

Response Statement - Gibson's Big Sand Tiger Beetle

December 18, 2013

Common Name: Gibson's Big Sand Tiger Beetle

Scientific Name: *Cicindela formosa gibsoni*

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 Minister of the Environment will forward the COSEWIC assessment of the Gibson's Big Sand Tiger Beetle to the Governor in Council as soon as possible after the close of the normal consultation period. The Minister of Environment will consult with the governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Gibson's Big Sand Tiger Beetle should be added to the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) under the *Species at Risk Act* as Threatened.

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 very restricted subspecies, with most of its populations in Canada, requires open sand dune areas. This habitat is declining throughout the Prairies as a result of a dune stabilization trend. Loss of historical ecological processes such as bison-induced erosion, fire, and activities of native people, as well as possible accelerators such as increase in atmospheric CO₂, nitrogen deposition, and invasive alien plant species, may also be important factors in open sand reduction. There are believed to be fewer than 73 sites and a 10% possibility of extinction within 100 years based on rates of decline of open sand dunes.

Occurrence: Alberta, Saskatchewan

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

Province(s) and territory (territories) to be consulted:

Alberta

Saskatchewan