

Coeligena orina



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Family:

Trochilidae

Common Name:

**Dusky
Starfrontlet**

Distribution:

ENDEMIC



Introduction

Coeligena orina was known for over 50 years as a subspecies of *Coeligena bonapartei* proposed by Wetmore in 1953 from a skin of an immature individual (Carriker 1954) (public. del Hoyo *et al.* 1999). The type locality was from Paramo de Frontino in the Department of Antioquia at the north end of the western Cordillera. In 2004, Niels Krabbe and a group of biologists rediscovered the type locality and confirmed it as a full species.

This species is endemic to the western Cordillera of Colombia whilst *Coeligena helianthea* and *Coeligena bonapartei*, are restricted to the eastern Andes. *Coeligena lutetiae*, restricted to the central Andes is geographically more related to *Coeligena orina*.

Distribution



Coeligena orina has now been reported from two localities in southwest Antioquia: Paramo de Frontino and Farallones de Citara. (Krabbe *et al.* 2005). Recent explorations by the Hummingbird Conservancy has now discovered two new localities for this species (in press).

Threats

Unfortunately the geologic characteristics of the reported sites has also attracted the attention of gold mining companies, which added to the high rates of deforestation that the Paramo de Frontino has suffered for cattle ranching, puts this species eminent danger. On the other hand, the Regional Corporation of Antioquia (CORANTIOQUIA) is paying special attention to this area for its protection.



Conservation

Though *Coeligena orina* is known only from two sites, The Hummingbird Conservancy is exploring four new areas in search of the species. Two sites have already yielded positive results and several birds have been banded to begin further studies.

Krabbe *et al* 2005, proposed *Coeligena orina* be considered in high risk of extinction and recommends it be classified as critically endangered (CR), based on the following UICN classification B1a,b (estimated range less than 100 kilómetros) and C2a (less than 250 mature individuals and declining).

