

Submission to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

For

Information: Decision: X

Issue: Pre-listing consultations for the Transverse Lady Beetle as a species of Special Concern under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA)





Background:

- The Transverse Lady Beetle was assessed as a species of Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in November 2016.
- The Transverse Lady Beetle is a small, round beetle and adults have orange to red wing covers. Wing covers have black markings consisting of one black band and four elongated spots.
- COSEWIC's reason for designation: this species was once common and broadly distributed throughout most of Canada. Declines started in the 1970s and the species is now absent in southern Ontario and the Maritimes. In some parts of its western and northern range, the species is still commonly recorded. The spread of non-native lady beetles is considered one of the possible threats to this species through competition, predation on potential competitors, or introduction of pathogens. Non-native lady beetles are less commonly found in places where this species remains.



- There are no records of this species that currently exist in Nunavut, but it is possible the species occurs in Nunavut given how widespread it is found in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The available map information for Nunavut is based on a historical range map by R. D. Gordon in 1985. The COSEWIC report suggests one record was available near Taloyoak, but the records were collected between 1899-2015 and the record is not mentioned by COSEWIC in the text.
- In October 2017, COSEWIC submitted its assessment of the species to the Minister of the Environment. The Minister of the Environment will respond within 90 days, by posting a response on the SARA Public Registry. The response statement will indicate the scope of the consultation and timelines.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) will consult with the appropriate Minister(s), wildlife management boards and Indigenous organizations on changes to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk (Schedule 1) of the Species at Risk Act for terrestrial species.
- For species that are listed as Special Concern, a management plan is to be prepared within three years of the species' addition to Schedule 1 and added to the Species at Risk Registry. Management plans are prepared in cooperation with jurisdictions, wildlife management boards, and Indigenous organizations.
- While immediate protection under SARA for species listed as Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened do not apply to species listed as Special Concern, any existing protections and prohibitions continue to be in force.
- Based on the historical range of the Transverse Lady Beetle, it is unclear to ECCC if community consultations should occur in Nunavut.

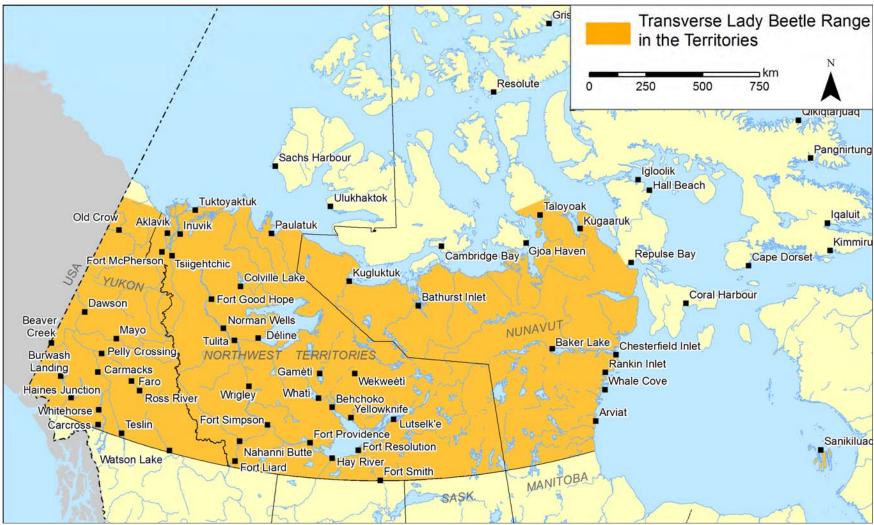
Next Steps - Consultation Process:

- Jurisdictions and wildlife management boards, including the NWMB and the Government of Nunavut, will be
 asked to review and provide input into the draft Terrestrial Issues Flagging (TIF) document, which outlines
 the species' current status, presence on the landscape, projected impact of listing, and issues flagged. This
 process helps inform the decision on the consultation timeline normal or extended.
- It is expected that consultations on the proposed listing will start in January 2018.

Request of the NWMB:

That the NWMB considers whether it wishes to be consulted on the proposed listing of the Transverse Lady Beetle and subsequently make a decision on approving the listing of the Transverse Lady Beetle under the federal *Species at Risk Act*, or if the NWMB will choose to not perform its decision making function under section 5.2.34(f) of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* with respect to the Transverse Lady Beetle.

That if the NWMB decides to exercise its decision making function on the Transverse Lady Beetle that the NWMB considers whether or not community consultations should occur in Nunavut, and if so which communities ECCC should contact. Potential communities include: Kugluktuk, Bay Chimo, Bathurst Inlet, Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak, Kugaaruk, Repulse Bay, Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, Whale Cove, Arviat, and Sanikiluaq.



Transverse Lady Beetle - Range

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Phone: 867-669-4710 Date Drafted: 2017-Nov-03