

Green River Pebblesnail (*Fluminicola coloradoensis*)**Species Status Statement.**Distribution

The distribution of this freshwater snail has been unclear in Utah until recently (Oliver and Bosworth 1999). Liu et al. (2013) provided clarity on the taxonomy of this species, and confirmed that it lives throughout the upper Green River Basin, the Snake River Basin, and the Bonneville Basin. In Utah, Hovingh (2018) found collections from the following Bonneville Basin drainages:

- Bear River (Rich and Cache counties),
- Weber River (Morgan County),
- Jordan River (Utah, Wasatch, and Salt Lake counties), and
- Curlew Valley Deep Creek (Box Elder County).

It is unclear whether this species actually occurs in the Green River in Utah (Oliver and Bosworth 1999). Additionally, this species may no longer occur in the Weber River, or in Curlew Valley's Deep Creek (Hovingh 2018); confirmation is required.

Table 1. Utah counties currently occupied by this species.

Green River Pebblesnail	
BOX ELDER	SALT LAKE
CACHE	UTAH
MORGAN	WASATCH
RICH	

Abundance and Trends

The population status of Green River pebblesnail is currently unclear. Live individuals have been recently collected in several tributaries of the Jordan River and the Provo River. Surveyors often found them in relatively high abundance (Richards 2014; Richards 2017), but quantitative abundance estimates are not available. Hovingh (2018) suggests this species may have been extirpated from the Provo River and Jordan River drainage since 2000. Richards (2014) noted the BLM/USU BugLab collected live pebblesnails in the Jordan River in 2004, but in 2014, he found no live ones in 7.5 miles of the main Jordan River after 210 surveyor hours.

Statement of Habitat Needs and Threats to the Species.Habitat Needs

Green River pebblesnail usually lives in large springs and streams (Hershler 1999; Liu et al. 2013). Specific habitat needs are currently unknown for this species.

Threats to the Species

Since large rivers provide Green River pebblesnail habitat, any flow alterations or degradation to water quality within the Green, Snake, and Bonneville basins could be detrimental to this species (Oliver and Bosworth 1999). Richards (2014) identified construction and urbanization near one of the Jordan River tributaries as a threat to Green River pebblesnail habitat.

Table 2. Summary of a Utah threat assessment and prioritization completed in 2014. This assessment applies to the species' entire distribution within Utah. For species that also occur elsewhere, this assessment applies only to the portion of their distribution within Utah. The full threat assessment provides more information including lower-ranked threats, crucial data gaps, methods, and definitions (UDWR 2015; Salafsky et al. 2008).

Green River Pebblesnail
No Identified Threats - Data Gaps Only

Rationale for Designation.

Managers need to conduct surveys to understand and accurately describe the current distribution and status of this species in Utah. In particular, managers require information on specific habitat needs for this snail, and potential threats to that habitat. Understanding habitat needs will improve any necessary habitat restoration efforts. Green River pebblesnail is included in the Conservation Agreement for Springsnails in Nevada and Utah (Springsnail Conservation Team 2017). These activities and partnerships will help prevent the possibility of Endangered Species Act listing of this species.

Economic Impacts of Sensitive Species Designation.

Sensitive species designation is intended to facilitate management of this species, which is required to prevent Endangered Species Act listing and lessen related economic impacts. An ESA listing of Green River pebblesnail would have unknown economic impacts for northeastern Utah. Designated Sensitive Species with no identified threats, only data gaps, will be researched until concerns are allayed, or specific threats are identified for management. In the absence of specific threats to manage, generic measures to protect riverine habitats are recommended.

Literature Cited.

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