

# Alaska Natural Heritage Program

## Conservation Status Report

### *Bombus rufocinctus* - Cresson, 1863

**Common Name:** Red-belted Bumble Bee

<b>ELCODE:</b> IIHYM24190	<b>Taxonomic Serial No.:</b> 714833
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*Synonyms:* *Cullumanobombus rufocinctus* Cresson, 1863

*Taxonomy Notes:* This species is morphologically similar to many other species and is often misidentified (Williams et al. 2014). Additionally, there is large variation in color patterns, even within colonies; however, the few specimens identified in Alaska appear to be consistent in color pattern (see Sikes & Rykken 2020).

*Report last updated – November 5, 2020*

### Conservation Status

G4 S2
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### Population, Occurrences, Range

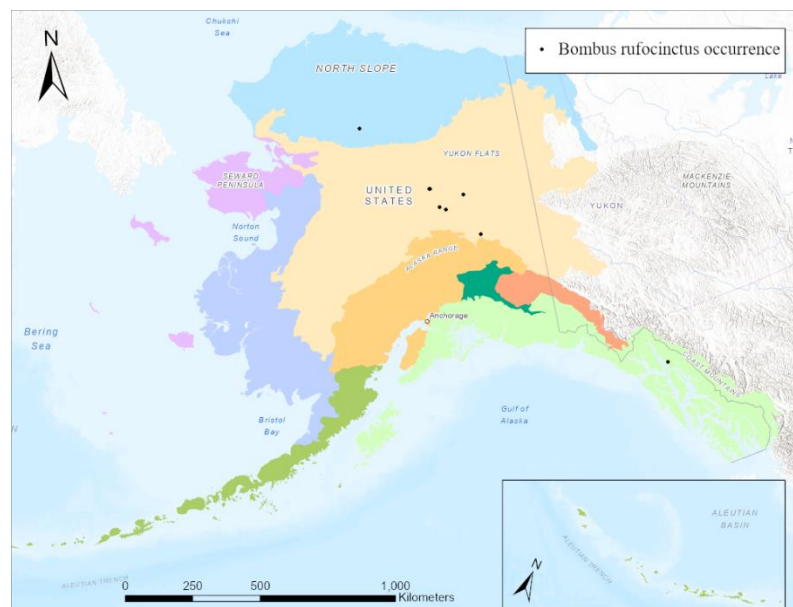
*Population size:* Unknown.

*Population Comments:* N/A

*Number of Occurrences:* 8; number of museum records: 16 (Records from UAM, Yale Peabody Museum, and University of Central Florida Collection of Arthropods (UCFC))

*AK Range Extent:* approximately 11,00 km<sup>2</sup>; 4- km<sup>2</sup> grid cells: 8; Nowacki Ecoregions found in Arctic Tundra, Intermontane Boreal, and Coastal Rainforest. Occurrences found in the northern panhandle, interior region of Fairbanks to the Alaska Range, one occurrence in Gates of the Arctic National Park.

*North American Distribution:*  
This species occurs from



Newfoundland and northeastern temperate forest and boreal forests, west through the Great Plains and more widespread through the mountainous West. Its distribution extends northward through Alberta, British Columbia, and less frequently in central Alaska (Williams et al. 2014).

## Trends

*Short-term:* Unknown. Insufficient data to determine trend.

*Long-term:* Unknown. Insufficient data to determine trend.

## Threats

*Scope and Severity:* Unknown.

*Comments:* No evidence suggests this species is threatened broadly. At the local scale, habitat conversion and pesticides can have a negative impact (NatureServe 2020).

## Ecology

*Habitat:* Habitat generalist (NatureServe 2020), woodlands, forests, urban parks and gardens (Williams et al. 2014).

*Associated flowers of:* *Chicorium\**, *Fragaria*, *Melilotus\**, *Solidago*, *Trifolium\**, and *Vicia\**.

\*denotes non-native plant species

*Nesting behavior:* Nests on the surface or aboveground (Williams et al. 2014).

*Parasitism:* This species is likely the host of *B. insularis*, *B. suckleyi*, and *B. flavidus* (Williams et al. 2014).

*Intrinsic Vulnerability:* Unknown.

## Literature

NatureServe. 2020. NatureServe Explorer [web application]. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <https://explorer.natureserve.org/>. (Accessed: November 5, 2020).

Sikes, D., and J. Rykken. 2020. Update to the identification guide to female Alaskan bumble bees and a summary of recent changes to the Alaskan bumble bee fauna. AKES Newsletter 13: 31-38. doi:10.7299/X7GH9J8D.

Williams, P. H., Thorp, R. W., Richardson, L. L., & Colla, S. R. 2014. Bumble bees of North America: an identification guide. Princeton University Press.