
CITATION	TXT	Primary source of data	
DATA MANAGEMENT			
Field	Type	Definition	
IDNUM	TXT	AC CDC record Unique ID	
EDITION	TXT	Last editor's initials and date (YYYY MM DD)	

II. Managed and Biologically Significant Areas (MSA) Database

The following fields of data may be included (and may or may not be populated) for Managed and Biologically Significant Areas.

IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION		
Field	Type	Definition
msaGIS	INT	Unique GIS feature identifier
msaCode	TXT	Unique identifier for the MSA feature
msaClass	TXT	Whether the MSA feature is a Managed Area (MA) or biologically Significant Area (SA)
msaName	TXT	MSA feature name
msaNameFr	TXT	MSA feature name (French)
description	TXT	Description of the MSA feature
notes	TXT	Additional notes about the MSA feature
JURISDICTION / OWNERSHIP		
Field	Type	Definition
localJuris	TXT	Mandated agency with jurisdiction over property
owner	TXT	Property owner
ownerCom	TXT	Details of multiparty arrangements

ownerDate	TXT	Date of property possession	
CLASSIFICATION			
Field	Type	Definition	
protStat	TXT	Activities permitted or restricted (when known)	
legalAct	TXT	Title of enabling legislation	
legalDate	TXT	Year of enabling legislation	
estabDate	TXT	Year of site designation	
aichit11	TXT	Whether the site counts towards the Aichi Target 11 and Canada Target 1 biodiversity targets (yes or no)	
oecm	TXT	Other effective area-based conservation means (yes or no)	
iucnCat	TXT	IUCN protected area category. For complete category descriptions, visit https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/about/protected-area-categories . Features categorized as "YES" are sites which meet the standard definition of a protected area, but the category of protection has not yet been determined and features categorized as "N/A" are other area-based conservation measures or sites that do not meet the protected area definition (2018 Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) User Manual).	
msaType	TXT	MSA feature type:	
		group	Designation
		Conservation	Conservation Area
			Conservation Easement
			Fee-Simple Ownership by Environmental Non-Governmental Conservation Organization
			Land Trust Property
			Natural Area
			Nature Preserve
			Nature Reserve
			Nature Reserve and Conservation Easement
			Nature Trail
			Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measure
			Privately Owned Conservation Area
			Privately Owned Natural Area
			Protected Area
			Protected Beach
		Protected Natural Area	
		Provincially Owned Natural Area	
		To be determined	
		Heritage	Heritage River
			Museum
			National Historic Event
			National Historic Site
			Provincial Heritage Site
			Provincial Historic Site
			Provincial Historic/Heritage Park
		UNESCO World Heritage Site	
		Parks	Municipal Park
			National Park
			Nature Park
			Park
			Privately Owned Park
			Provincial Park
		Wilderness	Provincial Park Beach
			Ecological Reserve
			Environmentally Sensitive Area
			Significant Ecological Area
			Significant Ecological Area/International Biological Program
		Wildlife	Wilderness Area
			Wilderness Reserve
Eastern Habitat Joint Venture			
Important Bird Area (IBA)			
Marine Protected Area			
Migratory Bird Sanctuary			
National Wildlife Area			
Privately Owned Wildlife Management Area			
Provincial Wildlife Management Area			
Wildlife Management Area			
Wildlife Park			
Wildlife Refuge			
Wildlife Reserve			
Wildlife Sanctuary			
Other	Education Area		
	Experimental Area		
	Federal Corrections Facility		
	Fossil Site		
	International Biological Program		

			Memorial Site
			Other Managed Area
			RAMSAR Wetland Site
			Special Management Area
			Water Supply Area
			Watershed
LOCATION AND SPATIAL ATTRIBUTES			
<i>Field</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Definition</i>	
subnat	TXT	Two-letter jurisdiction code (NB, NS, PE, NF, LB)	
location	TXT	Directions to the MSA feature	
biome	TXT	Whether an MSA feature falls within the terrestrial (T) or marine (M) environment	
mapCode	TXT	The National Topographic System (NTS) map square the centre of the MSA feature falls within	
coCode	TXT	Provincial county code (2 chars for province + 4 chars for county name)	
latDec	DEC	Latitude of the centre of the MSA feature	
lonDec	DEC	Longitude of the centre of the MSA feature	
utmE20	INT	Easting of the centre of the MSA feature (NAD83 UTM Zone 20N)	
utmN20	INT	Northing of the centre of the MSA feature (NAD83 UTM Zone 20N)	
extentN	DEC	Northern extent of the MSA feature	
extentS	DEC	Southern extent of the MSA feature	
extentE	DEC	Eastern extent of the MSA feature	
extentW	DEC	Western extent of the MSA feature	
areaHa	DEC	Area of the polygon (ha)	
SOURCE ATTRIBUTES			
<i>Field</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Definition</i>	
sourceId	TXT	Unique ID of the MSA feature in the source dataset	
jurisId	TXT	Unique ID of the MSA feature in the original dataset	
srcFeatType	TXT	Whether the feature was a point (PT) or polygon feature (PY) in the source dataset. True boundaries of point MSA features are not known. Points have been buffered by 15m to be included in this MSA database	
url	TXT	Associated website holding additional information about the source feature or database	
bestSource	TXT	Unique identifier for the source database	
citation	TXT	Primary source of data	
edition	TXT	Initials and date (YYYY MM DD) pertaining to the last edit to the MSA feature	