



Global responsibility for species is not reflected in local conservation priorities

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1 Global responsibility for species is not reflected in local conservation priorities

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10 Running head: Endemism, peripheral species and conservation practice in BC

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14

15 Abstract

16 Prioritizing species for conservation attention is a crucial issue facing scientists and
17 policy-makers in conservation biology. Regionally based institutions that focus on
18 species locally at risk, and global institutions that focus on the status of species
19 worldwide can conflict in the conservation priorities they identify for a particular

jurisdiction. Furthermore, the biological criteria for prioritization can yield vastly different threat levels for species when employed at different spatial scales. We explored the relationships between provincial listing status of terrestrial mammals, amphibians and reptiles in British Columbia (BC; Canada), and species' total range size, global listing status and the proportion of their range in BC. We found that, while globally-listed species were also more likely to be listed locally in BC, *less*-endemic species were more likely to be listed than more-endemic species, regardless of their global range size. These patterns hold independent of other important predictors of species listing status such as population trend, number of occurrences of a species that are protected (e.g. within a nature preserve), whether or not a species' range is disjunct in BC, and the taxon of a species. Our results suggest that current conservation effort may be overly focused on the status of species at the local level rather than on global stewardship, which is likely to be detrimental to global biodiversity as a whole.

Introduction

Prioritizing species for conservation attention in the face of widespread species decline and loss is one of the most important issues currently facing conservation biologists and conservation policy-makers. Setting conservation priorities is complicated by the fact that locally based institutions (such as state or provincial conservation authorities) tend to focus on species that are locally at risk (Wells et al. 2010), while institutions that focus on the status of species at a larger scale (e.g. NatureServe; IUCN) emphasize species that are globally threatened. Hence, these bodies can conflict in the conservation priorities they

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1 identify for a particular jurisdiction. A local focus can neglect global patterns of rarity, so
2 when a species is locally secure but globally threatened, it may be underserved by local
3 conservation priorities. Alternatively, species that are locally rare but globally secure
4 might receive disproportionate investment. For example, Wells et al. (2010) showed that
5 over half of bird species included on U.S. state lists of conservation priority were species
6 that both were at low risk globally, and did not have a substantial proportion of their
7 global population within the listing states. This type of ‘parochial’ conservation
8 prioritization has been criticized for its disproportionately high (on a needs basis)
9 resource allocation to species that are globally secure. For example, when the scale of
10 analysis was changed from treating North America as a single unit to treating all North
11 American (U.S., Mexico and Canada) states and provinces separately, Vazquez,
12 Rodríguez and Arita (2008) found that the number of ‘priority areas’ identified as
13 conservation targets in order to protect a given set of species increased by approximately
14 an order of magnitude. This indicates that limited conservation resources will be
15 allocated less efficiently when applied to local conservation concerns.
16
17 Local conservation priorities may particularly conflict with global priorities when species
18 are peripheral in a particular jurisdiction (species with only a small proportion of their
19 range falling within the borders of a particular geopolitical entity; Hunter and Hutchinson
20 1994; Bunnell, Campbell and Squires 2004). Conversely, a global conservation focus,
21 while aiming to maximize the total level of biodiversity that is maintained globally, can
22 lead to loss of biodiversity at the local scale. While jurisdictional conservation priorities
23 would ideally encompass both local and global conservation concerns, limited human or

1 financial conservation resources constrain the number of species for which conservation
2 action can be taken.

3
4 In the context of such resource allocation concerns, a socio-political conceptualization of
5 endemism could help to focus scarce conservation resources on species that exist
6 primarily in a single area that is governed by a particular political body. The idea that
7 socio-political entities (e.g. nations, states) should accept stewardship responsibility for
8 species with a substantial proportion of species' ranges falling within their borders is
9 consistent with a public preference for the conservation of locally endemic species
10 (Meuser, Harshaw and Mooers 2009; Verissimo et al. 2009). When the concept of
11 endemism is applied in the geopolitical sense, endemism works in tandem with threat to
12 define a concept described by Bunnell et al. (2004) as 'global stewardship responsibility'
13 for species. This approach has been criticized because socio-political boundaries are
14 irrelevant to the biological entities themselves (see, e.g. Connolly et al. 2010); however,
15 as conservation resources tend to be allocated over spatial scales much smaller than the
16 span of many species' geographical ranges, stewardship responsibility may represent an
17 approach to conservation prioritization that is consistent with current decision-making
18 frameworks and pre-existing local conservation capabilities.

