

Sirenophila macquariensis

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

CATEGORY

Lichen

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lichens - Crustose

LICHEN SUBSTRATE

Saxicolous (rock)

SUBSTRATE DETAILS

Saxicolous (coastal rocks) - basicolous rocks only (basalt, basaltic tuff)

THREATS

Once thought to be a Chatham Islands endemic on the brink of extinction (de Lange 2019), this species has now been found in a number of sites on those islands and seems secure (though populations are very small) (de Lange et al. 2021). It has also been found on the east coast of the South Island (de Lange 2012). Outside New Zealand the species is known from a single collection from Macquarie Island (Søchting & de Lange 2024).

GENUS

Sirenophila

FAMILY

Teloschistaceae

AUTHORITY

Sirenophila macquariensis (C.W.Dodge) Søchting & de Lange

SYNONYMS

Caloplaca maculata D.J.Galloway; *Caloplaca macquariensis* C.W.Dodge

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

macquariensis: From Macquarie Island



Growing admixed with *Dufuorea ligulata*, *Buellia* spp., *Disphyma papillatum*, Chatham Islands. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Date taken: 02/12/2008, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Coastal lichen, Chatham Islands. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 20/08/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

de Lange P.J. 2012: Sole Chatham Islands endemic lichen discovered on south Otago Coastline – Natural Heritage. Chatham Islands, New Zealand. <https://chathams.co.nz/> (website accessed: 4 September 2019).

de Lange P.J. 2019: The unexpected near demise of *Caloplaca maculata* (Teloschistaceae; lichenized mycobiota) from the Chatham Islands. *Trilepidea* 190: 8-12.

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/site/assets/files/0/65/811/trilepidea_july_2021_final.pdf

de Lange P.J., Hitchon T., Patterson E. 2021: New Chatham Islands locations for *Caloplaca maculata* D.J.Galloway (Teloschistaceae). *Trilepidea* 207: 3-6.

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/site/assets/files/0/59/204/trilepidea_may_2021_final.pdf

Søchting, U., de Lange, P. (2024). *Sirenophila macquariensis* (Teloschistaceae) – a new name for the lichen *Caloplaca maculata*. *Perspectives in Biodiversity* 2(1): 42–49. <https://doi.org/10.34074/pibdiv.002105>

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Sirenophila macquariensis* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/sirenophila-macquariensis/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/sirenophila-macquariensis/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026