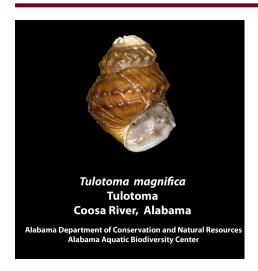
Tulotoma Snail Downlisting

Final Rule



- The tulotoma snail was listed as endangered in 1991.
- This large freshwater snail is found under big rocks in flowing streams of the Alabama-Coosa river system in Alabama.
- The tulotoma was listed due to destruction, modification. and curtailment of more than 90 percent of its habitat and range.
- Threats to the tulotoma snail have been reduced due to: habitat improvements in the Coosa River, the discovery of six drainage populations of the species that were unknown at the time of listing, development of watershed management plans, and protection of tulotoma snails under State laws.
- Tulotoma populations below Coosa River dams have increased due to actions by Alabama Power Company to improve flows and water quality.

- Other partnerships are forming to implement and monitor watershed
- management plans in the various drainages where tulotoma is known to occur.

 Monitoring efforts have shown increased range and size in four of the five populations known in 1991.
- A five-year review conducted in 2008, documented an increase in extent and size of tulotoma populations in the Coosa River, Kelly Creek, Weogufka Creek, and Hatchet Creek.
- Survey efforts by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources have located six new populations in the Alabama and Coosa river drainages.
- Criteria for downlisting the tulotoma snail from endangered to threatened included the documentation of stable or increasing population size due to flow and habitat improvements in the Coosa River.

- - The final rule to downlist took into consideration all comments and additional information provided by the public and scientific community.
 - Continued threats to tulotoma include isolation of populations from each other, random events such as droughts, spills, and floods, and local changes in water quality due to human activities.
 - Although the status of the species is changed from endangered to threatened, protection for tulotoma will not be significantly reduced.

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