19
20 Although endemic species enjoy public (Meuser et al. 2009; Verissimo et al. 2009) and
21 scientific (Bunnell et al. 2004) support for their conservation, this has not translated into
22 more-endemic species being prioritized for conservation at either the provincial (Bunnell
23 et al. 2004) or the federal level (Findlay et al. 2009) in Canada. For instance, species that

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1 exist only within the single Canadian province of BC (true endemics) were less likely to
2 be listed on the provincial Red and Blue lists than peripheral species (species for which
3 <10% of their range falls within the focal jurisdiction; Bunnell et al. 2004). Canada-wide,
4 Findlay et al. (2009) found that as more of a species' range fell within Canadian borders,
5 the less likely they were to be listed under Canada's Species At Risk Act (SARA 2003),
6 although this relationship was complicated by a strong relationship between degree of
7 endemism and taxonomy (72% of the more-endemic species were mammals or fishes in
8 their data set).

9
10 While some component of species' risk status may reflect geopolitical boundaries,
11 biological and ecological factors are, of course, important to the listing status of species.
12 In particular, small range size is one of the most important predictors of extinction risk
13 (Purvis et al. 2000). Here, we investigate how an ecological factor, total range size,
14 interacted with a human-imposed condition, the proportion of a species' range falling
15 within a jurisdiction, in their effect on the probability that a species would be included in
16 jurisdictional lists of at-risk species.

17
18 Following from the preliminary findings of Bunnell et al. (2004; Fig. 1a) and the federal
19 listing patterns documented by Findlay et al. (2009) that more-endemic species are less
20 likely to be listed, we predicted that species with larger proportions of their ranges in BC
21 (more endemic) would be less likely to be provincially listed than species with a smaller
22 proportion of their ranges in BC (more peripheral). We also expected that because small
23 ranges can reflect greater extinction risk, species with smaller range sizes would be more

likely to be included on provincial Red and Blue lists of at-risk species than species with larger range sizes, for a given proportion of range falling within BC (Fig. 1b). Finally, we test for an interaction between these two factors: if conservation prioritization in BC is blind to global endangerment, then we might expect a negative interaction, such that both small- and large-ranged species might be listed if they are peripheral, while only small-ranged species are likely to be listed if much of their range is in the province.

Methods

We obtained extent of occurrence (range) maps for terrestrial mammals, amphibians and reptiles (N=135) from the IUCN website (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/spatial-data>; Accessed 22/09/2010). Based on these maps (transformed to cylindrical equal-areas projections), we used ArcGIS (9.3, 2008) to determine the total range size of each species, and the proportion of each species' total range that falls within BC. Both total range size and proportion of range in BC were included in the analysis as transformed variables (log and arcsin square root, respectively) as both raw variables were non-normally distributed.

We obtained information on the number of adequately protected or managed occurrences of each species, population trends and global status from the NatureServe and IUCN websites. Information about whether or not species' ranges are disjunct in BC (where the population in BC is geographically separated from other populations of the same species) was obtained from Bunnell, Kremsater and Houde (2007). Table 1 describes the variables

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1 that were included in the analysis. Preliminary analysis of correlations between variables
2 showed insufficient multicollinearity to warrant excluding any variables (correlations
3 ranged from |0.05|- |0.5|; Table 2).

4
5 The binary response variable (listed/not listed) was based on provincial listing status from
6 the BC Ministry of Environment’s Species and Ecosystems Explorer
7 (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/red-blue.htm>; Accessed 30/09/2010). For the purposes
8 of this analysis, we classified species as ‘listed’ if they were designated under either Red
9 or Blue lists, and ‘not listed’ if species were provincially Yellow listed (not at risk), or
10 were indicated as ‘unknown’ or ‘no status.’ It is important to note that these provincial
11 lists do not confer legal protection on species, but rather serve to identify at-risk wildlife
12 for the purposes of conservation prioritization, or to inform more formal conservation
13 designations at the provincial or federal level.

14
15 We predicted that there would be an interaction between the total range size of a species
16 and the proportion of that range falling within BC in their effect on the probability that a
17 species will be listed as a conservation priority (Fig. 1b). Therefore, both of these
18 variables, as well as their interaction, were included in each candidate model. The other
19 variables listed in Table 1 were included to explain additional variation in species’
20 probability of listing, but are not an exhaustive list of variables one might expect to be
21 influential upon this outcome. For example, species’ economic or ecological importance
22 is not included in this analysis.

