

Species Status Assessment

Common Name: Fringeless Leafwalker **Date Updated:** 2024-05-23
Scientific Name: *Xylota flukei* **Updated By:** Ashley Ballou
Class: Insecta
Family: Syrphidae

Species Synopsis

(a short paragraph which describes species taxonomy, distribution, recent trends, and habitat in New York):

This species is considered rare, and very little is known about it. It flies from early June to mid-July (Skevington et al. 2019). Only three specimens were collected in two counties during an extensive statewide pollinator survey. It has been found to use several different habitat types. Based on rarity, this species should become an SGCN.

I. Status

a. Current legal protected Status

i. **Federal:** Unprotected **Candidate:**
ii. **New York:** Unprotected

b. Natural Heritage Program

i. **Global:** G5
ii. **New York:** S1 **Tracked by NYNHP?** On Active Tracking List

Other Ranks:

- New York 2025 SGCN status: High Priority Species of Greatest Conservation Need
- COSEWIC: Not listed in Canada
- IUCN Red List: Not assessed by IUCN Red List
- Northeast Regional SGCN: Not listed

Status Discussion:

This species is considered rare, and very little is known about it. It flies from early June to mid-July (Skevington et al. 2019). Only three specimens were collected in two counties during an extensive statewide pollinator survey.

II. Abundance and Distribution Trends

Region	Present?	Abundance	Distribution	Time Frame	Listing status or S-Rank	SGCN?
North America	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		
Northeastern US	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		
New York	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	S1	
Connecticut	No	-	-	-		
Massachusetts	No	-	-	-		
New Jersey	No	-	-	-		
Pennsylvania	No	-	-	-		
Vermont	No	-	-	-		
Ontario	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	S2	
Quebec	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	SNR	

Column options

Present?: Yes; No; Unknown; No data; (blank) or Choose an Item

Abundance and Distribution: Declining; Increasing; Stable; Unknown; Extirpated; N/A; (blank) or Choose an item

SGCN?: Yes; No; Unknown; (blank) or Choose an item

Monitoring in New York

(specify any monitoring activities or regular surveys that are conducted in New York):

Trends Discussion

(insert map of North American/regional distribution and status):

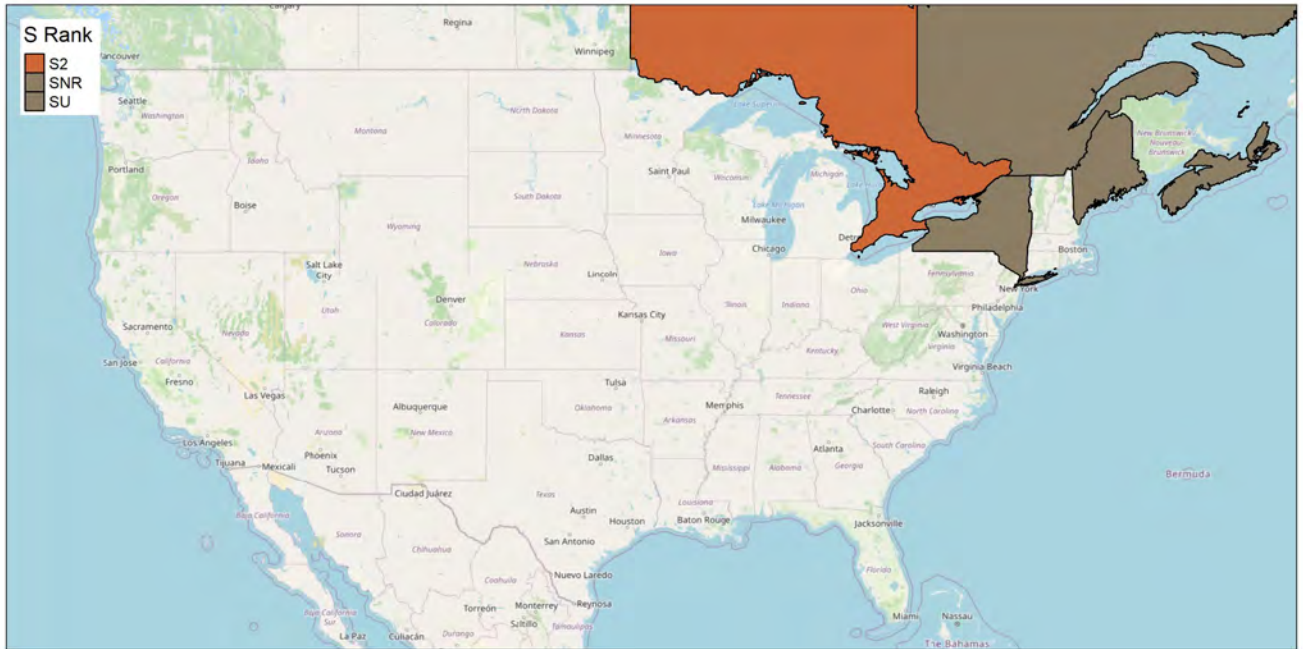


Figure 1: *Xylota flukei* North American distribution.

