

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 with a dextral aperture. Pond snails are distributed across northern North America (NatureServe 2009). Of the 28 species and subspecies known from North America, 10 (35%) are considered critically imperiled or imperiled (G1/T1 or G2/T2). Aquatic snails are scrapers that eat algae, microbes, fungi, and detritus on surfaces such as logs, macrophytes, rocks, and other substrate (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* (WYNDD 2010). Of these species, two were listed as critically imperiled or imperiled (G1/G2; NatureServe 2010). *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 2009).

Habitat

Pond snails live in ponds or slow moving streams. These snail may live in the benthos (bottom of pond or stream) or on aquatic vegetation.

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

h A general description of the species present, their distribution, and ecology in Wyoming is needed.

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

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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.