23

Given the dichotomous outcome variable (listed/not listed), we used logistic regression (which constrains the response variable to values between 0 and 1) to describe a candidate set of linear models. We then used an information-theoretic approach to model selection, comparing Akaike information criteria from each candidate model to select the best model (lowest AIC) and other models with substantial empirical support (within +2 AIC units of the best model; Burnham and Anderson, 2002). In order to explicitly test the hypothesis of an interaction effect between species' range size and the proportion of their range in BC on their probability of being listed in BC, we generated one model including only these two variables and their interaction term, as well as a model including all variables from the best model, but excluding the range-by-proportion interaction term. All models were tested in the R (2010) software environment using the glm command of the linear and non-linear mixed-effects models library (Pinheiro et al. 2010; R package version 3.1-97).

Results

Thirty-seven terrestrial mammal, amphibian and reptile species out of 135 (27.4%) are included on British Columbian Red and Blue Lists, with species that are globally at risk being more likely to be listed locally than species that are not globally at risk ($\chi^2 = 21.11$, $p < 0.001$; Fig. 2). Two mammals and one amphibian have IUCN (global) Red List ranks of G1-G3, or Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable (Vancouver Island Marmot, G1; Oregon Spotted Frog, G2; Keen's Myotis, G2G3), and these are included on BC lists of at-risk species. Eighteen species (7 amphibians and 11 mammals) have an

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1 IUCN Red List rank of G4-G4G5 (Apparently Secure) of which 11 (4 amphibians and 7
2 mammals) are included on provincial lists. The remaining 114 species (12 amphibians, 90
3 mammals, and 12 reptiles) have an IUCN rank of G5, or Secure. Of these, 23 (4
4 amphibians, 14 mammals and 6 reptiles) are included on provincial lists (Fig. 2).

5
6 The model of provincial listing with the greatest empirical support (model 1a,
7 AIC=86.77; Table 3) included total range size, the proportion of species range in BC,
8 number of protected occurrences, population trend, and the interaction between range
9 size and proportion of range in BC. The four best-supported models of listing probability
10 showed a positive effect of range size and proportion of range in BC, and a negative
11 relationship with the interaction between range size and proportion of range in BC. The
12 number of occurrences of a species that are protected and species population trend were
13 also negatively related to listing probability, while species that are disjunct in BC showed
14 a positive relationship (models 3 and 4). Amphibians and reptiles were also more likely
15 to be listed than mammals in models 2 and 4 (Table 3).

16
17 Importantly, model 5, which included *only* range size, proportion of range in BC, and
18 their interaction term, also had some degree of empirical support (model 5, $\Delta_i = 3.08$;
19 Table 3), meaning that these three terms contribute to listing. Conversely, when the
20 interaction term was removed from the overall best-supported model, the resulting model
21 had essentially no empirical support (model 1b, $\Delta_i = 20.11$; Table 3).

22

1 The interaction between total range size and proportion of species range in BC captures
 2 the observation that species with both small and large ranges were similarly likely to be
 3 provincially listed when they were more peripheral. More-endemic species having small
 4 global ranges were somewhat less likely to be included on provincial lists, while more-
 5 endemic species with large global ranges were much less likely to be provincially listed
 6 (Figs. 1c and 3). Looking at this relationship separately by taxonomic group, the pattern
 7 of large-ranged species being more likely to be listed when they were more peripheral
 8 holds for reptiles and mammals, but not for amphibians (Figs. 4a-c). Small-ranged
 9 species were equally likely to be provincially listed with either high or low proportions of
 10 their ranges falling within BC for the reptiles and amphibians, while more-endemic,
 11 small-ranged mammals were more likely to be listed than small-ranged mammals that
 12 were more peripheral (Figs. 4a-c). However, given the small number of species
 13 generating these relationships for the reptiles and amphibians, these latter taxonomic
 14 differences should be interpreted cautiously.

15
 16 Species' total range size and the proportion of their range falling within BC were
 17 negatively correlated ($r = -0.317$, $p = 0.001$; Fig. 4a-c) with a triangular projection in log-
 18 space due in part to the total hard upper limit imposed by the size of BC. The extreme
 19 end of the distribution was comprised of large-ranged carnivores. To test these species'
 20 effect on the relationships obtained in the models described below, we re-ran the analysis
 21 excluding the 5 largest-ranged carnivores (*Vulpes vulpes*, *Canis lupus*, *Mustela nivalis*,
 22 *Mustela erminea*, and *Ursus arctos*). While the magnitude of coefficients generated by

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1 the logit regressions changed when these species were excluded, the direction and
2 significance of relationships between variables did not.

