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**Hylaeus lunicraterius** (Snelling, 1970)
(Collitidae: Hylaeinae)

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**SUMMARY**

*Hylaeus lunicraterius* has only been recorded at the Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho. Little is known of its biology. It is probably a generalist forager and may nest in snags, although the dominant landscape of the Monument is lava flows, so the bee may nest in rock crevices. Although the known site of *Hylaeus lunicraterius* is protected, any species with such a limited distribution is at risk.

**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

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**SPECIES PROFILE**

**DESCRIPTION**

**TAXONOMIC STATUS**

*Hylaeus (Paraprosopis) lunicraterius* (Snelling, 1970).

**LIFE HISTORY**

The flight season of *Hylaeus lunicraterius* is July to August. It appears to be a generalist forager, visiting flowers of *Phacelia, Eriogonum*, and members of the Compositae, such as *Ericameria nauseosa* (rubber rabbitbrush). Little is known about its nesting habits. It is assumed that it nests in beetle tunnels in dead wood or stems as do other members of the genus *Hylaeus*, but given that it occurs only in the Craters of the Moon National...
Monument it is possible that it nests in crevices or other holes in the lava flows. Marcot (2002) mentions it as being “associated with down wood.”

The habitat of the Craters of the Moon NM is dominated by ancient lava flows interspersed with sagebrush shrub steppe.

**DISTRIBUTION**
*Hylaeus lunicraterius* has only been recorded at the Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho.

**THREATS**
Since the known population of *Hylaeus lunicraterius* is on a National Monument, the future of this bee is likely secure, although any species with such a limited distribution is at risk.

**CONSERVATION STATUS**
*Hylaeus lunicraterius* is endemic to Craters of the Moon NM

**CONSERVATION NEEDS**
Appropriate habitat including both nesting and foraging resources should be protected and maintained.

**RESEARCH NEEDS**
Little is known of the biology of this species. Studies of both the nesting and foraging habits would be valuable. Searches of Craters of the Moon NM and surrounding areas should be done to confirm the distribution.

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**RESOURCES**

**CONTACTS**

**REFERENCES**


**WEBSITES**
Nomina Insecta Nearctica
http://www.nearctica.com/nomina/wasps/wasp.htm
(Accessed 2/15/05)