

Response Statement - Dalton's Moss

January 7, 2020

Common Name: Dalton's Moss

Scientific Name: *Daltonia splachnoides*

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: On 2019-10-09, the Minister of the Environment received the COSEWIC assessment of the Dalton's Moss as Endangered. Within 24 months of this date, the Minister will seek to obtain a Governor in Council decision on whether to amend the List for this species. A summary of the consultations and an analysis of why the regulation is appropriate will be provided. During the normal consultations, the Minister of Environment will consult with the government of British Columbia, Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Dalton's Moss should be added to the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) under the *Species at Risk Act* as Endangered.

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 moss is known from three sites in North America. It occurs at one remote site in Canada in the hypermaritime temperate rainforests of Haida Gwaii, British Columbia, where it is an epiphyte on native shrubs and trees. It requires very wet conditions to survive. It is threatened by habitat loss and modification linked to climate change and to extreme browsing of understory shrubs by introduced, invasive Sitka Black-tailed Deer.

Occurrence: British Columbia

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency

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.