3

4 Discussion

5 British Columbian conservation priorities are relatively congruent with global
6 conservation priorities for terrestrial mammals, amphibians and reptiles (Fig. 2).
7 However, given that only three species in this data set are at high-risk globally, this is not
8 necessarily indicative of provincial policy being intentionally in line with global
9 priorities. Indeed, Bunnell et al.'s (2004) findings indicate that this is unlikely to be the
10 case. A majority of species ($11/18=61\%$) in the G4 global risk category were listed
11 provincially, but it is perhaps concerning that not all of these species were listed in
12 preference to other, listed species in the G5 (secure) global risk category (for which
13 $23/114=20\%$ of species in this data set were provincially listed; Fig. 2).

14

15 Applying conservation criteria at the regional level has been critiqued for two, conflicting
16 reasons: the unaltered application of global criteria at a local scale when that is not
17 reflective of the local status of the species; and the application of local criteria within
18 jurisdictional boundaries without regard for species' ecological status in neighbouring
19 regions (Bunnell et al. 2004). The former problem will tend to downplay local risk
20 factors, while the latter exaggerates local phenomena that may or may not be important to
21 the population at an ecologically relevant scale. Based on the results of this analysis, BC
22 appears to fall in the second category, with more-peripheral species being more likely to

1 be included on lists of conservation concern than species for which BC bears greater
2 global responsibility. Specifically, the hypothesis of an interaction effect between total
3 range size and proportion of range in BC was supported by the analysis, indicating that
4 while jurisdictional rarity influences regional listings, this effect does not operate
5 independently of biological rarity. It is, however, important to note that our data do not
6 allow us to comment on whether these listing decisions are positive or negative for
7 biodiversity conservation in the province, as this would require information about, e.g.
8 future range shifts due to climate change, the opportunity costs of listing one species over
9 others, and the effect of local listing status on the conservation of a species.

10
11 Small-ranged species are intrinsically more likely to be threatened with extinction than
12 species with larger ranges (Purvis et al. 2000), so, other things being equal, should be
13 more likely to be included on lists of conservation concern. The fact that small-ranged
14 species were more likely to be listed when they were more peripheral than when they
15 were more endemic to the province indicates that spanning a geopolitical border has an
16 impact on how species are treated within the province. It appears that jurisdictional
17 priorities in BC tend to focus on biological and ecological variables that are BC-specific,
18 regardless of the status of species beyond provincial borders.

19
20 Notably, more-peripheral, large-ranged species were equally likely to be listed
21 provincially as more peripheral, small-ranged species, and more likely to be listed than
22 small ranged species that were more endemic. These large-ranged peripheral species are
23 those for which BC is unlikely to contribute substantially to their current conservation.

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1 Indeed, targeting these species as conservation priorities overlooks the fact that species
2 have natural spatial extents. There has been extensive study of the factors limiting the
3 geographic distributions of species (see, e.g., Gaston 2003). These include insufficient
4 resources (Alkon and Saltz 1988), high mortality or poor growth or development of
5 young (St. Clair and Gregory 1990; Morita and Yamamoto 2000), and low genetic
6 variability (Yamashita and Polis 1995) at species' range margins, while gene flow from
7 central populations to peripheral populations can prevent adaptation of local populations
8 to local conditions (Kirkpatrick and Barton 1997; Bridle and Vines 2006). Because
9 conditions at the margins of a species' range are less favourable to the species than
10 conditions at the centre (Lesica and Allendorf 1995), populations at the edges of ranges
11 tend to be smaller and more fragmented (Brown, Mehlman and Stevens 1995; Thomas
12 and Kunin 1999), and show more demographic variability and different genetic structure
13 (Vucetich and Waite 2003) than those at the centre. Essentially, these factors amount to
14 peripheral populations more likely being sink populations, characterized by a lower birth
15 rate than death rate and therefore dependent on continual migration from connected
16 source populations. Setting local conservation priorities for species having fluctuating
17 populations across a geopolitical border because they appear to be at risk ignores these
18 important issues: Bunnell et al. (2004) note that the suite of peripheral species considered
19 to be locally at risk in a particular jurisdiction would change if the borders of that
20 jurisdiction shifted, without a change in the species' abundance or distribution. Thus,
21 apparent species rarity can be the result of human-imposed boundaries.

