
An Oregonian

Cryptomastix mullani blandi

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 the lower Coeur d'Alene River valley of Idaho. Specimens collected in Montana by Pilsbry (1939) have been referred to the subspecies *C. mullani mullani* (Frest 1999). Recent efforts to relocate populations have been unsuccessful (Frest 1999).

POPULATION TREND

Frest (1999) considered populations of this subspecies to be declining in abundance at a number of occupied sites. Although the species was extant during 1990, no effort to locate the subspecies since then has been successful (Frest 1999).

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Frest (1999) reported habitat to comprise undisturbed mesic forest at low elevation in have a well-developed understory.

ISSUES

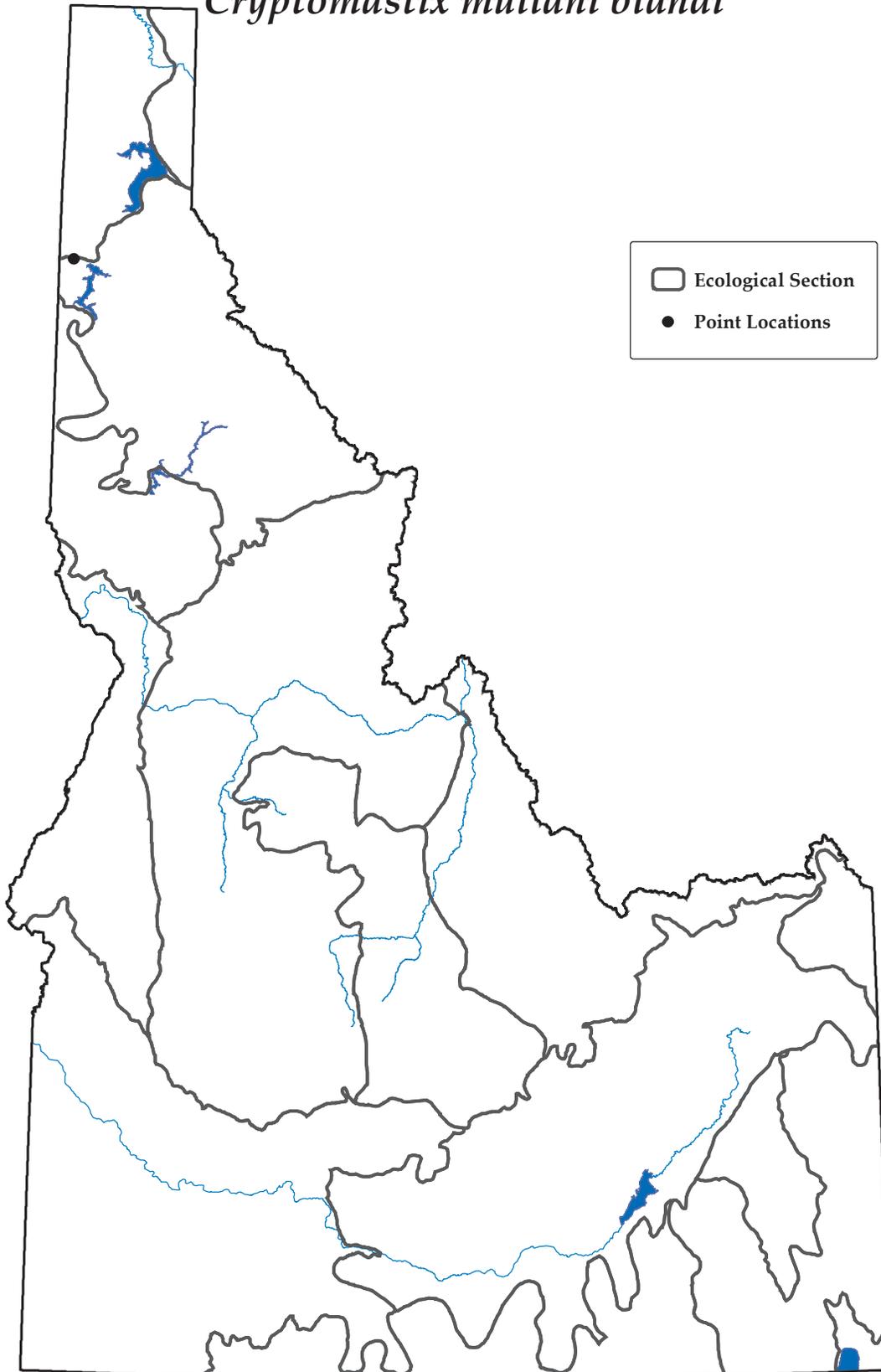
Habitat loss is a principal threat to the species, particularly as a result of surface disturbance, removal of surface debris or understory plants, reduction of canopy coverage, or changes in soil moisture. Frest (1999) specifically mentions timber harvest, mining, and livestock grazing as threats.

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.

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

