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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	< VULNERABLE >	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Geographical range

Species of the Day: Gilded Presba

The **Gilded Presba**, *Syncordulia legator*, is classified as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Only scientifically described in 2007, it is a large dragonfly that lives in the Cape Fold mountains of South Africa. It is capable of remarkably powerful flight, emerging from the cool mountain streams and then swiftly up and over the mountains, even in windy conditions.

The main threat to the Gilded Presba is from invasive alien trees which aggressively spread along the stream and river banks, shading out its habitat. These alien trees eventually squeeze out much of the local flora and fauna.

The nationwide Working for Water Programme in South Africa is removing alien trees along water courses. This activity is conferring a huge and immediate benefit upon many species. Without such a programme, which was not originally planned specifically for species survival, it is quite likely that in years to come the Gilded Presba may well have gone extinct without us ever having known of its existence.

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