

San Bernardino Springsnail
Pyrgulopsis bernardina

STATUS: Threatened (77 FR 23060; April 17, 2012) with critical habitat.

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: The San Bernardino springsnail is an aquatic springsnail of the family Hydrobiidae. It has a narrow-conic shell, height 1.3 to 1.7 millimeters, and 3.25 to 4.0 whorls with operculum ovate and light amber.

HABITAT: Rheocrene springs (emerging from the ground as a flowing stream), seeps, spring pools, outflows, and diverse flowing waters at elevations around 1,160 meters (3,800 feet). Firm substrate such as cobble, gravel, woody debris, and aquatic vegetation are essential for egg-laying and feeding. Designated critical habitat includes 2.0 acres (0.8 hectares) in Cochise County.

RANGE: In the United States, the species is currently known from Goat Tank and Horse springs on the John Slaughter Ranch Museum property, though it may have historically occurred within several springs along the Rio San Bernardino in southern Arizona. The species is extirpated from Snail Spring. In Sonora, Mexico, the species occurs at five sites in the San Bernardino and Cajon Bonito Basins.

REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY: Destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range from water depletion, springhead inundation, sunlight inhibition, and controlled burning. Inability of regulatory mechanisms to prevent habitat modification. Drought and restricted range which increases susceptibility to existing threats.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: The John Slaughter Ranch Museum and the San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge.

NOTES: The Service and the Museum are actively engaged in developing and implementing conservation measures to restore habitat at Snail Spring.

Updated: April 2012