

Hairy Woodpecker

Dryobates villosus

Class: Aves

Order: Piciformes

Review Status: Peer-reviewed

Version Date: 31 July 2020

Note: Previously known as *Picooides villosus*.

Conservation Status

Table 1 Conservation status according to state, national, and international organizations and agencies.

Organization	Rank
NatureServe	G5/S5
ADF&G	Species of Greatest Conservation Need
IUCN	Least Concern

Final Rank

Conservation Category: **VII. Yellow**

Low status and either high biological vulnerability or high action need

Table 2 ASRS categorical scores. Higher numerical scores denote greater concern.

Category	Range	Score
Status	-20 to 20	-6
Biological	-50 to 50	-22
Action	-40 to 40	16

Status

Variables measure the trend in a taxon's population status or distribution. Higher status scores denote taxa with known declining trends. Status scores range from -20 (increasing) to 20 (decreasing).

Population Trend in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Suspected stable, based on long-term data (1993-2015) from two Bird Conservation Regions of Alaska: the Northwestern Interior Forest and Northern Pacific Rainforest (Handel and Sauer 2017).

Score: -6

Distribution Trend in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Unknown.

Score: 0

Status Total: -6

Biological

Variables measure aspects of a taxon's distribution, abundance and life history. Higher biological scores suggest greater vulnerability to extirpation. Biological scores range from -50 (least vulnerable) to 50 (most vulnerable).

Population Size in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Unknown. This species is considered casual/accidental or uncommon throughout its range in Alaska (Handel et al. 2021). PIF (2019) estimates for this species are highly uncertain; moreover, because PIF data are based on road surveys, they do not necessarily reflect off-road densities (Cotter 2007). To our knowledge, more robust data for estimating population size are not available.

Score: 0

Range Size in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Occurs year-round in forests from Southeast to northern Alaska (Jackson et al. 2018). Range size is estimated to be >400,000 sq. km, based on map from ACCS (2017a).

Score: -10

Population Concentration in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Does not concentrate (Jackson et al. 2018).

Score: -10

Reproductive Potential in Alaska

Age of First Reproduction (-5 to 5)

Unknown in Alaska. Elsewhere in its range, breeds at one year old (Jackson et al. 2018).

Score: -5

Number of Young (-5 to 5)

Unknown for Alaska. Elsewhere in North America, clutch size ranges from 3 to 7 eggs (Edworthy et al. 2011; Jackson et al. 2018).

Score: 1

Ecological Specialization in Alaska

Dietary (-5 to 5)

Feeds mainly on insects, especially wood-boring insects (Murphy and Lehnhausen 1998; Jackson et al. 2018). Its diet seasonally includes seeds and fruits (Jackson et al. 2018).

Score: 1

Habitat (-5 to 5)

Found in coniferous, deciduous, and mixedwood forests (Spindler and Kessel 1980; Johnson et al. 2008b; Jackson et al. 2018). Standing snags are important habitat features since nests are often located there (Cotter 2007; Jackson et al. 2018). Thus, in Southeast Alaska, Hairy Woodpeckers are associated with old-growth forests (Cotter 2007 and references therein). In interior Alaska, Hannah et al. (2003) documented Hairy Woodpeckers in burned and felled plots where there was a greater availability of standing snags.

Score: 1

Biological Total: -22

Action

Variables measure current state of knowledge or extent of conservation efforts directed toward a given taxon. Higher action scores denote greater information needs due to lack of knowledge or conservation action. Action scores range from -40 (lower needs) to 40 (greater needs).

Management Plans and Regulations in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA 1918).

Score: 2

Knowledge of Distribution and Habitat in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Distribution and habitat associations are generally known from multi-species surveys and some specific habitat studies in Southeast Alaska (see references in Cotter 2007).

Score: 2

Knowledge of Population Trends in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Monitored across parts of its range as part of the Breeding Bird Survey. However, trend data are unavailable statewide and existing data are insufficient for estimating decadal trends (Handel and Sauer 2017).

Score: 2

Knowledge of Factors Limiting Populations in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Some aspects of this species' ecology have been studied in Alaska and in interior British Columbia (Murphy and Lehnhausen 1998; Cotter 2007; Edworthy et al. 2011). However, little is known about the factors that limit this species' population size or distribution in Alaska. Given its association with old-growth forests in Southeast Alaska, some authors have called for research on the impacts of forest fragmentation (Cotter 2007).

Score: 10

Action Total: 16

Supplemental Information

Variables do not receive numerical scores. Instead, they are used to sort taxa to answer specific biological or management questions.

Harvest: None or Prohibited

Seasonal Occurrence: Year-round

Taxonomic Significance: Monotypic species

% Global Range in Alaska: >10%

% Global Population in Alaska: <25%

Peripheral: No

References

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