

***Protodufourea wasbaueri* Timberlake, 1955
(Halictidae: Rophitinae)**

Profile Prepared by Matthew Shepherd
The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

SUMMARY

Protodufourea wasbaueri is restricted to chaparral and arid scrub areas in southern California and Arizona. Little is known of the life history of this bee. Its habitat is chaparral and desert scrub. It is a specialist forager for pollen on whisperingbells (*Emmenanthe* sp.), a plant that blooms in profusion soon after fires but then gradually declines as the other vegetation regrows. This bee is, thus, usually only found in the first year or two after a fire and is reliant on a continuing cycles of fires. It nests in the ground.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Xerces Red List Status: Data Deficient

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:	N/A
IUCN Red List:	N/A

SPECIES PROFILE

DESCRIPTION

Bees in the genus *Protodufourea* superficially resemble bees in the genus *Dufourea*. They are between 5.5 and 7.0 mm long and nonmetallic. They have a robust body and their wings have three submarginal cells.

TAXONOMIC STATUS

Protodufourea wasbaueri Timberlake, 1955.

LIFE HISTORY

Little is known of the life history of this bee. Its habitat is chaparral and desert scrub. It is a specialist forager for pollen (oligolectic) on whisperingbells (*Emmenanthe* sp.), a plant that blooms in profusion soon after fires but then gradually declines as the other vegetation regrows. This bee is, thus, usually only found in the first year or two after a fire.

It nests in the ground.

DISTRIBUTION

Protodufourea wasbaueri is restricted to chaparral and arid scrub areas in southern California and Arizona.

THREATS

Threats have not yet been documented, although the general move towards fire suppression is likely to have impacted it by not allowing its major hostplant to flourish. There is also increasing pressure from development and recreation in the region where it lives.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not yet documented.

CONSERVATION NEEDS

Not yet documented.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Not yet documented.

RESOURCES**CONTACTS****REFERENCES**

Michener, C. D. 2000. *The Bees of the World*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press.

WEBSITES

This bee has no web presence.