

# Response Statement - Nuttall's Sheep Moth

January 11, 2017

**Common Name:** Nuttall's Sheep Moth

**Scientific Name:** *Hemileuca nuttalli*

**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 Minister of the Environment will forward the COSEWIC assessment of the Nuttall's Sheep Moth to the Governor in Council as soon as possible following completion of the extended consultation period, and analysis as appropriate. During the extended consultation period the Minister of Environment will undertake consultations with the government of British Columbia, Indigenous Peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Nuttall's Sheep Moth 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 large, showy and conspicuous moth is restricted to Antelope-brush habitat in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. That habitat type has declined considerably in quality and extent in the past century and remains under threat due to continued conversion to viticulture, residential and commercial development, and impact of wildfires. This is a rare moth in Canada: very few have been observed since the first record in 1920. Potentially large fluctuations in the population size may affect its long-term viability.

**Occurrence:** British Columbia

**Competent Minister(s):**

Minister of Environment

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

British Columbia