

Rosemont Talussnail
Sonorella rosemontensis

STATUS: Candidate (75 FR 69222, November 10, 2010).

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: The Rosemont talussnail is a terrestrial snail with shell height of 12.7 millimeters (mm) (0.5 inches (in)), diameter of 21.7 mm (0.85 in), and about 4.5 whorls. The shell is polished, moderately solid, pale brown, fading around the umbilicus (belly button), with a light-bordered chestnut brown band. Positive identification of the species depends on examination of soft body parts.

HABITAT: Rosemont talussnail occurs in talus slopes (volcanic rock and limestone) at elevations of about 5,500 feet (1676 meters). Talus is typically deep, free of excess sedimentation, and exhibits stable moisture conditions.

RANGE: The species is known from the northern end of the Santa Rita Mountains near Rosemont, Pima County, Arizona.

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Rosemont talussnail is vulnerable to any disturbance that would remove talus, increase interstitial sedimentation, or change moisture conditions. The entire range of the species is located on rocky slopes which are also suitable for hard rock mining, which typically involves the blasting of hillsides and the crushing of rock. Such activities would kill talussnails and render their habitats unsuitable.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Private patented mining claims.

NOTES: Detailed information can be found in the Species Assessment Form posted on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Environmental Conservation Online System at <http://ecos.fws.gov/speciesProfile/profile/speciesProfile.action?sPCODE=G0FZ>