
A Stonefly

Isoperla bifurcata

Insecta — Plecoptera — Perlodidae

CONSERVATION STATUS / CLASSIFICATION

Rangewide: Vulnerable (G3)
Statewide: Critically imperiled (S1)
ESA: No status
USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status
BLM: No status
IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Lack of essential information pertaining to status; 1 known location in Idaho.

TAXONOMY

In 1979, this taxon was recognized as distinct from *Isoperla sordida* (Szczytko and Stewart 1979). Whether Idaho records of *I. sordida* reported during the late 1970s are accurate or whether they are referable to *I. bifurcata* has not been determined.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This species occurs in scattered localities in California, Idaho and Washington. The Idaho distribution is poorly known, in part because records prior to the recognition of the species as a distinct taxon (Szczytko and Stewart 1979) would have been reported as the related species *Isoperla sordida*. The taxon *sordida* was reported to occur at a single locality in Teton County (Newell and Minshall 1976) and in Lemhi County (Baumann et al. 1977). Szczytko and Stewart (1979) reported just 1 Idaho locality of *I. bifurcata*, a record from Blaine County.

POPULATION TREND

No data are available to suggest population trend.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Szczytko and Stewart (1979) summarized: "No studies on the life history or general biology have been done. Emergence extends from late June to mid-August in small creeks."

ISSUES

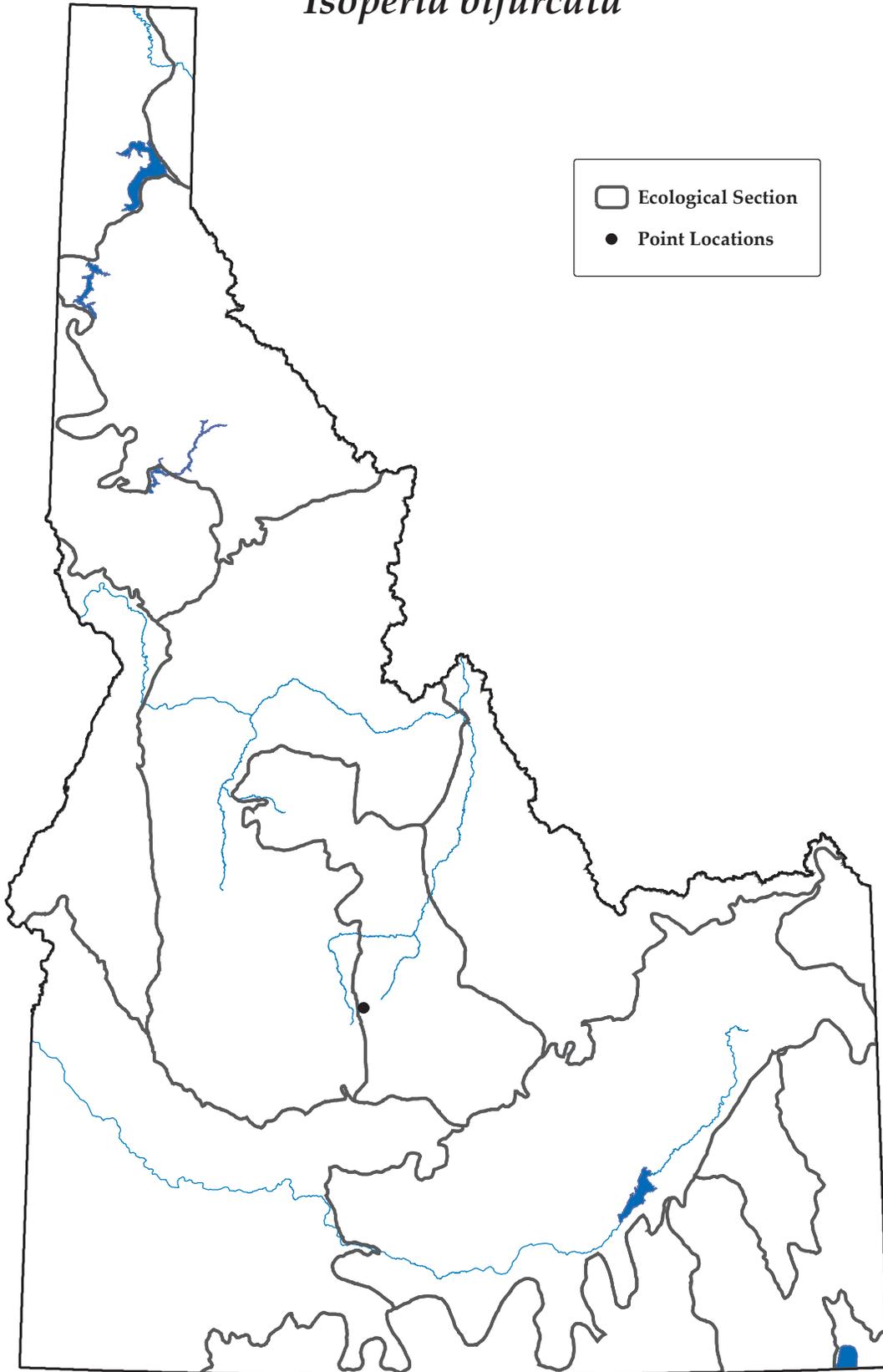
Specific threats to Idaho populations have not been identified. In general, stonefly populations are affected by changes to aquatic habitat, such as alteration of flow patterns, streambed substrate, thermal characteristics, and water quality. Alteration and degradation of aquatic habitat is the primary concern for Idaho populations.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Efforts are needed to determine if early records of *Isoperla sordida* represent this species. *I. sordida* is also a globally rare stonefly. Additional field surveys are also needed to determine distribution and habitat needs of Idaho populations.

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Map created on December 6, 2005
and prepared by Idaho Conservation Data Center.
Sources: Point data are from Idaho Conservation Data Center,
Idaho Department of Fish and Game (2005).