22

1 While inclusion of species as conservation priorities simply by merit of their being
2 peripheral is not a good strategy, deprioritizing species simply because they are
3 peripheral is similarly unwise. For example, a local focus can also help to motivate local
4 conservation efforts beyond regulatory status, given that this is the scale at which most
5 conservation organizations operate. Such local concern is likely to lead to better
6 conservation outcomes.

7
8 There are also biologically compelling reasons for prioritizing peripheral populations for
9 conservation (e.g. Fraser 2000). In general, species tend to collapse toward the edges of
10 their ranges (Lomolino and Channell 1995), and are rediscovered at the edges of their
11 range where they may be isolated from threats at the range centre (Fisher and Blomberg
12 2010; Fisher, in press). So, peripheral populations of species have been used to
13 repopulate more central portions of a species' range when central populations suffer from
14 extreme bottlenecks or are extirpated (e.g. sea otter, Watson et al. 1997). Margins of
15 species ranges have also been identified as areas where speciation may be more likely to
16 occur, due to reduced gene flow from central populations and different abiotic and biotic
17 conditions (Keyghobadi, Roland and Strobeck 2005).

18
19 Especially with regard to peripheral species, a local conservation focus can help to
20 maintain the full complement of genetic diversity (Manos, Doyle and Nixon 1999) and
21 ecological roles represented within a species. Populations on the margins of a species'
22 range can be adapted to more extreme environments (Parsons 1991; Lesica and Allendorf
23 1995; Guo et al. 2005; Bears, Martin and White 2009) or be involved in different

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1 ecological associations than populations nearer the centre of the range (Hunter and
2 Hutchinson 1994; Hardie and Hutchings 2010). This is particularly true when peripheral
3 populations are also disjunct (Bunnell et al. 2004). These observations imply that
4 neglecting species that are peripheral in BC may have consequences for these species'
5 future persistence.

7 Importantly, species' ranges are not static. Faced with projected shifts in species ranges
8 associated with global climate change, in this case study, southern areas of British
9 Columbia may become an increasingly important refuge for species that are unable to
10 tolerate newly inhospitable climates in their historical ranges. Population adaptations to
11 more marginal conditions may aid species in shifting their ranges in response to climate
12 change (Crozier 2003).

14 Administratively, the picture for provincial listing of species, particularly of endemic
15 species, may soon change in British Columbia: the province's new Conservation
16 Framework (Ministry of Environment 2009) includes an explicit focus on species for
17 which British Columbia bears a high stewardship responsibility (Bunnell et al. 2004).
18 Local environmental NGOs have spoken out against this move (Connolly et al. 2010),
19 fearing that BC may now justify an overall less resource-intensive approach, with a focus
20 on more-endemic species while neglecting more-peripheral species. These concerns may
21 be well-founded: Ninety-six per cent of BC's species are shared with other jurisdictions,
22 with many of these being peripheral (67% of mammals, amphibians and reptiles had
23 <10% of their range falling within BC in this data set); deprioritizing these species at the

1 provincial level may have important consequences for local biodiversity (Connolly et al.
2 2010). It is imaginable that a provincial conservation strategy that focuses on species that
3 are more endemic to the province could be ‘successful’ at protecting its target species
4 while the majority of provincial biodiversity remained locally at risk.

5
6 Ecologists have long recognized the necessity of incorporating information across
7 different spatial and temporal scales (Levin 1992; Gaston 2003). An approach to
8 conservation that is balanced between local and global priorities is likely to be the best
9 strategy to maintaining the maximum level of biodiversity. However, the optimal
10 approach to conservation priorities depends on the desired outcomes of conservation, and
11 these are not always clear. That said, the patterns we document here are consistent with
12 the view that current conservation effort may be too focused on the status of species at
13 the local level, perhaps to the detriment of global biodiversity as a whole, if over-
14 allocation of limited conservation resources to locally rare species while neglecting
15 globally threatened species contributes to global species loss (Bunnell et al. 2004; Wells
16 2010).

17
18 Making appropriate conservation prioritization decisions is contingent upon being clear
19 about the specific objectives of, and timescale relevant to, the particular conservation
20 focus in a given situation. There are compelling reasons to protect both more-endemic
21 and less-endemic species, and deciding which species to focus conservation attention on
22 requires input from both the natural and social (economics, policy, psychology/sociology)
23 sciences. Ensuring that species for which a jurisdiction has high stewardship

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1 responsibility are afforded protection may help to remedy the situation documented here
2 in which species that the province is least able to protect (peripheral species) are those
3 that are most likely to be listed. However, peripheral species are also important in their
4 contribution to overall local biodiversity, as well as improving the chances of species'
5 persistence. Limited conservation resources necessitate difficult decision making between
6 conservation priorities, and this will always be an uncomfortable and delicate balance.

