
An Oregonian (Lower Clearwater River)

Cryptomastix mullani tuckeri

Class Gastropoda — Order Stylommatophora — Family Polygyridae

CONSERVATION STATUS DESIGNATIONS

Rangewide: Critically imperiled subspecies (G3G4T1)
Statewide: Unranked (SNR)
ESA: No status
USFS: Region 1: No status; Region 4: No status
BLM: No status
IDFG: Not classified

BASIS FOR INCLUSION

Idaho endemic; habitat threats.

TAXONOMY

Taxonomic relationships within *Cryptomastix mullani* are poorly understood. Pilsbry (1948) recognized 8 subspecies, 2 of which are now considered by most authors to be full species. Vagvolgyi (1968) did not recognize subspecies and considered most nominal species in the genus to be synonyms of *C. mullani*. Contrarily, Frest (1999) considered these species and subspecies to be valid.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

This terrestrial snail is endemic to Idaho, formerly occurring along the mainstem of the Clearwater River from Orofino to Kooskia. The current distribution is uncertain, and populations are known to persist in only a limited portion of the historical range.

POPULATION TREND

Frest (1999) considered populations to be declining in abundance and extent of occupied area. Populations are believed to be extirpated from the Orofino area and near the mouth of Fourth of July Creek (Frest 1999).

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Habitat comprises intact ponderosa pine forest along the Clearwater River. Colonies occur at moist, shaded sites at the base of steep slopes with exposed bedrock. Understory vegetation is well-developed (Frest 1999).

ISSUES

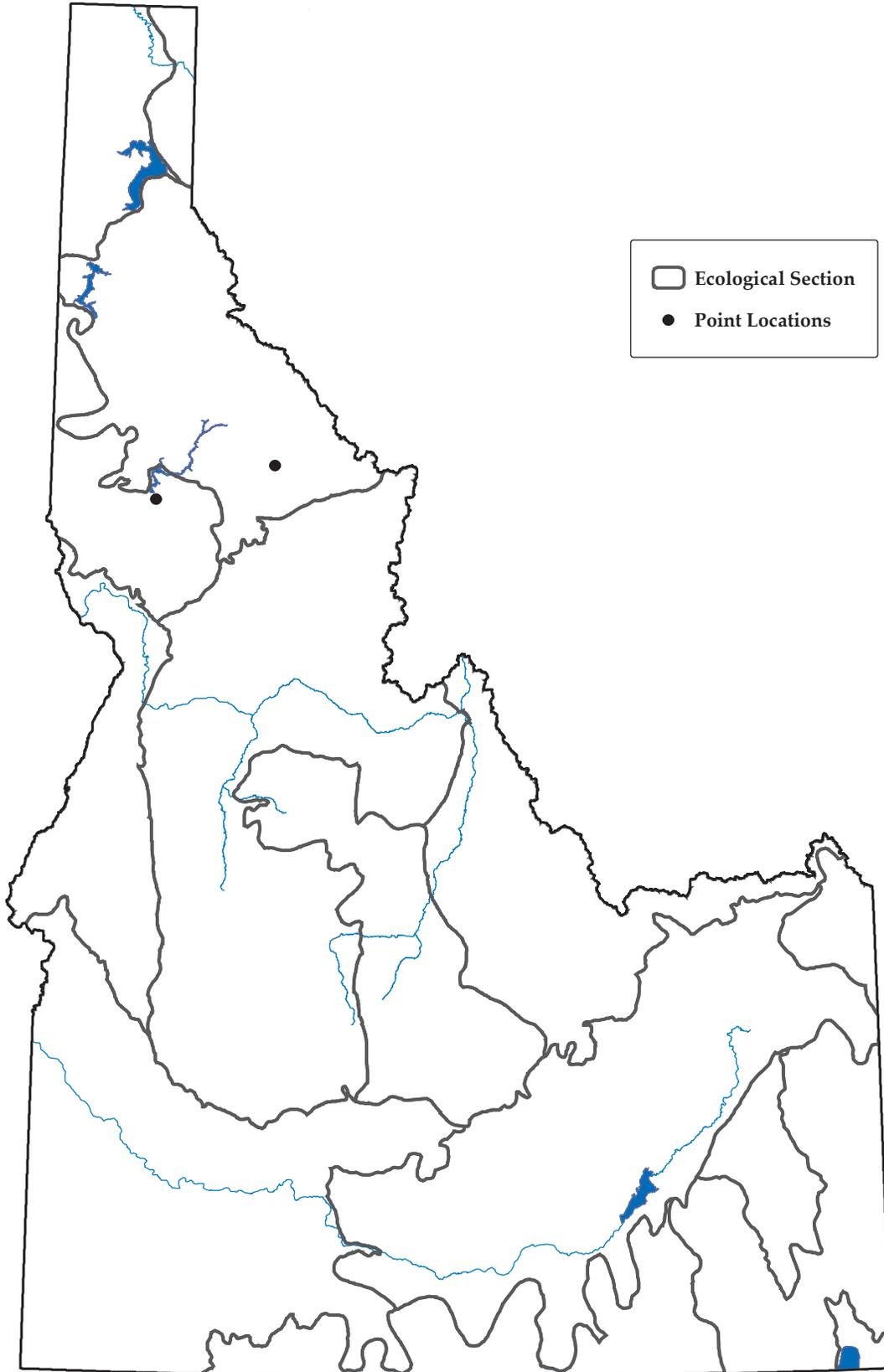
Populations are vulnerable to habitat loss, particularly as a result of surface disturbance, removal of surface debris or understory plants, reduction of canopy coverage, or changes in soil moisture. The presence of a major highway has likely affected populations by reducing available habitat. Timber harvest, mining, residential development, and other concentrated human activities are threats (Frest 1999).

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Taxonomic study of this and related subspecies is of particular interest considering that the distinctiveness of nominal taxa and possible undescribed species is in question. Information is also needed regarding the distribution, abundance, and trends of the subspecies. Limiting surface disturbance at known sites is also of importance.

An Oregonian (Lower Clearwater River)

Cryptomastix mullani tuckeri



0 20 40 80 Kilometers

0 20 40 80 Miles

11 August 2005

Point data are from Idaho Conservation Data Center,
Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