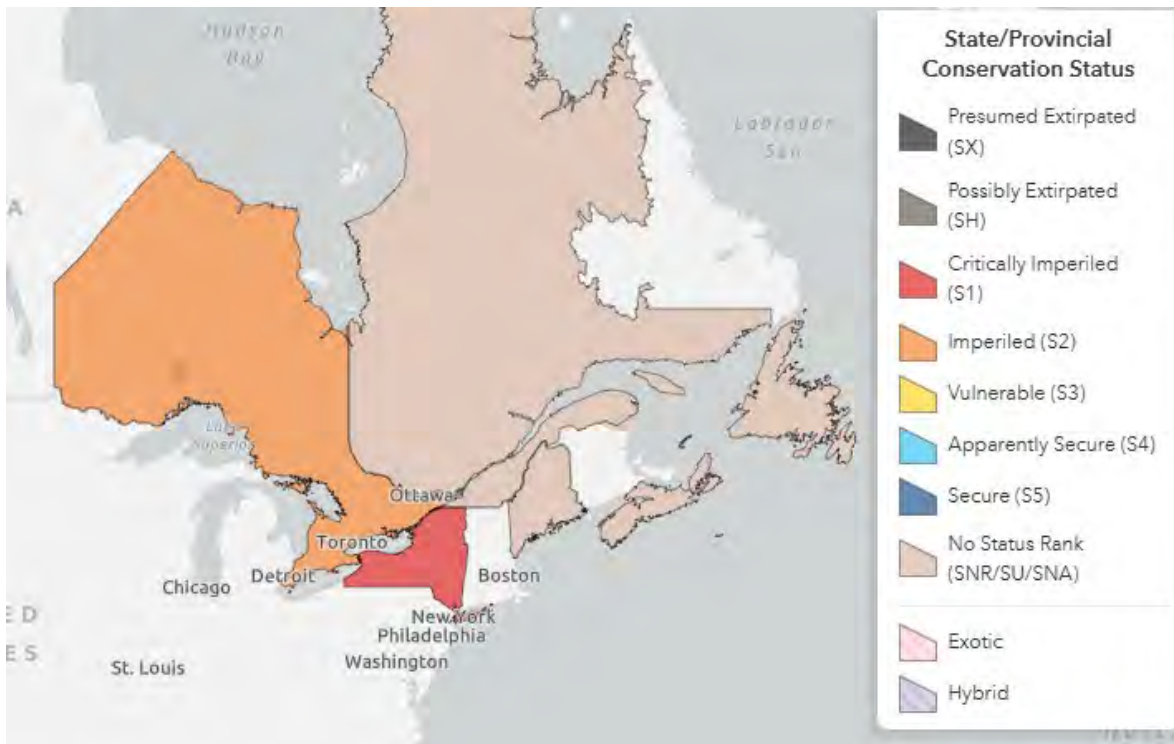


Figure 2. Conservation status of *Xylota flukei* in North America (NatureServe 2024).

III. New York Rarity

(provide map, numbers, and percent of state occupied)

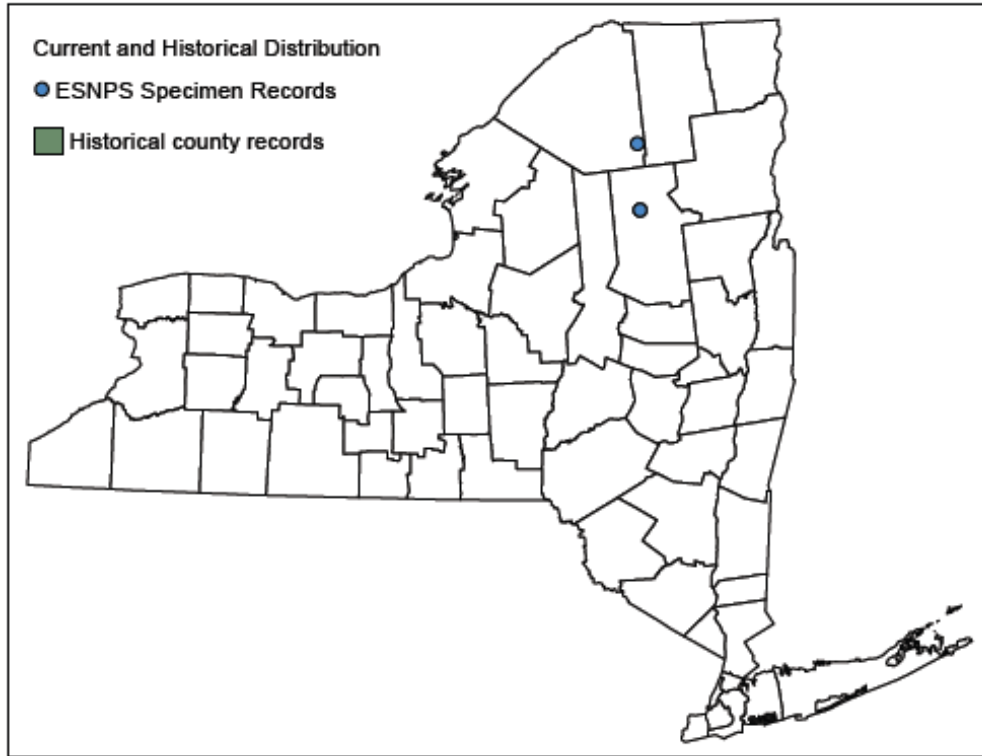


Figure 2. NYS distribution for *Xylota flukei* based on Empire State Native Pollinator Survey data.