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Review Copy

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Figure and table captions

Figure 1: Contrasting predictions of jurisdiction-based species prioritization. Dark-shaded ranges are predicted to have a higher probability of being included as conservation priorities, unshaded the lowest probability, and grey-hatched a medium probability. Rectangles represent the focus jurisdiction, while ovals represent species' ranges. (a) Prediction based on the findings of Bunnell et al. (2004, (b) the hypothesis of an interaction effect on provincial listing status between range size and proportion of range in British Columbia presented here; (c) the results of the analysis. We did not make a prediction about the difference in probability of listing between the two grey-hatched ranges in (b).

Figure 2: British Columbian conservation listings of mammal, reptile and amphibian species, compared to global status (IUCN Redlist) ranks. N = 135; species for which provincial status was listed as 'unknown' or 'no status' were included as Not Listed.

Figure 3: Listing probability for species with large or small range sizes, with large or small proportions of their ranges falling within BC.

Figure 4: Plots of a) amphibian, b) mammal, and c) reptile species' log total range sizes versus the proportion of their range in BC. Filled points indicate provincially listed species; open points indicate unlisted species.

Table 1: Variables included in logit models of species' local listing probability.

Table 2: Correlations among variables included in models. Read cells as: Pearson correlation (r); P -value. $N=105$ for all comparisons.

Table 3: Variables retained in models of provincial listing status. Model 1a has the greatest empirical support, while models 2-4 have $\Delta_i < 2$. Model 5 includes only the variables involved in the hypothesis: range, proportion of range in BC and their interaction. Model 1b is the best-supported model (1a) with the interaction term (Total range size*Proportion of range in BC) removed.

Figure 1:

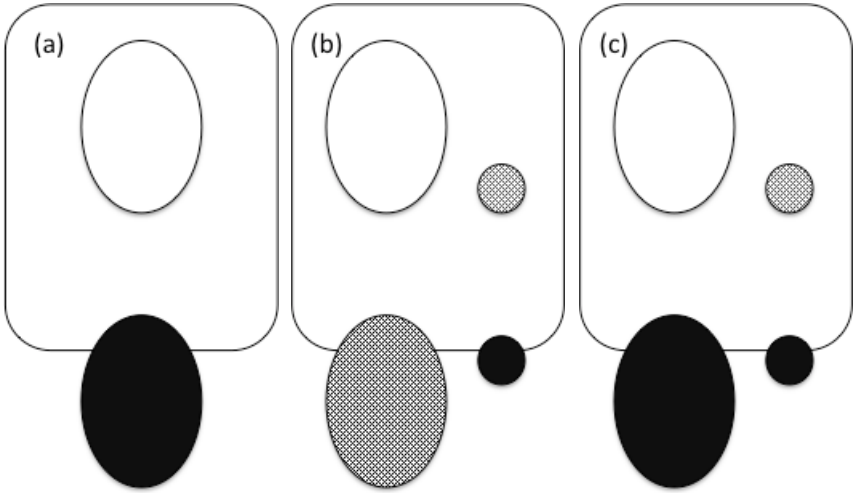


Figure 2:

