Pale Jumping-slug

Hemphillia camelus

Gastropoda — Stylommatophora — Arionidae

CONSERVATION STATUS / CLASSIFICATION

Rangewide: Vulnerable/Apparently secure (G3G4)

Statewide: Imperiled (S2) ESA: No status

USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status

BLM: No status IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Declining populations in Idaho.

TAXONOMY

Frest (1999) noted that specimens from the lower Salmon River may be "another species," but it is unclear whether he considered these populations to be misidentified or whether he believed populations represented a new taxon.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This slug is endemic to Idaho. The known distribution includes the St. Joe, Selway, and South Fork of the Clearwater river valleys and, historically, portions of the lower Salmon River valley. Although the species was probably widespread in the lower Salmon River valley, populations are thought to have been extirpated from this region. Specimens were recently collected in the South Fork of the Clearwater and the Selway river drainages (Frest and Johannes 1997), but the status of populations at other sites is not known.

POPULATION TREND

According to Frest and Johannes (1997), the number of occupied sites and the population size are declining.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Habitat comprises intact closed to nearly closed-canopy ponderosa pine-Douglas fir forests adjacent to major streams. Populations occur in relatively moist areas having a diverse plant understory and a duff layer. The prevalent substrate at sites is basalt, but limestone- and schist-derived soils occur at some sites (Frest and Johannes 1997).

ISSUES

Logging, grazing, forest fires, and roads have encroached on much of the historically occupied habitat. Pollution and surface disturbance associated with mining is also prevalent within the occupied range. This species is thought to be sensitive to disturbance (Frest 1999).

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Surveys are needed throughout the historical range to ascertain current population status and habitat condition and to identify site-specific threats and conservation measures.

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