

# Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle – Fact Sheet



**Classification:**  
*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*

**Status:**  
Threatened

## Characteristics

- Full-grown beetles have a cylindrical body that can be as long as 2 inches.
- Females are larger than males.
- The forewings of the female are a dark metallic green with red trimmings, while the male's are primarily red with dark green spots.
- There are four stages in the animal's life: egg, larva, pupa and adult. Eggs are laid only in the branches of the elderberry bush where larva live for up to two years before they become adults.

## Habitat and Range

The beetle is found only in the Central Valley, and its entire life cycle depends upon the valley elderberry shrub.

## Threats to Survival

The primary threat to the beetle is the continued loss of habitat.



## ESA Listing Detail

On August 8, 1980, the valley elderberry longhorn beetle was designated as *threatened* in its entire range. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Pacific Region (Region 1) is the lead region for this species.