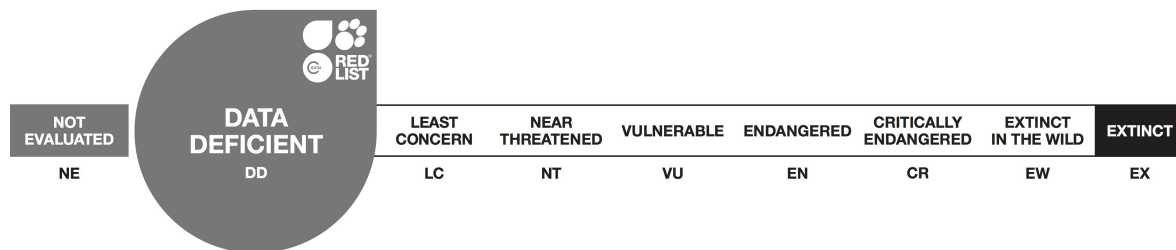


Sympetrum dilatatum, St. Helena Darter

Assessment by: Suhling, F. & Martens, A.



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Citation: Suhling, F. & Martens, A. 2013. *Sympetrum dilatatum*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2013*: e.T21226A9259879. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2011-1.RLTS.T21226A9259879.en>

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Taxonomy

| Kingdom | Phylum | Class | Order | Family |
|----------|------------|---------|---------|--------------|
| Animalia | Arthropoda | Insecta | Odonata | Libellulidae |

Taxon Name: *Sympetrum dilatatum* (Calvert, 1892)

Common Name(s):

- English: St. Helena Darter

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Data Deficient [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2013

Date Assessed: April 18, 2011

Justification:

The St. Helena Darter is endemic to St. Helena Island. There are very few published records. The type series (four males, one female) was collected during the U.S. Solar Eclipse expedition between 20th February and 10th March 1889-1890 (Calvert 1892, 1894; Ris 1911, Stearns 1894). The last known record, a female, was collected at Green Hill in October 1963 (Pinhey 1964). Because there were no records since then the species was assessed as Extinct. However, there was never a systematic survey for the species not before and particularly not since the last record. We are also not aware of any entomological survey, which may have paid attention to the species. Thus, although the likelihood is high that the species is now Extinct we are unable to exclude that populations still remain. Because of the insufficient surveying during the last 50 years, the current recommendation is Data Deficient rather than Critically Endangered (possibly extinct)..

Previously Published Red List Assessments

1996 – Extinct (EX)

1994 – Extinct? (Ex?)

1990 – Extinct? (Ex?)

1988 – Extinct? (Ex?)

1986 – Extinct? (Ex?)

Geographic Range

Range Description:

This species is known only from St. Helena Island.

Country Occurrence:

Native: Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha (Saint Helena (main island))

Population

No information is available on current population size or trends for this species. It was last recorded in 1963, however no surveys have been carried out to find the species since then.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

No information is available on specific habitats for this species.

Systems: Terrestrial, Freshwater

Threats

Specific threats are unknown, however habitat destruction is the most likely threat to this species. The island has undergone severe habitat change, with the indigenous vegetation (e.g., tree ferns) being destroyed after colonisation in the late 16th century.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Before conservation actions can be formulated surveys are needed, to check, whether the species is still present, what the habitat requirements are and what the habitat status is.

Credits

Assessor(s): Suhling, F. & Martens, A.

Reviewer(s): Clausnitzer, V. & Samways, M.J.

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

| Habitat | Season | Suitability | Major Importance? |
|------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|
| 0. Root -> 18. Unknown | - | - | - |

Conservation Actions Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

| Conservation Actions Needed |
|---|
| 1. Land/water protection -> 1.1. Site/area protection |

Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

| Research Needed |
|--|
| 1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends |
| 1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology |
| 1. Research -> 1.5. Threats |
| 3. Monitoring -> 3.4. Habitat trends |

Additional Data Fields

| Distribution |
|---|
| Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown |
| Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown |
| Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown |
| Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown |
| Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown |

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