

State of the Fireflies of the United States and Canada:



Two-Step Flasher Firefly

THREATENED & NEAR THREATENED SPECIES PROFILE

Candace Fallon, Anna Walker, Sara Lewis, and Sarina Jepsen

This species profile was compiled based on information gathered from the IUCN Red List assessments and augmented with new information that has become available since its publication. Full Red List assessments (including range maps) are available at www.iucnredlist.org/.

KEY TO SPECIES PROFILE

Conservation Status

IUCN—Red List ranking

NS—NatureServe Global (G), National (N), and Subnational (S) Conservation Status Rank:

GX NX SX	Not located despite intensive searches and virtually no likelihood of rediscovery
GH NH SH	Known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery
G1 N1 S1	At very high risk of extinction or collapse
G2 N2 S2	At high risk of extinction or collapse
G3 N3 S3	At moderate risk of extinction or collapse
G4 N4 S4	At fairly low risk of extinction or collapse
G5 N5 S5	At very low risk or extinction or collapse
GNA NNA SNA	A conservation status rank is not applicable because the species or ecosystem is not a suitable target for conservation activities
GNR NNR SNR	Global rank not yet assessed
GU NU SU	Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends
G#G# N#N# S#S#	Numeric range rank (e.g., G2G3, G1G3) is used to indicate uncertainty about the exact status of a taxon or ecosystem type

SGCN—Species of Greatest Conservation Need, legal designation by state

US ESA—Species' legal status under the US Endangered Species Act

Male Size Ranges

The documented size range for males of each species has been provided in the profiles as follows:

9–10 mm



With the smallest size in grey () superimposed over the largest size in green (). When printed at 100% scale, the bars match the lengths provided.

Habitat Threats

Pollution	Agriculture	Habitat Loss, Degradation, Fragmentation	Climate & Severe Weather
Excess light	Crop systems	Habitat loss	Climate change
Energy & mining	Livestock & pasture	Trampling / crushing	Severe storms & flooding
Pesticides & run-off		Invasive species	Rising temperatures
		Commercial & development	Drought
		Urban & residential development	Sea level rise
		Water quality	

Photinus dimissus
Two-Step Flasher Firefly



NEAR THREATENED
NT



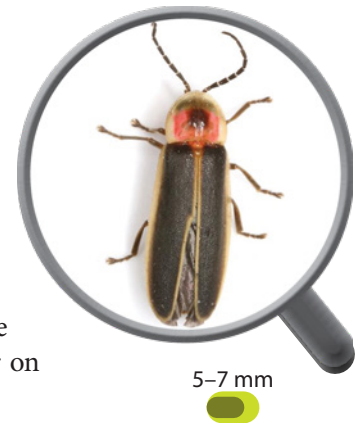
The two-step flasher firefly (*Photinus dimissus*) [below] is now known from only a few localities in Texas and Oklahoma, including Guadalupe River State Park in Texas [above]. (Photos: Mike Quinn / BugGuide [below and on cover]; Amber Lujan (ambo213) / Flickr [above].)

Conservation Status

- » IUCN: NT
- » NS: G3, SNA (OK), SNR (TX)
- » SGCN: None
- » US ESA: Not listed

Distribution

USA—Texas, Oklahoma



Description

The two-step flasher firefly (*Photinus dimissus*) was historically found in isolated patches along riparian corridors throughout southern Oklahoma and central Texas. Recent surveys for the species have identified only a few extant localities, primarily within protected natural areas or on private property. It is associated with undisturbed grasslands along waterways.

Threats to this species include habitat disturbance and loss, particularly due to growing residential development, trampling of flightless adult females, light pollution, and loss and degradation of critical water resources.

Flash Pattern & Activity Period

As its common name suggests, males of this species produce a twinkling yellow flash that appears bimodal about once a second; females respond at a quick fraction of a second delay.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Seconds
♂	●		●		●		●	→ Single flash repeated once per second
♀		●		●		●		→ Response flash following each male flash