Response Statement - Crumpled Tarpaper Lichen

December 8, 2011

Common Name: Crumpled Tarpaper Lichen Scientific Name: Collema coniophilum

Status assessment by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC): Threatened

How the Minister of the Environment intends to respond to the assessment: The Minister of the Environment will forward the COSEWIC assessment of the Crumpled Tarpaper Lichen to the Governor in Council within three months. The Minister of Environment will consult with the government of British Columbia, Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Crumpled Tarpaper Lichen should be added to the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) under the *Species at Risk Act* as Threatened .

Once a species has been assessed by COSEWIC, further steps must be undertaken before it is added to Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act.* For more information on this process, please view <u>The Species Listing Process Under SARA</u>.

Reason(s) for status designation provided by COSEWIC: This foliose, tree-inhabiting cyanolichen is endemic to Canada where it occupies a narrow range restricted to trees in old-growth forests on calcareous soils in humid, inland British Columbia. The lichen is poorly adapted for dispersal since it has never been found with sexual reproductive structures and its vegetative propagules are not easily dispersed. The lichen has an apparently declining distribution, resulting from ongoing loss of old-growth forest through clear-cut logging. The factors underlying its rarity and narrow endemism are not well understood.

Occurrence: British Columbia

Competent Minister(s): Minister of Environment

Province(s) and territory (territories) to be consulted: British Columbia