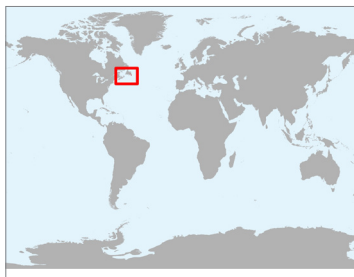




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Geographical range

Species of the Day: Boreal Felt Lichen

The **Boreal Felt Lichen**, *Erioderma pedicellatum*, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Originally known from Norway, Sweden and Canada, this rare lichen is now restricted to just one small Alaskan and two Canadian populations, on Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.

The Boreal Felt Lichen has declined by over 80 percent in recent times, mainly as a result of air pollution and habitat loss. In addition to its sensitivity to atmospheric pollutants such as acid rain, this species is threatened by logging of its forest habitat, which removes the trees on which the lichen grows, and also alters the microclimate of the forest.

The tiny Nova Scotian population of the Boreal Felt Lichen is protected under the Federal Species at Risk Act (SARA), and is the focus of ongoing recovery efforts. Measures are also underway to try and formally protect the species' habitat, and to encourage forest managers to implement management plans to prevent further habitat loss, hopefully giving the Boreal Felt Lichen a brighter future.

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