

Response Statement - Taylor's Checkerspot

December 8, 2011

Common Name: Taylor's Checkerspot

Scientific Name: *Euphydryas editha taylori*

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 Taylor's Checkerspot 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, and according to the timelines identified in, the *Species at Risk Act*.

Reason(s) for status designation provided by COSEWIC: The historic range of this small, eye-catching butterfly in Canada was wider and included south-eastern Vancouver Island. Now it only occurs in a very small area on Denman Island, BC. The habitat it occupies is likely to continue to decline in area and quality. Threats include habitat loss and degradation due to development, natural forest succession and the spraying of bacterial insecticide to control pest insects. Individual ownership issues exacerbate the combination of these and other threats.

Occurrence: British Columbia

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency

Conservation activities underway: A National Recovery Team for the Garry Oaks Ecosystem has been put in place and a recovery strategy has been completed for the Taylor's Checkerspot (*Euphydryas editha taylori*) and has been posted as final on the SAR Public Registry.