

Response Statement - Cucumber Tree

December 2, 2010

Common Name: Cucumber Tree

Scientific Name: *Magnolia acuminata*

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

How the Minister of the Environment intends to respond to the assessment: The above assessment confirms the classification of this wildlife species in Schedule 1, the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* as Endangered. Activities will continue to be undertaken in a manner consistent with the purposes, and according to the timelines identified in, the *Species at Risk Act*.

Reason(s) for status designation provided by COSEWIC: This forest canopy species of the Carolinian zone of southern Ontario is present as a series of small populations in a region of highly fragmented forest cover. Its total Canadian population consists of about 200 trees with most of the sites having only a few mature reproductive individuals. Several sites only have single trees without evidence of regeneration which makes the species highly susceptible to certain catastrophic events, such as ice storms. Its habitat is under continued impact from local disturbances and loss of forest area.

Occurrence: Ontario

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

Conservation activities underway: The final Recovery Strategy for the Cucumber tree (*Magnolia acuminata* L.) in Canada is posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry.