



News Release

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
2321 W. Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021
602/242-0210
602/242-2513 (Fax)

Arizona Ecological Services Field Office

www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/

For Release: August 1, 2011

Contacts: David Smith (928) 226-0614 x109
Jeff Humphrey (602) 242-0210 x222

SERVICE DETERMINES THE REDROCK STONEFLY DOES NOT WARRANT PROTECTION UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that it has completed a status review of the Redrock stonefly and concluded it does not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act. The stonefly occurs in north-central Arizona.

The status review was undertaken after the Service determined that a petition to list the Redrock stonefly as threatened or endangered provided substantial information. The petition was submitted to the Service on June 25, 2007, by representatives of WildEarth Guardians.

Petitioners cited that impacts to aquatic habitats, especially pollution, were a threat to the Redrock stonefly and the primary reason why the Redrock stonefly may be threatened or endangered.

Based on a thorough review of all available information and data, the Service concluded that there were no significant threats acting on the species or its habitat that render the Redrock stonefly to be in danger of extinction or likely to become so in the foreseeable future. Therefore, listing Redrock stonefly as threatened or endangered under the Act is not warranted at this time.

The Redrock stonefly was originally thought to have a limited distribution; being known from only two sites in central Arizona. In 2010, the Service found the Redrock stonefly at two additional sites in north-central Arizona. Other collections have found nymphs (juvenile life stage) at six additional sites. In total, the Redrock stonefly has been found in 10 sites, within five streams across central Arizona.

State water quality analysis at all Redrock stonefly sites found that five of the ten sites showed no impairment. The impairment at some sites was only due to high *E. coli* (bacteria) levels, which are not a concern for the stonefly. The tolerance of similar stoneflies (in the genus *Anacronuria*) to sediment and organic pollution is well-documented in Central and South America. The Service concluded that water quality is currently not a threat to this species.

The Redrock stonefly is a medium-sized stonefly; with a length 12 to 15 mm (paper staple-size). Redrock stonefly nymphs were first collected in Oak Creek at Page Springs, Yavapai County, in 1975 and 1977. The first adult was collected from Oak Creek at Red Rock Crossing and the species was thought to occur only in Oak Creek. Additional specimens were also collected from Wet Beaver, Tonto and Spring creeks, and Campbell Blue River in 2010.

A copy of the 12-month finding and other information about the red Rock stonefly is available on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Anacroneuria.htm>, or by contacting Arizona Ecological Services at (602) 242-0210.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfws, follow our tweets at www.twitter.com/usfwshq, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>.

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/>

Note to editors: Photographs are available by contacting Jeff Humphrey at 602-242-0210 x222 (jeff_humphrey@fws.gov) or visiting <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Insects.htm>.

C:\Documents and Settings\jhumphrey\My Documents\ESA by Species\Invertebrates\Red Rock Stonefly\Redcock Stonefly Not-warranted news release.doc