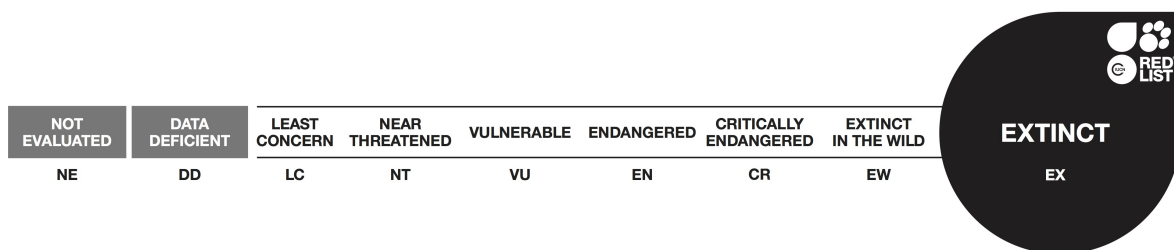


Chilonopsis nonpareil, Great Saint Helena Awl Snail

Assessment by: Pryce, D. & White, L.



View on www.iucnredlist.org

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Mollusca	Gastropoda	Stylommatophora	Subulinidae

Taxon Name: *Chilonopsis nonpareil* (Perry, 1811)

Synonym(s):

- *Auris vulpina* Chemnitz, 1786
- *Bulimus auris-muris* Shuttleworth, 1852
- *Bulimus struthiolarius* Mencke, 1844
- *Chilonopsis sulcata* F. de Waldheim, 1848
- *Pachyotus alopectis* Beck, 1837
- *Struthiolaria crenulata* Lamarck, 1822
- *Voluta aurisvulpina* Dillwyn, 1817

Common Name(s):

- English: Great Saint Helena Awl Snail

Assessment Information

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

Year Published: 2014

Date Assessed: August 22, 2014

Justification:

This species has not been seen alive since pre-1875 with only sub-fossil shells now being found. This was a large species with a shell up to 50 mm long; it is now considered Extinct.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

1996 – Extinct (EX)

1994 – Extinct (Ex)

Geographic Range

Range Description:

This species was endemic to the island of St Helena, in the South Atlantic Ocean, where it is now considered extinct. As the species is known entirely from a few sub-fossil shells it is not possible to produce a range map for this species.

Country Occurrence:

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

Population

When writing his book on the natural history of the island Melliss (1875) called this "The great extinct Land Snail of St. Helena". At the time of writing there were still people who recalled seeing the species alive and indeed a few who still claimed it to be present; Melliss was very keen to find the species and explored the area it had last been seen very thoroughly but failed to locate it. The species may well have gone extinct pre-1875 due to habitat degradation from alien invasive plant and animal species. The shell is very thick and these can still occasionally be found as sub-fossils.

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

The species seems to have been present in the drier parts of the island and was known from the Sugarloaf Ridge area; a sub-fossil shell has recently been found near Bencoolen. As no live specimen has ever been seen it is not possible to speculate on the precise habitat or ecology of this species.

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

A live specimen of this species has never been found; the only records are pre-1875 and are of sub-fossil shells. While there is no documentary evidence on the causes of decline it is probable that this species was severely impacted by extensive habitat modification by goats, pigs and rabbits; while the goats and pigs have been removed rabbits are still present. It is also possible that direct predation by invasive non-native species such as rats, mice and the large, aggressive centipede *Scolopendra morsitans* Linnaeus, 1758 added to the pressure on this species.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is considered to have become extinct pre-1875, therefore, there are no past, current or future conservation actions in place. However, isotope analysis of sub-fossil shells would prove useful to ascertain potential environmental preferences. It is not recommended that any further survey work be undertaken for this species.

Credits

Assessor(s): Pryce, D. & White, L.

Reviewer(s): Gerlach, J.

Bibliography

IUCN. 2014. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2014.3. Available at: www.iucnredlist.org. (Accessed: 13 November 2014).

Melliss, J.C. 1875. *St Helena: A physical, historical and topographical description of the Island including its geology, fauna, flora and meteorology*. Reeve, London.

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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?
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	Resident	Suitable	Yes

Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species -> 8.1.2. Named species (Scolopendra morsitans)	Past, unlikely to return	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Past impact
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species -> 8.1.2. Named species (Sus domesticus)	Past, unlikely to return	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Past impact
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species -> 8.1.2. Named species (Capra hircus)	Past, unlikely to return	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Past impact
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species -> 8.1.2. Named species	Past, unlikely to return	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Past impact
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species -> 8.1.2. Named species	Past, unlikely to return	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Past impact
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species -> 8.1.2. Named species (Oryctolagus cuniculus)	Past, unlikely to return	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Past impact
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		

Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Research, Monitoring and Planning
Action Recovery plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: No
Occur in at least one PA: No
In-Place Species Management
Harvest management plan: No
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-Place Education
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: No
Subject to any international management/trade controls: No

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
0. Root -> 4. Other

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km ²): 0
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 0
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No
Number of Locations: 0
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No
Lower elevation limit (m): 361
Upper elevation limit (m): 472

Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes

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