
Fringed Myotis

Myotis thysanodes

Mammalia — Chiroptera — Vespertilionidae

CONSERVATION STATUS / CLASSIFICATION

Rangewide: Apparently secure/Secure (G4G5)
Statewide: Imperiled (S2)
ESA: No status
USFS: Region 1: Sensitive; Region 4: No status
BLM: Regional/State imperiled (Type 3)
IDFG: Protected nongame

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Limited and patchy distribution in Idaho; lack of population trend data.

TAXONOMY

No subspecies is recognized..

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

The fringed myotis occurs in western North America from south-central British Columbia south to Chiapas, Mexico and east to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Populations in Idaho occur in scattered localities in the northern and western parts of the state.

POPULATION TREND

The current population trend is unknown.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

This species has been encountered most frequently in Idaho at low- and mid-elevation mines. Dominant vegetation at capture sites has included sagebrush, mountain mahogany, and ponderosa pine. The species has often been encountered in steep river valleys, large canyons, or other sites having steep and rocky terrain. No information is available to indicate what habitats or roost sites are used as maternity sites or hibernacula. This species is likely a short distance migrant to hibernacula; elsewhere hibernacula have been found only in buildings and mines (e.g., O'Farrell and Studier 1980).

ISSUES

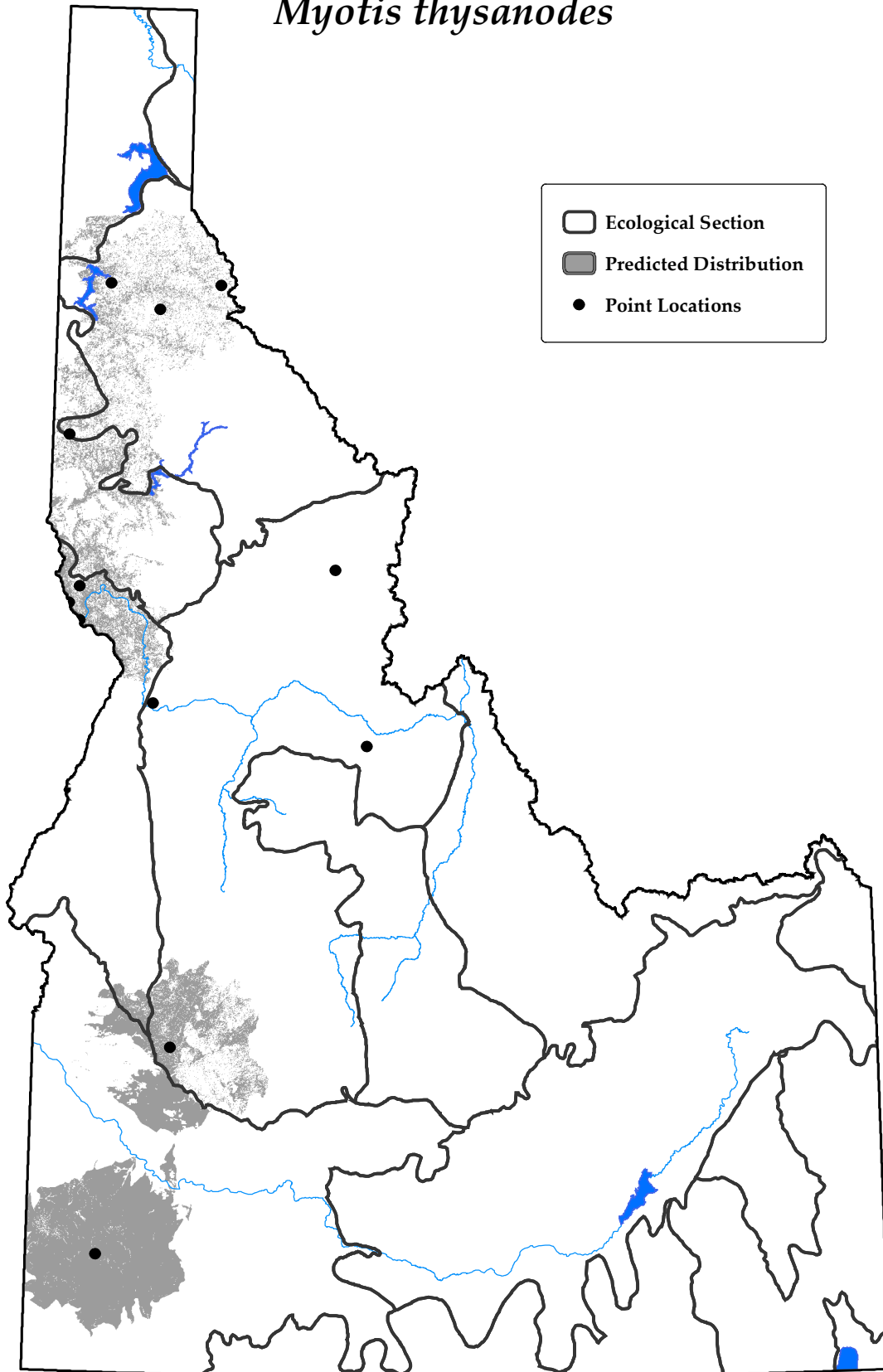
Information is limited regarding distribution, population status, and ecological requirements. Renewed mining in historical mining districts and mine closures have the potential to reduce the availability of roosting habitat. Forest management practices that reduce snag availability could also affect roost site availability. Broad-scale application of pesticides to manage forest and agricultural pests affects densities of insects that serve as the prey base.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Surveys are needed throughout the range of this species to determine the distribution and status of populations. Monitoring efforts are needed to evaluate population trends. Surveys of inactive mines and protection of mines providing roosting habitat should be considered. Forest management should maintain a diversity of snags. The effects of reduced insect densities on bat populations should be considered in the development and implementation of pest management activities.

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Map created on September 23, 2005
and prepared by Idaho Conservation Data Center.
Sources: Point data are from Idaho Conservation Data Center,
Idaho Department of Fish and Game (2005). Predicted distribution
is from the Wildlife Habitat Relationships Models (WHR),
A Gap Analysis of Idaho: Final Report. Idaho Cooperative Fish
and Wildlife Research Unit, Moscow, ID (Scott et al. 2002).
Predicted distribution is approximate (for more information, go to
http://www.wildlife.uidaho.edu/idgap/idgap_report.asp).

