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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Powder Blue Damselfly

The **Powder Blue Damselfly**, *Arabicnemis caerulea*, is listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Named for the male's vivid blue body, this striking damselfly is found only in southern Arabia, in Yemen, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

The Powder Blue Damselfly typically inhabits shallow, slow-moving, vegetated sections of irrigation ditches, oases and wadis. The main threats to this insect are likely to come from the pollution of its aquatic habitat and the over-extraction of water, both of which are occurring because the human population in the area continues to increase. Climate change may also lead to more frequent and severe droughts in the region, further reducing the habitat available to this species.

There are no specific conservation measures currently targeted at this poorly-known species. The main priority for the conservation of the Powder Blue Damselfly, as for other dragonflies and damselflies in southern Arabia, is to maintain suitable habitat in the form of clean, running water.

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