

Response Statement - Red-tailed Leafhopper, Prairie population

January 13, 2019

Common Name: Red-tailed Leafhopper, Prairie population

Scientific Name: *Aflexia rubranura*

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

How the Minister of the Environment intends to respond to the assessment: On 2018-10-15 the Minister of the Environment received the COSEWIC assessment of the Red-tailed Leafhopper, Prairie population as Special Concern. 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 Manitoba, Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Red-tailed Leafhopper, Prairie population should be added to the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) under the *Species at Risk Act* as Special Concern.

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 flightless leafhopper has limited dispersal ability. It is restricted to remnant oak savanna grassland habitat in southern Manitoba, a habitat that has largely been lost from the province. It relies on the presence of the host plant Prairie Dropseed. The species is known from 8 sites at present, but there are likely to be additional sites found. Current and cumulative threats include agricultural habitat conversion and native and non-native plant succession from fire suppression and overgrazing.

Occurrence: Manitoba

Competent Minister(s):

Minister of Environment

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

Manitoba