

***Hylaeus lunicraterius* (Snelling, 1970)** **(Collitidae: Hylaeinae)**

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SUMMARY

Hylaeus lunicraterius has only been recorded at the Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho. Little is known of its biology. It is probably a generalist forager and may nest in snags, although the dominant landscape of the Monument is lava flows, so the bee may nest in rock crevices. Although the known site of *Hylaeus lunicraterius* is protected, any species with such a limited distribution is at risk.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Xerces Red List Status: Vulnerable

Other Rankings:

Canada – Species at Risk Act:	N/A
Canada – provincial status:	N/A
Mexico:	N/A
USA – Endangered Species Act:	N/A
USA – state status:	N/A
NatureServe:	N/A
IUCN Red List:	N/A

SPECIES PROFILE

DESCRIPTION

TAXONOMIC STATUS

Hylaeus (Paraprosopis) lunicraterius (Snelling, 1970).

LIFE HISTORY

The flight season of *Hylaeus lunicraterius* is July to August. It appears to be a generalist forager, visiting flowers of *Phacelia*, *Eriogonum*, and members of the Compositae, such as *Ericameria nauseosa* (rubber rabbitbrush). Little is known about its nesting habits. It is assumed that it nests in beetle tunnels in dead wood or stems as do other members of the genus *Hylaeus*, but given that it occurs only in the Craters of the Moon National

Monument it is possible that it nests in crevices or other holes in the lava flows. Marcot (2002) mentions it as being “associated with down wood.”

The habitat of the Craters of the Moon NM is dominated by ancient lava flows interspersed with sagebrush shrub steppe.

DISTRIBUTION

Hylaeus lunicraterius has only been recorded at the Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho.

THREATS

Since the known population of *Hylaeus lunicraterius* is on a National Monument, the future of this bee is likely secure, although any species with such a limited distribution is at risk.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Hylaeus lunicraterius is endemic to Craters of the Moon NM

CONSERVATION NEEDS

Appropriate habitat including both nesting and foraging resources should be protected and maintained.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Little is known of the biology of this species. Studies of both the nesting and foraging habits would be valuable. Searches of Craters of the Moon NM and surrounding areas should be done to confirm the distribution.

RESOURCES

CONTACTS

REFERENCES

Marcot, B. G. 2002. An ecological functional basis for managing wood decay elements for wildlife. *USDA Forest Service General Technical Report PSW-GTR-181*. Available as a PDF at http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/gtr-181/068_Marcot.pdf. (Accessed 2/15/05)

Tepedino, V.J., and T.L. Griswold. 1995. The bees of the Columbia Basin. Final report, USDA Forest Service, Portland, OR. 212 pp (Technical Report)

WEBSITES

Los Angeles County Museum: type specimen database

<http://www.phorid.net/type%20database/details.asp?key=LACM%20ENT%20164586>

(Accessed 2/15/05)

Nomina Insecta Nearctica

<http://www.nearctica.com/nomina/wasps/waspc.htm>

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