

Yavapai Mountainsnail - *Oreohelix yavapai*

Abundance: Unknown

Status: NSSU

NatureServe: G5 SNR

Population Status: Unknown

Limiting Factor: Unknown

Comment:

Introduction

Yavapai mountainsnail are land snails in the order Stylommatophora. Mountainsnails have depressed, heliciform shells with an umbilicus and 4 to 6 whorls (Pilsbry 1939). Shell diameter is about 17 mm (0.7 in) and shell height can be 10 mm (0.4 in). Yavapai mountainsnails are located Wyoming, Montana, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico (Pilsbry 1939; NatureServe 2016). Yavapai mountainsnail are listed as critically imperiled in Utah and Arizona, and secure across their range (NatureServe 2016). Mountainsnails eat leaf litter, detritus and microorganisms growing on surfaces, such as rocks, logs or soil (Speiser 2001). Little is known about the life history of mountainsnails, including how long these snails live and how often they reproduce. Mountain snails are live bearers, meaning they raise their young within their shell until the young reach about 2.5 whorls (Anderson et al. 2007). Yavapai mountainsnails are active during spring and early summer during wet, cool conditions but may be active in the fall or winter depending on conditions (Anderson 2005; Tronstad, personal observation). Yavapai mountainsnails are located in the Bighorn Mountains of Wyoming.

Habitat

Yavapai mountainsnails live in the Bighorn Mountains in areas with canopy cover and leaf or needle litter. Mountainsnails are generally found in moist, cool areas such as north facing slopes or near streams.

Problems

Conservation Actions

Monitoring/Research

Anderson (2010) surveyed for *Oreohelix* at 15 sites and found live individuals at 13 sites. She identified *Oreohelix subrudis*, *O. pygmaea* and *O. yavapai* in the Bighorn Mountains.

Recent Developments

Anderson (2010) investigated *Oreohelix* in the Bighorn Mountains and suggested that *Oreohelix yavapai* is a unique species.

References

Yavapai Mountainsnail (*Oreohelix yavapai*)



SOURCE: Digital maps of ranges for Wyoming Species of Greatest Conservation Need: February 2016. Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Note that brown indicates the current known range of the species.