

---

## River of No Return Oregonian

### *Cryptomastix mullani clappi*

---

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, occurring at scattered sites along the lower Salmon River (Frest 1999).

#### POPULATION TREND

Frest (1999) considered populations to be declining in abundance and extent of occupied area.

#### HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Colonies are generally associated with mesic forest habitat, particularly open ponderosa pine forests at low elevation. Typical sites have a well-developed understory of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. This snail is also associated with mossy areas in large metasedimentary talus fields on north-facing slopes.

#### ISSUES

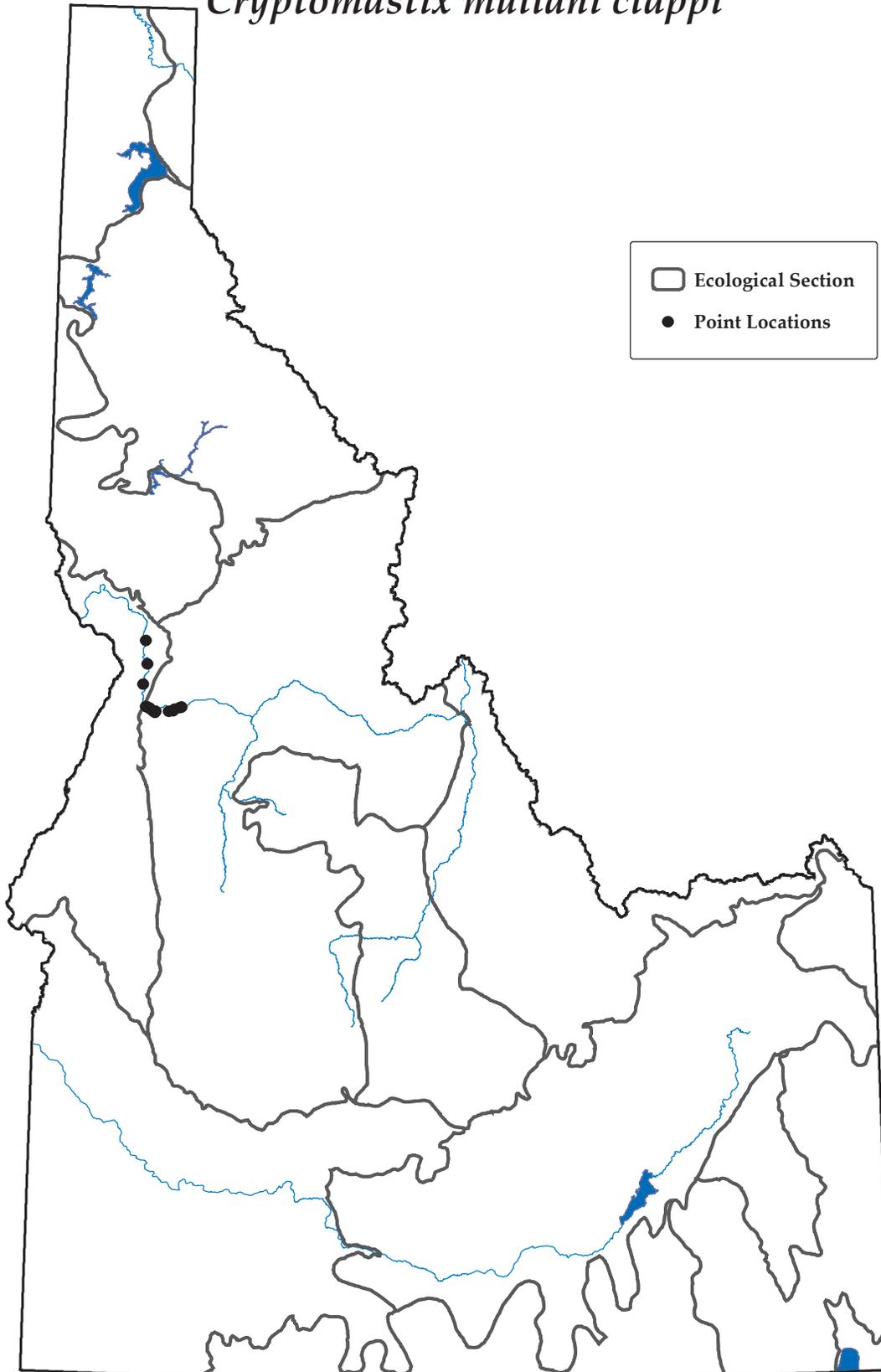
Populations are vulnerable to habitat loss, particularly surface disturbance, removal of surface debris or understory plants, reduction of canopy coverage, or changes in soil moisture. Frest (1999) specifically mentions timber harvest, quarrying and mining, livestock grazing, and road construction and maintenance as threats. Populations were likely affected by a major fire in 1994 (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.

# River of No Return Oregonian

*Cryptomastix mullani clappi*



2 August 2005  
Point data are from Idaho Conservation Data Center,  
Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

