

## Olive-backed Pocket Mouse - *Perognathus fasciatus*

Abundance: Common

Status: NSS4 (Cb)

NatureServe: G5 S4

Population Status: distribution is restricted but extirpation is not imminent

Limiting Factor: Habitat (and Ecology): limiting factors are moderate

Comment: change is due primarily to new matrix definitions

### Introduction

The olive-backed pocket mouse is a resident of the northern Great Plains and adjacent intermountain basins, from southern Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba south to northeastern Utah, southern Colorado, and eastern South Dakota. It is distributed across most of the eastern 2/3 of Wyoming. The olive-backed pocket mouse is considered common in Wyoming.

### Habitat

The olive-backed pocket mouse occupies a variety of arid and semiarid upland habitats, primarily sparsely vegetated grasslands and sagebrush-grasslands. It prefers loose sandy to clay soils for burrowing.

### Problems

- h No ongoing efforts to delineate important habitats in Wyoming.
- h Population densities and trends are not well known.
- h Species may be impacted by management strategies in shrub-grasslands, that reduce grass production and seed set.

### Conservation Actions

- h Conduct inventories for species in all suitable habitats in the state.
- h Delineate important habitats and work cooperatively with land management agencies to maintain these within the designated areas
- h Design vegetation treatments, fire management plans, and grazing regimes in habitat that mimic and restore natural landscape patterns and disturbance processes, maintain habitat connectivity, and maintain the native composition of herbaceous plant and shrub communities that are important for seed crops.

### Monitoring/Research

No on-going monitoring.

### Recent Developments

Project is being conducted by UW COOP Unit and WGFD in southwestern Wyoming funded by SWG.

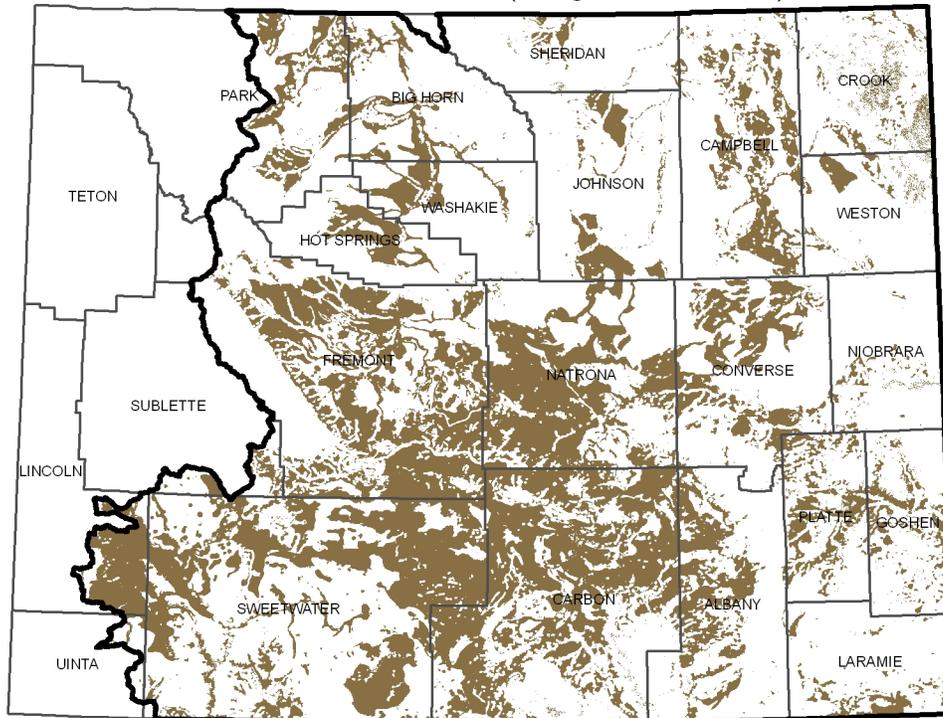
### References

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Olive-backed Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus fasciatus*)

SOURCE: Digital maps of ranges and predicted distributions for Wyoming Species of Greatest Conservation Need: April 2010. Wyoming Natural Diversity Database. University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming. Note that brown indicates the predicted distribution of the species; heavy black lines indicate outermost boundaries of possible occurrence.