



**WILDERNESS
COMMITTEE**

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WildernessCommittee.org

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March 14, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

Almost 60 per cent of wildlife populations in Canada are declining and the number of species at risk in Canada is growing rapidly. We need action now to protect the species who are not yet at risk and recover ones who are.

The South Okanagan-Similkameen is key to protecting over 65 federally listed species at risk who call this region home. This part of the country is unlike any other part of Canada with its distinct ecosystems hosting unique, rare and endangered plants and animals.

That is why the South Okanagan-Similkameen National Park Reserve must become a reality. Without protection through a national park reserve there will be more development, increased cattle grazing and vineyard expansion which may ultimately change the landscape beyond repair and the species living there could be lost forever.

The Okanagan Nation Alliance support the park reserve and will be co-managing the park along with the governments of B.C. and Canada. The South Okanagan-Similkameen is the Syilx/Okanagan Nation's traditional territory and this national park reserve is an important step towards reconciliation. We must support the Okanagan Nation Alliance by assisting them in the creation of a national park reserve.

Will you support the creation of the South Okanagan-Similkameen National Park Reserve?

[Read our latest publication*](#) and contact me at 778-903-3992 or charlotte@wildernesscommittee.org to discuss these issues further.

Thank you for ensuring we're doing all we can, together, to protect species at risk and wilderness across the country.

* Available in Clerks Office

For the wildlife,

Referred to:

Environment and Social Planning Committee (2019.05.06)

Copied to:

City Manager

Dir. Corporate Services

Dir. Engineering

Dir. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services


Charlotte Dawe | Conservation & Policy Campaigner