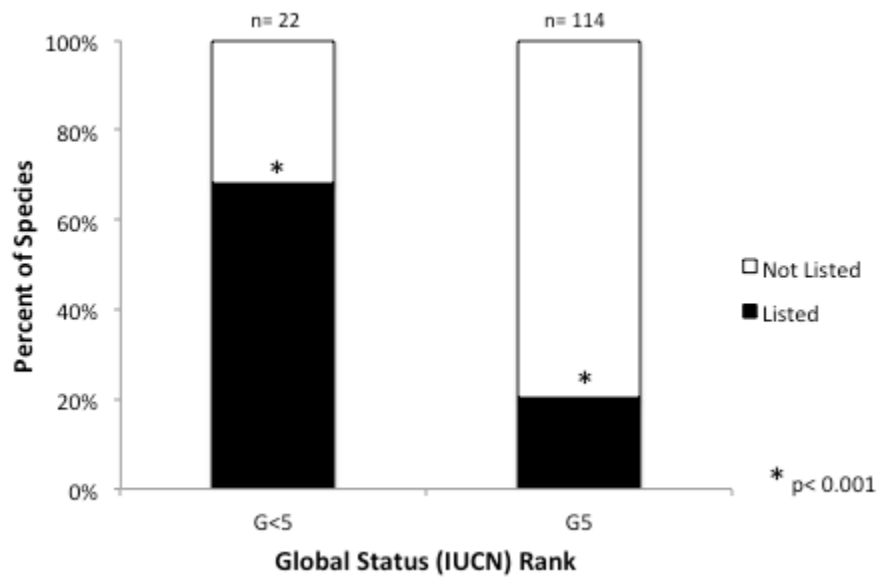
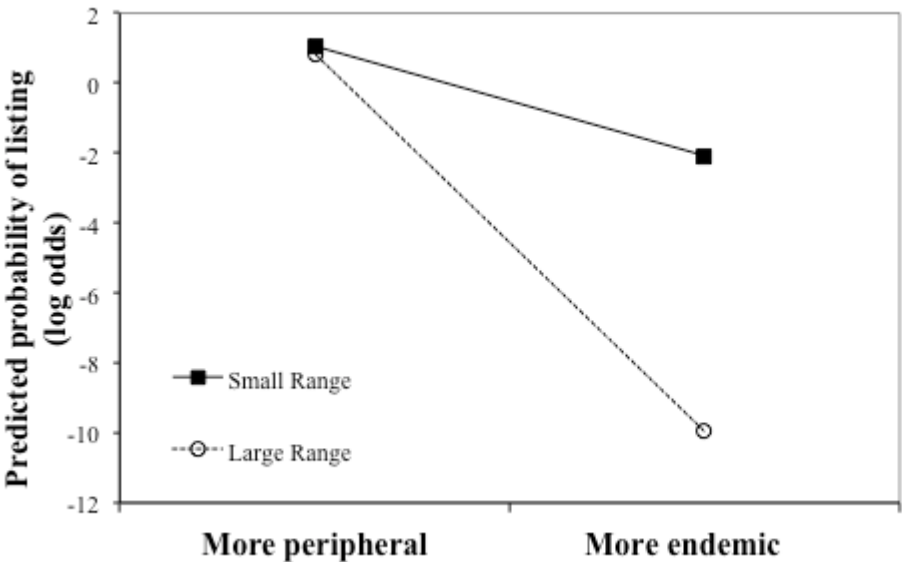
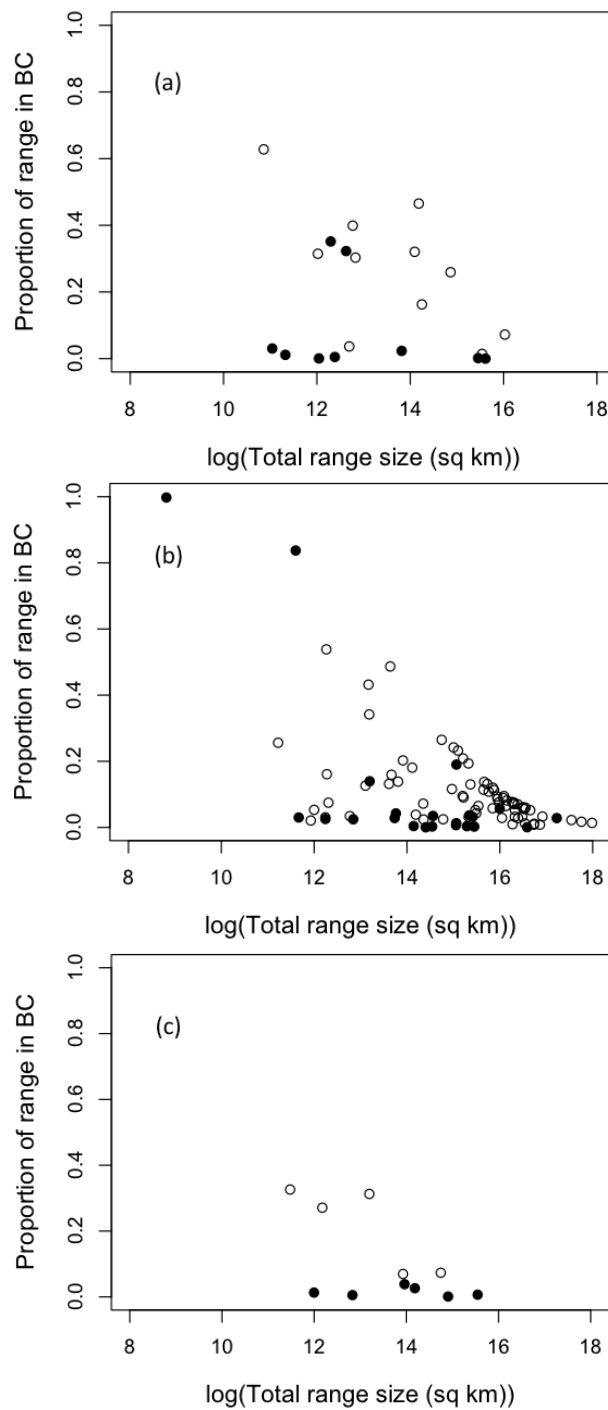


