

Response Statement - Georgia Basin Bog Spider

December 18, 2013

Common Name: Georgia Basin Bog Spider

Scientific Name: *Gnaphosa snohomish*

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

How the Minister of the Environment intends to respond to the assessment: The Minister of the Environment will forward the COSEWIC assessment of the Georgia Basin Bog Spider to the Governor in Council as soon as possible after the close of the normal consultation period. The Minister of Environment will consult with the government of British Columbia, Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Georgia Basin Bog Spider should be added to the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) under the *Species at Risk Act* as Special Concern.

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 [The Species Listing Process Under SARA](#).

Reason(s) for status designation provided by COSEWIC: This small (1 cm) wetland spider has a very limited global distribution, occurring in the Georgia Basin and western Washington State. In Canada, it is known from only 4 sites in southern British Columbia. These populations may become threatened over a very short time period. The greatest threat is inundation by sea water since three of the four known sites are less than 3 m above sea level and are at risk from projected increases in the frequency and severity of storms.

Occurrence: British Columbia

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

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

British Columbia

Applicable federal legislation: When the species is found within national parks of Canada or other lands administered by the Parks Canada Agency, it is protected or managed under the *Canada National Parks Act* or through measures or management tools available to the Parks Canada Agency under other legislation.