

**SCIENTIFIC NAME:** *Efferia antiochi*  
**COMMON NAME:** Antioch efferian robber fly  
**CLASS, FAMILY:** Insecta, Asilidae

**ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION:** Wilcox, J. 1966. *Efferia* Coquillett in America North of Mexico (Diptera: Asilidae). Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences 34(2):126, figs. 63-64 (lateral view of male terminalia and female ovipositor).

**TYPE MATERIAL:** *Holotype:* Male – CALIFORNIA: Contra Costa County; Antioch, 30 Sep 1933, B.J. Hall, collector. Deposited in the California Academy of Sciences, type #9255. *Allotype:* Female, same data as holotype except collected 16 Sep 1938 by B. Brookman; deposited in the California Academy of Sciences. Seventeen male and 16 female paratypes, collected in September and October, are deposited in various museums.

**RANKING/STATUS:** G1G3S1S3 (NatureServe – CNDDDB).

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** Robber flies have the top of the head hollowed out between the eyes, and usually have a bearded appearance to the face. The third antennal segment is elongate. The thorax is stout and the legs are rather large and long. *Efferia antiochi* are large and slender-bodied with tapering abdomens; they measure 20-26 mm in length (females are larger than males).

**DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:** In Wilcox's key, this species differs from other North American *Efferia* in having abdominal segments 2-5 largely black, 6-7 densely white pollinose, abdomen with numerous white hairs on segments 1-4, terminalia largely white-haired, and the femora wholly black.

**OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS:** There are no published illustrations of this species other than those included with the original description.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Known only from Antioch, Fresno, and Scout Island in the San Joaquin River.

**HABITAT:** No specific habitat information is available.

**LIFE HISTORY/BEHAVIOR:** Adults of this species have been collected from September to December. There is no published information on the life history or behavior of this species, but robber flies are predaceous on other insects, and larvae usually develop in the ground or in rotting wood where they prey upon other insect larvae.

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