Table 1. Number of observations of *Xylota flukei* grouped by the dates known to be extant (repeat observations (element occurrences) include the years spanning first observation to last observation) and the number and percent of total of counties these observations fall within for New York State.

Years	Observations	# of Counties	% of counties in State
Pre-2000	0	0	0.0
2000-2023	3	2	3.2

Details of historic and current occurrence:

Percent of North American Range in NY	Classification of NY Range	Distance to core population, if not in NY
1-25%		

Column options

Percent of North American Range in NY: 100% (endemic); 76-99%; 51-75%; 26-50% 1-25%; 0%; Choose an item

Classification of NY Range: Core; Peripheral; Disjunct; (blank) or Choose an item

IV. Primary Habitat or Community Type

(from NY crosswalk of NE Aquatic, Marine, or Terrestrial Habitat Classification Systems): Late successional forest, bog

Habitat or Community Type Trend in New York

Habitat Specialist?	Indicator Species?	Habitat/ Community Trend	Time frame of Decline/ Increase
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Column options

Habitat Specialist and Indicator Species: Yes; No; Unknown; (blank) or Choose an item

Habitat/Community Trend: Declining; Stable; Increasing; Unknown; (blank) or Choose an item

Habitat Discussion:

Very few species have been collected, and they are known from several habitats including late successional forest, dry sphagnum bog, and *Corema* barrens (Skevington et al. 2019).

V. Species Demographics and Life History

Breeder in NY?	Non-breeder in NY?	Migratory Only?	Summer Resident?	Winter Resident?	Anadromous/ Catadromous?
Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No

Column options

First 5 fields: Yes; No; Unknown; (blank) or Choose an item

Anadromous/Catadromous: Anadromous; Catadromous; (blank) or Choose an item

Species Demographics and Life History Discussion

(include information about species life span, reproductive longevity, reproductive capacity, age to maturity, and ability to disperse and colonize):

This species is considered rare, and very little is known about it. It flies from early June to mid-July (Skevington et al. 2019).

VI. Threats

From the Empire State Native Pollinator Survey: “Threats facing our focal saproxylic hover flies and beetles include habitat loss and degradation, invasive plants and pathogens, pesticides, and climate change (White et al. 2022). Habitat shifting and alteration, droughts, and more frequent severe weather events due to climate change is expected to impact saproxylic flies and beetles.”

Threat Level 1	Threat Level 2	Threat Level 3	Spatial Extent	Severity	Immediacy	Trend	Certainty
1. Residential and Commercial	1.3 Tourism & Recreation Areas	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
4. Transportation & Service Corridors	4.2 Utility & Service Lines	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
4. Transportation & Service Corridors	4.1 Roads & Railroads	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
5. Biological Resource Use	5.3 Logging & Wood Harvesting	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
8. Invasive & Other Problematic Species	8.1 Invasive Non-Native Plants & Animals	8.1.1 Terrestrial animals (wood-boring insects)	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
8. Invasive & Other Problematic Species	8.1 Invasive Non-Native Plants & Animals	8.1.2 Terrestrial plants	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
8. Invasive & Other Problematic Species	8.4 Pathogens	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
9. Pollution	9.3 Agricultural & Forestry Effluents	9.3.3 Herbicides & pesticides	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
11. Climate Change	11.3 Changes in Temperature Regimes	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
11. Climate Change	11.4 Changes in Precipitation & Hydrological Regimes	11.4.2 Droughts	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
11. Climate Change	11.5 Storms & Severe Weather	11.5.1 Storms & severe weather	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

Table 2. Threats to *Xylota flukei*.

VII. References

This SSA drew heavily from these resources:

New York Natural Heritage Program, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. 2023. Element Occurrence and Element Dataset. Albany, New York. [Exported 12/14/2023].

NatureServe. 2023. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. [Accessed 12/14/2023].

NatureServe. 2024. NatureServe Explorer. Page last published 11/14/24. https://explorer.natureserve.org/Taxon/ELEMENT_GLOBAL.2.113738/Xylota_flukei. Accessed November 20, 2024.

Additional references:

Skevington, J.H., M.M. Locke, A.D. Young, K. Moran, W.J. Crins, and S.A. Marshally. 2019. Field guide to the flower flies of northeastern North America. Princeton University Press.

White, E.L., M. D. Schlesinger, and T.G. Howard. 2022. The Empire State Native Pollinator Survey (2017-2021). New York Natural Heritage Program, Albany, NY.

Originally prepared by	A. Ballou
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