

Response Statement - Slender Bush-clover

December 18, 2013

Common Name: Slender Bush-clover

Scientific Name: *Lespedeza virginica*

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 the Slender Bush-clover which is already on Schedule 1, the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk*. This species will thus remain on the List as Endangered and 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 perennial species occupies small patches of remnant tallgrass prairie and savanna at just one location in southern Ontario, where it is at risk from the combined impacts of a lack of natural disturbance by periodic fires and the presence of invasive plant species. There is a continuing decline in the quality and area of habitat available for the plant.

Occurrence: Ontario

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

Conservation activities underway: The recovery strategy for the Slender Bush Clover is in development.