



the
species
recovery
trust

Triplax lacordairii



Conservation Status:
Endangered

Threat of Extinction:
Very high

Main Threats:
Habitat loss,
excessive
foraging for
mushrooms



Southern Oyster Mushroom Beetle

Description: A small saproxylic beetle, 4-5mm in length with dark brown/black wing casings and amber thorax and legs.

Lifecycle: Dependent on *Pleurotus ostreatus* (oyster mushrooms) as host fungi, which live on decaying trees. Little is known about the relationships between the host trees, the oyster mushrooms and the beetles.

Habitat: Ancient woodlands with plenty of decaying trees that support fungi growth.

Distribution: Scattered throughout southern England, although may now be extinct at many of these sites.

Status: Endangered in IUCN European Red List of Saproxylic Beetles 2010.

Reasons for decline: Loss of ancient woodland and therefore deadwood. Human foraging of its host fungi species, oyster mushrooms, is suspected to have had an impact on population numbers.

Protection under the Law: None at present.

What we are doing:

- Surveying known sites and other likely places to determine continued presence, status and habitat structure associations
- Raising awareness of the potential local impact of mushroom picking

What you can do:

- Refrain from over-picking oyster mushrooms and try to discourage other people
- Become a species supporter and help fund the project

