

Note: the McCallum boundary study added a rare lichen, The Blue Felt Lichen, to the rare and endangered species list at Sandy Lake, bringing the known total to 16, grand total 24 depending on the list used.
<https://cdn.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/regional-council/220712rc15110.pdf>

Summary: Sandy Lake Avian Species Report by **Natural Wonders Consulting** <http://versicolor.ca/sandylakebedford/species-lists/avian-sar-report/>

In March 2020, the Natural Wonders Consulting Firm (NWCF) reported on Avian & Species at Risk Surveys of the proposed Sandy Lake – Sackville River Regional Park.

There were an astounding 11 habitats identified within the proposed park.

Data drawn from the Report:

- 117 species of birds visit or reside year-around or seasonally within the SR-SRRP
- 99 bird species nest within the SR-SRRP
- **15 are avian species of “Species of Concern”**
- Of those 15, **7 are classified as “Species-At-Risk”** and are protected under the Nova Scotia Endangered Species Act

The NWCF Report also documents **6 non-avian Species-At-Risk** in the SL-SRRP, these being the

- Monarch Butterfly
- Little Brown Myotis (Bat)
- Moose (Mainland Population)
- Common Snapping Turtle
- Eastern Painted Turtle
- Wood Turtle

Two Species present but not cited as they are aquatic and outside of the NWCF study scope are

- Atlantic Salmon
- American Eel

In summary, the proposed park has **11 habitats**, at least **15 avian and non-avian Species-At-Risk** on **Federal and Provincial lists (total: 15 + 6 + 2 = 23, plus Blue Felt Lichen = 24)** along with an amazing number of **old growth forest stands**, part of the less than 1% still remaining in the province.

Dr. D. Patriquin asks, “Is there any other equivalent area in HRM?”

