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## Peer Review Request for the *Drosophila digressa* Species Report

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Karl Magnacca [REDACTED]

Mon, Jan 30, 2023 at 4:43 PM

To: "Vetter, John P" [REDACTED]

Hello John,

The most significant comment I have is that a new population of *D. digressa* was discovered on June 28, 2022 in Honomalino Forest Reserve, just north of Manuka, at an elevation of 835 m. At least 20 *D. digressa* were observed feeding on a *Charpentiera* trunk, with hundreds of eggs visible in the bark (photo attached). A large portion of the trunk of the still-living tree was rotting after damage from a treefall. Unfortunately this was the only *Charpentiera* seen in this forest, which was a small patch dominated by dense *Rockia*, surrounded by more open and invaded forest. However, it is possible that other such patches may exist, as Honomalino is difficult to traverse and has not been extensively explored.

Additional specific comments are listed below:

p. 2, paragraph 1 – Karl Magnacca is also with DOFAW as of March 2022.

p. 10, para. 2 – The 1,000 species number refers to all drosophilids in Hawaii, including *Scaptomyza*; there are about 600–700 native *Drosophila*.

p. 17 para. 4 – *D. digressa* has not been kept much in the lab, but based on other species, adult picture wing *Drosophila* can live at least six months and possibly longer.

p. 26 para. 2 – The alien crane flies (*Libnotes* spp.) are now considered to be in the family Limoniidae, not Tipulidae.

Karl

On Mon, Dec 5, 2022 at 8:58 AM Vetter, John P [REDACTED] wrote:

Aloha,

You have been identified as someone who can provide expert review for *Drosophila digressa*, which is included in the Draft Recovery Plan for 15 Species from the Island of Hawai'i that is currently posted for public comment. We are kindly asking for your peer review of the Species Report, which is the biological basis for this Draft Recovery Plan. The Species Reports will be living documents that can be updated regularly when new information becomes available, whereas the Recovery Plan is meant to be a longer term vision for the species. The Species Report can be found here:

*Drosophila digressa* - [https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery\\_plan/Drosophila%20digressa\\_SR.pdf](https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Drosophila%20digressa_SR.pdf)

We are requesting comments on the Species Report by January 31, 2023. Comments can be sent by replying to this email. Species Reports were drafted over the last several years and may not be completely up-to-date on occurrence data. We will provide updated status assessments in the next 5 year review. Thus, we are especially interested in feedback on the information about the species' biology and ecology, the viability assessment, and conservation actions included in the Species Report. Any comments provided for the peer review of the Species Report will be considered for inclusion in the final Recovery Plan and vice versa. Please let me know if you have any questions or if you are not able to provide comments at this time.

As a reminder, the public comment period for this Draft Recovery Plan is open currently. Links to additional information about the Draft Recovery Plan and how to comment on it can be found here: <https://reports.ecosphere.fws.gov/FWSPublicReports/Reports/Index?reportname=rpt%>

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Thank you,

John

John Vetter  
Animal Recovery Coordinator  
USFWS - Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office



**Drosophila digressa Honomalino 2907.jpg**  
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