

# Response Statement - Gray Fox

*January 11, 2017*

**Common Name:** Gray Fox

**Scientific Name:** *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*

**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 above assessment confirms the classification of the Gray Fox on the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) as Threatened. Activities will continue to be undertaken in a manner consistent with the purposes of, and according to the timelines identified in, the *Species at Risk Act*.

**Reason(s) for status designation provided by COSEWIC:** This southern fox is apparently expanding northward, but very few mature, breeding individuals are known to live in Canada. These animals are restricted to two sub-populations; one in the Rainy River – Thunder Bay region, which has a strong rescue effect, but rescue effect for the other, Pelee Island, is uncertain. Sub-population threats include incidental trapping and roadkill. Animals have been recorded in Manitoba and Quebec, but breeding is not evident at this time. Recent records in New Brunswick likely represent dispersing non-breeding animals.

**Occurrence:** Ontario

**Competent Minister(s):**

Minister of Environment

Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency

**Other applicable 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.

**Conservation activities underway:** A draft recovery strategy for the Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) has been prepared and is scheduled for posting as proposed on the Species at Risk Public Registry in 2017.