

## Johnson's Hairstreak, *Callophrys johnsoni*



Ian Lane



Andrew Warren, 2009



Larva

### Description

- Small butterfly with a wingspan of 25-30mm.
- Dorsal surface of the wings is brown; chocolate shade in males, reddish in females.
- Small tail-like protrusion from hindwing is bluish and orange with black dots.
- Underside of wings brown with white stripe, bordered in black, running across both wings.
- Larvae are yellowish-olive green and have red, green, yellow or white markings on raised protrusions along dorsal area.

### Similar Species

- The Cedar Hairstreak is smaller and the white wing stripe is bordered by amber.

### Biology

- Larvae feed exclusively on dwarf mistletoe, most commonly associated with western hemlock in B.C. (CDF, CWH, CMA BEC zones).
- Larvae exude a substance which ants feed upon, and in turn protect the larvae.
- Adults can be seen in flight from late May to early June. Eggs are deposited on western dwarf mistletoe, *Arceuthobium campylopodum*.

### Habitat

- Require mature or old hemlock forests with mistletoe infestations.
- Found at elevations from sea level to 625m.

### Occurrence

- In B.C., Johnson's Hairstreak formerly occurred in southeast and southwest Vancouver Island, and in the Fraser Valley east to Hope. Recent occurrences have been noted only in the Vancouver area.
- Found in the South Island and Chilliwack Forest Districts.

### Status

BC: Red-listed and an Identified Wildlife Species.      Canada: Not assessed.

### Action Required

- Notify BCTS and document location of verified breeding area.
- Consult a qualified professional (if necessary) to verify identification and breeding area.
- Biologist will work with field team staff to design a reserve around dwarf mistletoe infected trees within or adjacent to the location of the confirmed sightings.

Refer to Accounts & Measures for managing Identified Wildlife

