

# Conservation Evaluation of the Seaside Birds-foot Trefoil, *Lotus formosissimus*, in Canada\*

GEORGE W. DOUGLAS<sup>1</sup> and MICHAEL RYAN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Deceased.

<sup>2</sup>Present address: 801 Frayne Road, RR #1, Mill Bay, British Columbia V0R 1L0 Canada.

Douglas, George W., and Michael Ryan. 2006. Status of the Seaside Birds-foot Trefoil, *Lotus formosissimus*, in Canada. Canadian Field-Naturalist 120(2): 153-156.

In Canada, Seaside Birds-foot Trefoil, *Lotus formosissimus*, is restricted to the Victoria area on southeastern Vancouver Island and two adjacent islands. Populations at five sites are extant and have been recently inventoried, whereas populations at two or more sites in Victoria are extirpated. Existing populations represent the northern range limits of *L. formosissimus*. Although known populations are protected to a certain extent from direct habitat destruction, introduced herbaceous species may pose a serious threat to the continued existence of most populations and may prevent the establishment of *L. formosissimus* at other sites. Fire suppression, grazing, encroachment and low survivorship are also limiting factors.

Key Words: Seaside Birds-foot Trefoil, *Lotus formosissimus*, endangered, distribution, population size, British Columbia.