

## A revision of the Nearctic species of the genus *Halobrecta* Thomson, 1858 (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Aleocharinae) with notes on some Palaearctic species of the genus

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### Abstract

The marine littoral genus *Halobrecta* Thomson, 1858 is redescribed. Descriptions and a key to species known from the Nearctic Region (*Ha. algophila* (Fenyès, 1909) and *Ha. flavipes* Thomson, 1861) are provided. *Atheta barbarae* Casey, 1910 and *At. importuna* Casey, 1911 are placed in synonymy with *Halobrecta algophila* (Fenyès, 1909). *Atheta pocahontas* Casey, 1910, *At. vaticina* Casey, 1910 and *Aloconota incertula* Casey, 1910 are synonymized with *Halobrecta flavipes* Thomson, 1861. Lectotypes are designated for *Homalota puncticeps* Thomson, 1852, *Halobrecta flavipes* Thomson, 1861, *Atheta algophila* Fenyès, 1909, *At. pocahontas* Casey, 1910, *At. vaticina* Casey, 1910, *Aloconota incertula* Casey, 1910 and *At. importuna* Casey, 1911.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae, *Halobrecta*, Nearctic, taxonomy, nomenclature, synonymy, identification key

### Introduction

Thomson (1858) erected the genus *Halobrecta* and included a single species, *Ha. puncticeps* (Thomson 1852), originally described from Sweden. Later he added a second species, *Ha. flavipes* Thomson, 1861. Since then several additional species were described or moved to *Halobrecta* (Bernhauer & Scheerpeltz 1926; Sawada 1985, 1987; Pace 1999), but only one species (*Ha. algophila* (Fenyès 1909) described from California) was known from North America before my contribution was published. In this paper I redescribe *Halobrecta* and two valid species now known from the Nearctic Region.