

***Hylaeus kuakea* Magnacca and Daly, 2003 (Hymenoptera: Colletidae: Hylaeinae)**

Profile Prepared by Karl Magnacca, USGS-BRD, Kilauea Field Station.

SUMMARY

Hylaeus kuakea is a small bee endemic to the island of Oahu in Hawaii. It is distinguished by the unusual ivory facial marks. It is similar to *H. anthracinus*, differing by the facial marks and longer hairs on the head. It is known only from two specimens collected in 1997.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Xerces Red List Status: Critically Imperiled

Other Rankings:

Canada – Species at Risk Act:	N/A
Canada – provincial status:	N/A
Mexico:	N/A
USA – Endangered Species Act:	None
USA – state status:	None
NatureServe:	GNR
IUCN Red List:	N/A

SPECIES PROFILE

DESCRIPTION

Males: Black, with a single large ivory facial mark covering the clypeus and a narrow strip of the paraocular area. Process of 8th sternum weakly dilated.

Females: Unknown.

Hylaeus kuakea does not fit into any of the well-defined species groups. The facial marks are similar to those of the *difficilis* group and *H. anthracinus*, but the color is distinctive.

TAXONOMIC STATUS

Hylaeus kuakea was collected in 1997 and described in Daly and Magnacca (2003).

LIFE HISTORY

Hylaeus kuakea probably inhabits lowland mesic forest. Nesting habits are unknown.

DISTRIBUTION

Hylaeus kuakea is known only from one site in the Waianae mountains of Oahu. The full range is unknown.

THREATS

The rarity of *H. kuakea* and lack of knowledge about its requirements make it difficult to assess threats. Mesic forest has been severely impacted by feral ungulates and fire, and the Waianae area has not been extensively searched for bees.

CONSERVATION STATUS

This species is extremely rare.

CONSERVATION NEEDS

The top priority is to identify extant populations and document the continued existence of the species. The only known site for *H. kuakea* is in the Nature Conservancy's Honouliuli Preserve. All areas where it is likely to be found are protected under the auspices of the State of Hawaii or the U.S. Army, though they may not be actively managed for habitat conservation.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Locate new populations, identify habitat requirements and reasons for rarity.

RESOURCES

CONTACTS

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REFERENCES

Daly, H. V., and K. N. Magnacca. 2003. *Insects of Hawaii, Vol. 17: Hawaiian Hylaeus (Nesoprosopis) Bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea)*. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu. 234 pp.

WEBSITES

This bee has no web presence.