

## *Homoeodera scolytoides*, Bark Beetle-like Fungus Weevil

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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Arthropoda	Insecta	Coleoptera	Anthribidae

**Taxon Name:** *Homoeodera scolytoides* Basilewsky, 1972

### Common Name(s):

- English: Bark Beetle-like Fungus Weevil

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Critically Endangered B1ab(iii)+2ab(iii) [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2014

**Date Assessed:** August 22, 2014

### Justification:

This is a very rare species confined to a single location in the 'Eastern Arid Area' of St Helena (as defined by Ashmole and Ashmole 2004) where an international airport is currently under construction. One of the two sites the species has been recorded from has been lost to the development; the earlier records, from 'east of Prosperous Bay Plain', has certainly been heavily impacted and may well also have been lost. This species has an area of occupancy (AOO) and extent of occurrence (EOO) both of 4 km<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, it is assessed as Critically Endangered.

## Geographic Range

### Range Description:

Endemic to the island of St Helena, in the South Atlantic Ocean, where it has been found at a single site in the 'Eastern Arid Area' of the island (as defined by Ashmole and Ashmole 2004).

### Country Occurrence:

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

# Distribution Map



## *Homoeodera scolytoides*

Range

■ Extant (resident)

Compiled by:  
St Helena National Trust



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



## Population

The species was recorded from 'east of Prosperous Bay Plain' by the first expedition from the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Belgium in 1965-6 (Basilewsky 1972). As the precise location of this site is unknown there is a very significant probability that it has been impacted by the construction of the airport (taking place between 2012 and 2016) in this area; it may well have been lost entirely. During the Prosperous Bay Plain Survey in 2003 the species was found for a second time at the 'Plateau Triangulation Point' in southeastern Prosperous Bay Plain (Ashmole and Ashmole 2004); this site has been entirely removed to construct the terminal buildings for the airport. There is some remaining potentially similar habitat nearby but a large proportion of the known range of this species has certainly been lost to the development.

**Current Population Trend:** Decreasing

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is associated with a desert environment; while its precise ecology is unknown it may well be associated with Samphire (*Suaeda fruticosa* (L.) Forrsk) which is a common native plant in the area that supports other endemic species.

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

Construction of a new airport on St Helena has resulted in habitat destruction and potential future remaining habitat alteration. There has been an increase in the number of invasive non-native predators (e.g. Formicidae) and global warming is also a potential threat to habitat quality.

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Any research and monitoring of this species would be of value. Of critical importance is the continued expansion and linking of habitat fragments as well as removal of invasive non-native species where this is possible.

## Credits

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

**Reviewer(s):** Gerlach, J.

## Bibliography

Ashmole, N.P. and Ashmole, M.J. 2004. The invertebrates of Prosperous Bay Plain, St Helena. Report commissioned by the St Helena Government.

Basilewsky, P. 1972. Anthribidae. In: Basilewsky, P. (Ed.). La faune terrestre de l'île de Sainte-Hélène. Deuxième partie. *Annales du Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Zoologie*. 192: 248-305.

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

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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?
8. Desert -> 8.2. Desert - Temperate	Resident	Suitable	Yes

## Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
1. Residential & commercial development -> 1.2. Commercial & industrial areas	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Very rapid declines	High impact: 9
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 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	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 7
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
11. Climate change & severe weather -> 11.1. Habitat shifting & alteration	Future	Whole (>90%)	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		

## 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: Yes

## Conservation Actions Needed

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

<b>Conservation Actions Needed</b>
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management
2. Land/water management -> 2.2. Invasive/problematic species control

## Research Needed

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

<b>Research Needed</b>
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends

## Additional Data Fields

<b>Distribution</b>
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 4
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 4
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No
Number of Locations: 1
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No
Lower elevation limit (m): 305
Upper elevation limit (m): 325
<b>Population</b>
Population severely fragmented: Yes
<b>Habitats and Ecology</b>
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes

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