Figure 3:



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Figure 4:



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Table 1:

Variable	Traits
Total range size	Continuous; 6744-51 600 000 km ²
Proportion of range in BC	Continuous; <0.01-1.00
Disjunct in BC	Categorical; 1 if species' range is disjunct in BC, 0 otherwise
Occurrences protected	Categorical; 0 if none, 1 if few, 2 if moderate, 3 if many
Population trend	Categorical; -1 if declining, 0 if stable, 1 if increasing
Amphibian	1 if amphibian, 0 otherwise
Reptile	1 if reptile, 0 otherwise

Table 2:

	Total range size	Proportion of range in BC	Disjunct	Occurrences protected	Population trend	Amphibian
Proportion of range in BC	-0.317 0.001					
Disjunct in BC	-0.092 0.348	-0.135 0.169				
Occurrences protected	0.193 0.049	-0.217 0.026	0.115 0.244			
Population trend	0.103 0.295	-0.191 0.051	-0.218 0.026	0.248 0.011		
Amphibian	-0.227 0.020	0.140 0.154	0.254 0.009	0.056 0.568	-0.506 <0.001	
Reptile	-0.187 0.056	-0.057 0.561	0.201 0.040	0.353 <0.001	0.100 0.311	n/a

Table 3:

Model	Variables included	Coefficient (95% C.I.)	AIC	Δ_i
1a	Total range size	0.39 (-0.87, 1.66)	86.77	0
	Proportion of range in BC	41.47 (14.21, 74.65)		
	Population trend	-1.62 (-3.23, -0.26)		
	Occurrences protected	-0.17 (-0.94, 0.63)		
	Range*Proportion	-8.76 (-15.05, -3.72)		
2	Total range size	0.88 (-0.54, 2.36)	86.82	0.05
	Proportion of range in BC	45.06 (16.18, 79.25)		
	Population trend	-0.98 (-2.81, 0.60)		
	Occurrences protected	-0.90 (-2.06, 0.18)		
	Amphibian	1.58 (-0.61, 3.87)		
3	Reptile	1.89 (-0.08, 4.06)	88.04	1.27
	Range*Proportion	-9.34 (-15.78, -4.05)		
	Total range size	0.49 (-0.80, 1.80)		
	Proportion of range in BC	42.48 (14.74, 76.14)		
	Population trend	-1.51 (-3.14, -0.11)		
4	Occurrences protected	-0.24 (-1.04, 0.57)	88.46	1.69
	Disjunct in BC	1.45 (-1.75, 5.19)		
	Range*Proportion	-8.89 (-15.27, -3.78)		
	Total range size	0.95 (-0.49, 2.48)		
	Proportion of range in BC	46.19 (16.76, 81.00)		
5	Population trend	-0.91 (-2.75, 0.69)	89.85	3.08
	Occurrences protected	-0.94 (-2.12, 0.15)		
	Disjunct in BC	1.02 (-2.14, 4.79)		
	Amphibian	1.60 (-0.61, 3.92)		
	Reptile	1.78 (-0.23, 3.97)		
1b	Range*Proportion	-9.51 (-16.08, -4.14)	106.88	20.11
	Total range size	0.42 (-0.74, 1.57)		
	Proportion of range in BC	43.90 (16.47, 75.09)		
	Range*Proportion	-9.01 (-14.89, -4.03)		
	Total range size	-1.33 (-2.15, -0.61)		
	Proportion of range in BC	-4.58 (-7.69, -1.99)		
	Population trend	-1.41 (-2.62, -0.29)		
	Occurrences Protected	-0.06 (-0.75, 0.66)		