Alaska Natural Heritage Program
Conservation Status Report

**Bombus melanopygus** Nylander, 1848

**Common Name:** Black Tail Bumble Bee

| ELCODE: IIHYM24150 | Taxonomic Serial No.: 714820 |

*Synonyms:* Pyrobombus melanopygus Nylander, 1848; Bombus edwardsii Cresson, 1878; Bombus melanopyge Nylander, 1848

**Report last updated** – November 10, 2020

**Conservation Status**

| G5 S5 |

**Occurrences, Range**

*Number of Occurrences:* 108; *number of museum records:* 1478 (American Museum of Natural History, Ohio State University, Canadian National Collection, U.C. Riverside, Illinois Natural History Survey, University of Kansas, University of Alaska Museum Insect Collection, U.C. Davis, Koch et. al 2015, Yale Peabody Museum)

**AK Range Extent:** 1,452,372 km²; 4-km² grid cells: 112; Wide distribution in Alaska from the arctic coastal plains to Seward Peninsula and YK Delta to Alaska Peninsula, Interior and Coastal Rainforest.

**North American Distribution:** Wide range in Alaska and south to British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest and southern California. Found in the Great Basin and south to Arizona and eastward to Rocky Mountains. Rare in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, and Newfoundland
Trends
Trends are based on museum voucher collections of all *Bombus* species. Short-term trends are focus the past two decades (2000’s and 2010s), whereas long-term trends are based on all years. Data originate from museum voucher collections only and are summarized by decade. White bars indicate the number of voucher collections for the species. Grey bars indicate the percent of *Bombus melanopygus* to all *Bombus* species.

**Short-term:** decline in collection number and proportion, however does not appear to be significant

**Long-term:** appears stable, relatively same proportion collected of all *Bombus* species since the late 1800s

Threats
**Scope and Severity:** Unknown.

**Intrinsic Vulnerability:** Not intrinsically vulnerable. Found widespread in Alaska and associated with multiple floral resources.

Ecology
**Habitat:** tundra and boreal forest, mountain meadows, urban areas, forested areas.

**Known Alaskan Floral Resources:** *Chamerion angustifolium, Chamerion latifolium, Epilobium parviflorum, Hedysarum alpinum, Hedysarum boreal spp. mackenzii, Melilotus albus*, *Pyrola spp., Trifolium repens*  

*denotes non-native species
**Nesting behavior:** underground, also found in birdhouses, building insulation.

**Parasitism:** unknown

**Ecological Integrity of Occurrences:** Current and future Landscape Condition Models have occurrences intact with high ecological integrity.

**Literature**
GBIF.org (7th April 2017) GBIF Occurrence Download [http://doi.org/10.15468/dl.nvc9vf](http://doi.org/10.15468/dl.nvc9vf)

idigbio.org. (2017), 43395 records, accessed on 2017-03-01T21:39:42.991495, contributed by 10 Recordsets, Recordset identifiers:  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/a6ee223-cf3b-4079-8bb2-b77dad8ca9d (43165 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/271a9ce9-c6d3-4b63-a722-cb0ade48863f (56 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/4f436daa-01d5-4be6-b5c3-fdd255677536 (51 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/ea5f19e-ff6f-4d09-8b55-4a6810e77a6c (37 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/5e893602-84ca-4c8c-bac1-99111c777582 (27 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/da67ebd9-52de-444d-b114-e23c03111ae6 (27 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/69037495-438d-4dba-bf0f-4878073766f1 (12 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/6539877e-82dc-485c-ad3d-038f383d5431 (9 records);  
http://www.idigbio.org/portal/recordsets/db4bb0df-8539-4617-ab5f-eb118aa3126b (6 records);  


Woodard, H. (Feb. 28, 2017). Personal communication, email of collection data.