**Description:** Tiger Beetles are so named because of their “tiger-like” behavior of chasing down and capturing prey with their long mandibles. Hentz’s Redbelly Tiger Beetle (*Cicindela rufiventris hentzii*) is 9-12 mm in length (Pearson et al. 2006). It is dark brown in color, with a copper sheen, particularly on the head and thorax. *Cicindela rufiventris hentzii* has white maculations (markings) on the elytra (wing covers) that are broader and more extensive as compared to the nominate subspecies, *Cicindela rufiventris rufiventris*. Both subspecies have an abdomen that is bright orange in color, typically only visible when the elytra are raised for flight.

**Habitat:** Hentz’s Redbelly Tiger Beetle inhabits sparsely-vegetated bedrock outcrops, often of granite composition.

**Life History:** Hentz’s Redbelly Tiger Beetle is a summer species with a one-year life cycle (Leonard & Bell 1999). Adult beetles are active in July and August, during which time they forage, mate, and the females lay eggs. Larvae presumably burrow in soil, moss, and lichens in cracks in the bedrock (Leonard & Bell 1999). Larvae overwinter and complete development in spring and early summer.

**Geographic Range:** Hentz’s Redbelly Tiger Beetle is restricted to bedrock outcrops in the hills around Boston, Massachusetts, and extending along the North Shore to Gloucester.

**Status and Threats:** Hentz’s Redbelly Tiger Beetle is threatened by habitat loss and suppression of fire, which is needed to maintain the open vegetative structure of its habitat. Other potential threats include off-road vehicles and insecticide spraying.

**Literature Cited**


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