



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Arizona Ecological Services Office

Species Fact Sheet

Family Hydrobiidae

Page springsnail (*Pyrgulopsis morrisoni*)

Former Candidate Species

STATUS: Removed from candidate status on October 8, 2015 (80 FR 60834).

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: Medium sized snail with a shell height of 0.07 to 0.11 inches (in) (1.8 to 2.9 millimeters (mm)). The shell is ovate or ovate-conic in shape characterized by slightly convex whorls.

HABITAT AND RANGE: Springs, seeps, spring runs, cienegas, and a variety of diverse aquatic systems, particularly spring ecosystems that produce running water. Extant within 10 spring ecosystems along Oak Creek and Spring Creek in the Verde River drainage of central Arizona.

LIFE HISTORY: Springsnails are strictly aquatic, and respiration occurs through internal gills. They use firm substrate such as cobble, gravel, woody debris, and aquatic vegetation for grazing and egg-laying.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Eight of 10 Page springsnail sites occur on State lands managed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Two sites are known from private lands.



REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Historical habitat loss is attributable to anthropogenic factors that affect spring ecosystems including spring modification, aquatic vegetation removal, and water contamination. Additionally, groundwater depletion could reduce spring flow and result in habitat loss.

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT: In 2009, the Arizona Game and Fish Department entered into a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) with the Service, which has successfully reduced threats and improved the conservation status of the species.

STATUS ASSESSMENT: The Service recently prepared a Species Status Assessment (SSA) Report analyzing the species viability, and issued a 12-Month Finding concluding that the distribution of populations provides sufficient resiliency, redundancy, and representation now and in the foreseeable future, such that the species no longer warrants listing under the Endangered Species Act.

NOTES: The Page springsnail is protected by Arizona Game and Fish Commission Order 42 for Crustaceans and Mollusks, which establishes a closed season for the species and prohibits collection and harvest.

DOCUMENTS: The Finding, SSA Report, and CCAA can be found on the Arizona Ecological Services webpage at: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/Page.htm> Additional information can be found on the Environmental Conservation Online System at: http://ecos.fws.gov/tess_public/profile/speciesProfile?spcode=G059

