

Osmia cascadica
(Megachilidae: Megachilinae: Osmini)

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SUMMARY

Osmia cascadica appears to be a specialist forager on flowers in the family Scrophulariaceae. It is assumed that like it nests in abandoned beetle burrows in wood and stems. *Osmia cascadica* is endemic to the high Cascades bounding the Columbia Basin and while it is apparently fairly common in the areas that it occurs, due to this restricted geographic distribution it should be considered vulnerable.

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

LIFE HISTORY

The flight season of *Osmia cascadica* is in July and August. *Osmia cascadica* appears to be a specialist forager on flowers in the family Scrophulariaceae. It is assumed that like most other members of the subgenus *Chenosmia*, *Osmia cascadica* nests in abandoned beetle burrows in wood and stems.

It has been recorded within the Columbia Basin in Engelmann spruce – subalpine fir, Mountain big sagebrush, and Interior ponderosa pine habitat.

DISTRIBUTION

Although endemic to the Columbia Basin, *Osmia cascadica* is fairly common but apparently restricted to the high Cascades.

THREATS

Due to the limited information available on this species specific threats cannot be identified.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Because *Osmia cascadica* is apparently fairly common in the areas that it occurs, it is likely relatively secure. However, it is endemic to the high Cascades bounding the Columbia Basin and due to this restricted geographic distribution it should be considered vulnerable.

CONSERVATION NEEDS

Ensure that suitable flowering plants persist and that appropriate nesting substrate remains.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Little is known of the biology of this species. Studies of the phenology, nesting requirements, and foraging habits would be valuable. Further surveys of the high Cascades should be undertaken to confirm the distribution of this species.

RESOURCES

CONTACTS

REFERENCES

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

This bee has no web presence.