
A Tiger Beetle

Cicindela plutonica

Insecta — Coleoptera — Cicindelidae

CONSERVATION STATUS / CLASSIFICATION

Rangewide: Vulnerable (G3)
Statewide: Vulnerable (S3)
ESA: No status
USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status
BLM: No status
IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Unknown habitat threats and limited population data.

TAXONOMY

The tiger beetle was described in 1914.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This species occurs in limited portions of California, Nevada, Oregon, and Idaho. The Idaho distribution includes scattered localities in southern parts of the state, including sites in Ada, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Jefferson, Lemhi, and Owyhee counties.

POPULATION TREND

No data are available to suggest population trend.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

This species is found mainly in high-elevation mountainous areas, generally in alpine habitat over 2700 m. Habitat associations in Idaho have not been reported, but considering the Idaho distribution, populations may not be restricted to true alpine habitat. LaBonte (1994) refers to *C. plutonica* as a “rangeland” predatory beetle which would seem an apt descriptor, given the distribution in Idaho. Because this species occurs mainly in higher, colder places than other tiger beetles, it might be under-collected because such places are not frequented by tiger beetle enthusiasts.

ISSUES

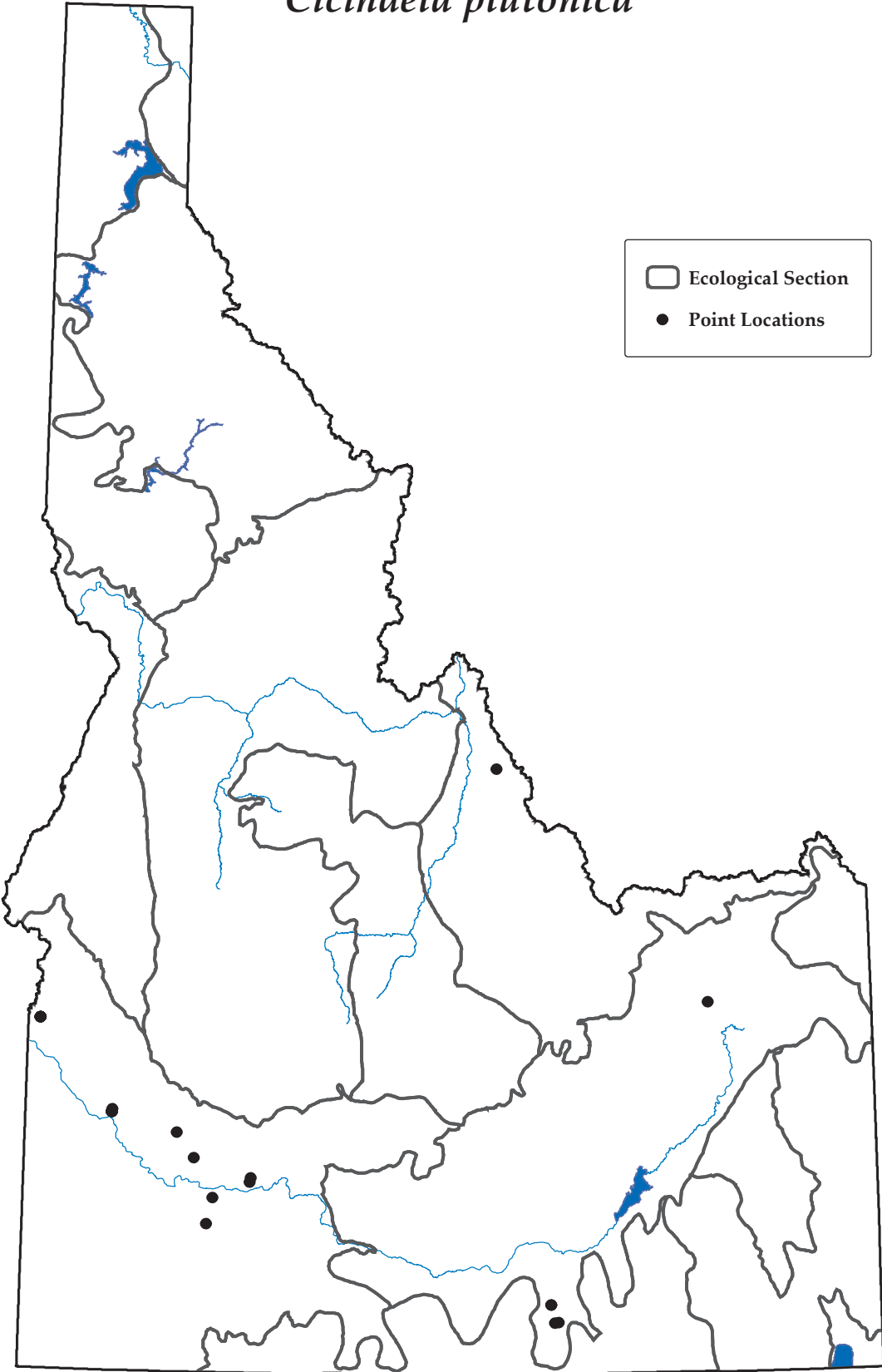
Specific threats to this species have not been documented. Habitat loss is a prevalent concern for species associated with rangeland habitats, but information regarding habitat associations and the condition of occupied habitat is lacking for this species.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

In view of the lack of information on this species in Idaho, field surveys should be conducted to learn more about its distribution, habitat, and status in the state.

A Tiger Beetle

Cicindela plutonica



2 August 2005
Point data are from Idaho Conservation Data Center,
Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

