

Published on *South Coast Conservation Program* (<http://sccp.ca>)

### Streambank lupine

*Lupinus rivularis*

A member of the family Fabaceae (“pea”), this species is also referred to as “riverbank lupine.” Lupines as with most members of the pea family are adept at fixing nitrogen from the atmosphere into ammonia via “rhizobium-root nodule symbiosis.” Their root nodules host nitrogen fixing bacteria, fertilizing the soil for other plants. This adaptation allows lupines to grow in poor soils as well as being pioneers in changing soil quality to support other plant species.



Railbed corridor - Delta M. Brotherston



Flower spikes Nail Williams



Close up of flower spike Nial Williams



Close up of flower spike Brian  
Klinkenberg



Seed pods Brian Klinkenberg



Leaves and seed pods Brian  
Klinkenberg



Flower spike Brian Klinkenberg

## Characteristics

*Height up to 60 cm.* This herbaceous perennial carries spikes (racemes), of blue to lavender coloured flowers. Unlike many other species of lupine, the stems lack basal leaves. The alternate palmate leaves are divided into 6-9 leaflets, with the upper surface hairless and the underside bearing minute hairs. Seeds are produced in up to 5cm long pea-pod like structures which become blackened and hairy as they age. When fully mature, the pods split open explosively.

## Status

<b>Global Status:</b>	G2G4
<b>Provincial Status:</b>	S1
<b>SARA Status:</b>	Endangered
<b>BC List Status:</b>	Red (Candidates for- Extirpated, Endangered, or Threatened status)

## Resources

[BC MoE Lower Mainland Region Streambank Lupine Brochure](#)

## For further information see

[BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer: Species and Ecosystems Search](#)

A source for authoritative conservation information on thousands of plants and animals and hundreds of ecological communities in BC. From here connect to all provincial and federal recovery plans (including the SARA Registry), COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada), Identified Wildlife guidance and conservation requirements for specific species and ecological communities of conservation concern impacted by forestry activities) and links to E-Flora and E-Fauna (the Electronic Atlas of the Plants and Wildlife of British Columbia).

[British Columbia's Coast Region Species & Ecosystems of Conservation Concern](#)

A joint venture resource providing comprehensive information on a range of species and ecological communities specific to the Coast Region of BC (including the South, Central and North Coast, Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii).

[Develop With Care Guidelines \(see Lower Mainland Region section\)](#)

Environmental guidelines for urban and rural land development in BC.

[Species at Risk & Local Governments a Primer for BC](#)

Learn what species are at risk in your area, search by name, habitat type, regional district and forest district.

[E-Flora the electronic atlas of the Flora of BC](#)

A volunteer-driven GIS-based biogeoclimatic atlas of the vascular plants, fungi, algae, bryophytes and lichens of BC.

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**Source URL:** <http://sccp.ca/species-habitat/streambank-lupine>

## Links

- [1] <http://sccp.ca/printpdf/99>
- [2] <http://sccp.ca/sites/default/files/species-habitat/documents/lupine%20brochure.pdf>
- [3] <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/conservation-data-centre/explore-cdc-data/species-and-ecosystems-explorer>
- [4] <http://www.geog.ubc.ca/biodiversity/factsheets/>
- [5] [http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/devwithcare2006/develop\\_with\\_care\\_intro.html](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/devwithcare2006/develop_with_care_intro.html)
- [6] <http://www.speciesatrisk.bc.ca/>