

California Status Factors

Elcode NFSM000110
Gname NEOLENTINUS KAUFFMANII
Gcomname

Number of Occurrences

B = 6 - 20

Comments 7 occurrences of *Neolentinus kauffmanii* are known from California. (Redhead & Ginns 1985; Redhead 1989; Norvell 1995; Castellano et al. 1999; ISMS-ONH 2002), none of which have been collected since 1992. Continued fungal surveys may uncover more sites in Sitka spruce forests.

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

D = Some (13-40) occurrences with good viability

Comments Data on whether known sites occur in extant spruce stands are unavailable, but there are probably at least 20 occurrences within the state. At least 5 known occurrences were collected either from permanently protected forest reserves or recently enough to be inferred extant. (Norvell 1995).

Population Size

U = Unknown

Comments Records reflect only species occurrence, i.e. fruitbodies, not numbers of individuals. Fungal genets cannot be delimited without DNA sampling.

Range Extent

D = 1,000-5,000 km² (about 400-2,000 square miles)

Comments *Neolentinus kauffmanii* ranges from northern California along the coast south to Redwood National Forest, Big Lagoon, and Patrick's Point State Park in the Sitka spruce zone (Norvell 1995; Castellano et al. 1999, ISMS Database 2002 and GIS map for *Neolentinus kauffmanii*).

Area of Occupancy

U = Unknown

LU = Unknown

Comments Area of occupancy cannot be approximated from fungal fruitbodies as the vegetative organism is hidden from site within the substrate. Saprophytic fungi have spotty distributions that are tied to the presence of appropriate substrates.

Long-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

E = Relatively Stable ($\pm 25\%$ change)

Comments *Neolentinus kauffmanii* is obligately saprophytic on Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*). It should remain stable over the long-term as long as *Picea sitchensis* is maintained in natural forest settings. Removal of fallen Sitka spruce logs and coarse woody debris or destruction of spruce habitat will imperil the species. It has a somewhat patchy distribution, with most occurrences

found in late-successional/old-growth habitats. Individuals reproduce by spore dispersal and mycelial interactions with other individuals. Longevity of individuals and populations is unknown (Norvell 2002 pers comm).

Short-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

E = Stable. Population, range, area occupied, and/or number or condition of occurrences unchanged or remaining within $\pm 10\%$ fluctuation

Comments *Neolentinus kauffmanii* is obligately saprophytic upon living and fallen Sitka spruce. It appears most commonly in late-successional/old-growth spruce forests. Incidental catastrophic events and/or removal/destruction of the substrate and standing spruce trees could imperil the fungus at a site. Current occurrences are somewhat rare, but 17 lie in protected reserves. Two occurrences in the Cascade Head Experimental Forest in Oregon were recently affirmed as extant. The species is inferred to be stable over the short term (Norvell 1995).

Threats

G = Slightly threatened. Threats, while recognizable, are of low severity, or affecting only a small portion of the population, occurrences, or area. Ecological community occurrences may be altered in minor parts of range or degree of alteration falls within the natural variation of the type.

Scope	Low	Severity	Unknown	Immediacy	Low
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Comments *Neolentinus kauffmanii* is obligately saprophytic on Sitka spruce. It is commonly found in late-successional/old-growth forests on living and fallen spruce wood. Whatever threatens living spruce and the general forest setting can imperil a *Neolentinus kauffmanii* population. All populations are at risk to incidental catastrophic events, such as hot fires, and unmonitored human interference. Unprotected occurrences are at risk from logging activities that remove and/or destroy spruce logs and coarse woody debris (Norvell pers comm 2002).

Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences

B = Few (1-3) occurrences appropriately protected and managed

Comments In California, ISMS-ONH (2002), based on historical data supplied by Norvell 1995 and reported in Castellano et al. 1999) lists 2 known sites in permanently protected reserves. It is not known whether either of the protected sites is being specifically managed for *Neolentinus kauffmanii*.

Intrinsic Vulnerability

B = Moderately Vulnerable. Species exhibits moderate age of maturity, frequency of reproduction, and/or fecundity such that populations generally tend to recover from decreases in abundance over a period of several years (on the order of 5-20 years or 2-5 generations); or species has moderate dispersal capability such that extirpated populations generally become reestablished through natural recolonization (unaided by humans). Ecological community occurrences may be susceptible to changes in composition and structure but tend to recover through natural processes given reasonable time (10-100 years).

Comments *Neolentinus kauffmanii* is obligately saprophytic on Sitka spruce and presumably vulnerable to the removal or destruction of the living tree or fallen spruce. It is also vulnerable to alteration of microhabitats and microclimate regimes as a result of logging activities, stream diversion, road construction, and/or development.

Environmental Specificity

A = Very Narrow. Specialist or community with key requirements scarce.

Comments *Neolentinus kauffmanii* is an obligate saprophyte (or possible slow-growing parasite) on *Picea sitchensis* that produces a brown cubical (or pocket) rot in living and fallen spruce trees. It is traditionally found in late-successional/old-growth spruce rainforests in coastal regions. (Bier & Nobles 1946, Redhead & Ginns 1985, Redhead 1989).

Other Considerations

OTHER: *Neolentinus kauffmanii* (Smith) Redhead & Ginns *Trans myc soc Japan* 26: 357 1985 is also sometimes known as *Lentinus kauffmanii* AHSmith in Bier & Nobels *Can J Res, Sect C* 24: 118. 1946.

Edition 11/26/2002 **Edauthor** Lorelei L Norvell

Grank S4 **Grank Date** 11/26/2002

Reasons

Neolentinus kauffmanii is an obligate saprophyte on Sitka spruce. In California, *Neolentinus kauffmanii* was uncommon to infrequent historically but is probably stable as long as Sitka spruce forests are maintained. Of the 7 known sites, 2 occur in permanently protected forest reserves. All populations are at risk to incidental catastrophic events such as wildfire and anything that removes or destroys the living and/or fallen Sitka spruce trees.

BCD Sources

New Sources

REFERENCES: Redhead & Ginns. 1985. A reappraisal of agaric genera associated with brown rots of wood. *Trans mycol soc japan* 26: 349-381. ALSO Redhead. 1989. A biogeographical overview of the Canadian mushroom flora. *Can. J. Bot.* 67: 3003-3062. ALSO Norvell. 1995. ROD: Strategy 1 Fungal Species Evaluation (30 gilled & nongilled Basidiomycete species). Unpubl. report on file at the Regional Mycology Lab, Corvallis, Oregon. ALSO Castellano et al. 1999. Handbook to Strategy 1 fungal species in the Northwest Forest Plan. USDA-FS PNWRS PNW-GTR-476. ALSO ISMS-ONH. 2002. ISMS data; ONH protection extrapolations; GIS map for NEKA13. ALSO DAVFP: Pacific Forestry Center Herbarium DATE searched: http://www.pfc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/biodiversity/herbarium/searchbyfungus_e.html ALSO Bier & Nobles. 1946. Brown pocket rot of Sitka spruce. *Can J Res Sect C* 24: 115-120.