

Pond Snails - *Stagnicola* sp.

Abundance:

Status:

NatureServe:

Population Status:

Limiting Factor:

Comment:

Introduction

Pond snails, genus *Stagnicola*, is a genus of air-breathing freshwater snails in the family Lymnaeidae. These snails have a spiral shell that is up to 5 cm in length with a dextral (left-opening) shell (Thorp and Rogers 2011). Pond snails are distributed across North America (NatureServe 2016). Of the 28 species and subspecies known from North America, 9 (32%) are considered critically imperiled or imperiled (G1/T1 or G2/T2). Aquatic snails are scrapers that eat algae, microbes, fungi and detritus on solid surfaces such as logs, macrophytes and rocks (Smith 2001). Eight species of pond snails are known from Wyoming: *S. apicina*, *S. bonnevillensis*, *S. caperata*, *S. catascopium*, *S. elodes*, *S. hinkleyi*, *S. montanensis* and *S. traski* (NatureServe 2016). Of these species, *S. hinkleyi* was listed as imperiled and *S. bonnevillensis*, *S. montanensis* and *S. traski* were listed as vulnerable (NatureServe 2016). *S. traski* was recorded from one location in Wyoming (Oliver and Bosworth 1999). *S. bonnevillensis* is thought to be extirpated from southwest Wyoming and was a candidate species under the Endangered Species Act (NatureServe 2016).

Habitat

Pond snails live in ponds or slow moving streams. These snails may live on the bottom of ponds or streams on fine sediment or on aquatic vegetation (Thorp and Rogers 2011).

Problems

h Lack of basic information on the species present, their distribution, and ecology in Wyoming

Conservation Actions

h Concerns over the effects of habitat disturbance, such as dewatering, pollution, and invasive animals

Monitoring/Research

Monitoring plans for some species may be desirable, but baseline information is first needed.

Recent Developments

Aquatic snail surveys are currently being conducted in some areas of Wyoming.

References

NatureServe. 2016. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application] Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: January 20,2016).

Oliver, G and Bosworth W. 1999. Rare, imperiled, and recently extinct or extirpated mollusks of Utah. State of Utah Department of Natural Resources, Utha Natural Heritage Program. Available at: <http://water.nv.gov/hearings/spring%20valley%20hearings/USFWS/Corrections/FWS-2045.pdf>.

Smith, D. G. 2001. Pennak's Freshwater Invertebrates of the United States. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York. Pp. 638.

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SOURCE: Digital maps of ranges for Wyoming Species of Greatest Conservation Need: April 2010. Wyoming Game and Fish Department. A range map is unavailable for the taxa because distribution and ecology are poorly known in Wyoming.