
An Oregonian (Lower Salmon River)

Cryptomastix mullani latilabris

Class Gastropoda — Order Stylommatophora — Family Polygyridae

CONSERVATION STATUS DESIGNATIONS

Rangewide: Critically imperiled subspecies (G3G4T1)
Statewide: Unranked (SNR)
ESA: No status
USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status
BLM: No status
IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Idaho endemic; habitat threats.

TAXONOMY

Taxonomic relationships within *Cryptomastix mullani* are poorly understood. Pilsbry (1948) recognized 8 subspecies, 2 of which are now considered by most authors to be full species. Vagvolgyi (1968) did not recognize subspecies and considered most nominal species in the genus to be synonyms of *C. mullani*. Contrarily, Frest (1999) considered these species and subspecies to be valid.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This terrestrial snail is endemic to Idaho. Colonies occur in the Clearwater and Salmon River drainages. A record of the species along the South Fork of the Clearwater River (Pilsbry 1939) may represent another subspecies, *Cryptomastix mullani mullani* (Frest 1999).

POPULATION TREND

Frest (1999) considered populations of this subspecies to be declining in abundance and extent of occupied area.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Populations occur in intact ponderosa pine forest where understory vegetation and the litter layer is well-developed. Colonies are associated with moist, shaded areas on a limestone substrate near streams and on mossy limestone and schist talus (Frest 1999).

ISSUES

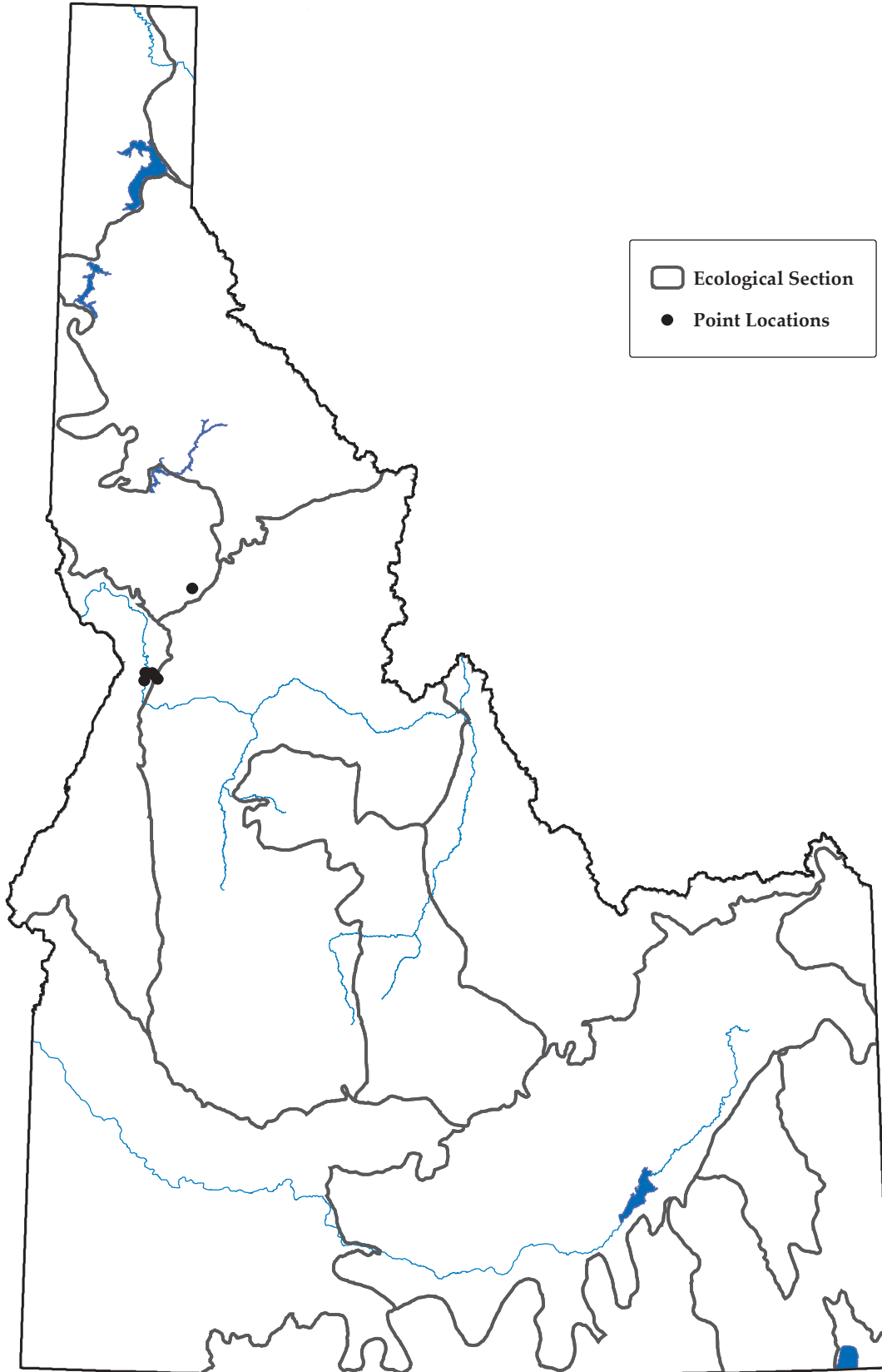
Populations are vulnerable to habitat loss, particularly surface disturbance, removal of surface debris or understory plants, reduction of canopy coverage, or changes in soil moisture. Frest (1999) specifically mentions timber harvest, quarrying and mining, livestock grazing, and road construction and maintenance as threats.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Taxonomic study of this and related subspecies is of particular interest considering that the distinctiveness of nominal taxa and possible undescribed species is in question. Information is also needed regarding the distribution, abundance, and trends of the subspecies. Limiting surface disturbance at known sites is also of importance.

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0 20 40 80 Kilometers

0 20 40 80 Miles

11 August 2005

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

