

CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT AND LISTING PRIORITY ASSIGNMENT FORM

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Oreohelix peripherica wasatchensis* (Binney, 1886)

COMMON NAME: Ogden Mountainsnail, Ogden Deseret Mountainsnail, Ogden Rocky Mountainsnail

LEAD REGION: 6

INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF: January 30, 2003

STATUS/ACTION:

New candidate

Continuing candidate

Non-petitioned

Petitioned--Date petition received: \_\_

90-day positive--FR date: \_\_\_\_

12-month warranted but precluded--FR date: \_\_\_\_

Listing priority change

Former LP: \_

New LP: \_

Date species first became a candidate: 1994

Candidate removal: Former LP: \_\_\_\_

A - Taxon more abundant or widespread than previously believed or not subject to a degree of threats sufficient to warrant issuance of a proposed listing or continuance of candidate status.

F - Range is no longer a United States territory.

M - Taxon mistakenly included in past notice of review.

N - Taxon may not meet the Endangered Species Act's definition of *Aspecies.@*

X - Taxon believed to be extinct.

ANIMAL/PLANT GROUP AND FAMILY: Snail - *Oreohelicidae*

HISTORICAL STATES/TERRITORIES/COUNTRIES OF OCCURRENCE: Utah.

CURRENT STATES/COUNTIES/TERRITORIES/COUNTRIES OF OCCURRENCE: Utah - Weber County.

LEAD REGION CONTACT: Chuck Davis, (303) 236-7400, extension 235.

LEAD FIELD OFFICE CONTACT: Larry England, (801) 975-3330, extension 138.

BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION: The Ogden mountainsnail is known from a single population near mouth of Ogden Canyon adjacent to the City of Ogden, Weber County, Utah. The snails are found in leaf litter within a small maple grove in quartzite boulder area. The species total occupied habitat is an area approximating 100 meters wide by 1 kilometer long. The entire

population of live snails is estimated at less than 10,000 individuals. The current population is estimated at 6,350 in 2001 a decline from 9880 in 1997. The species population has not recruited a young since 1998 and is now comprised of only large (older) size classes. This snail does not occur over limestone substrate at the periphery of its habitat, only among quartzite boulders within a maple tree grove. There is no record of the species occurring outside of its current habitat.

#### THREATS:

##### A. The Present or Threatened Destruction, Modification, or Curtailment of its Habitat or Range.

The colony is at the edge of a residential area. Fires occur with moderate frequency in forests close to residential areas, and a fire or would probably destroy the colony. Electric power transmission and water lines are directly adjacent to the population. The area around the species habitat receives heavy recreational use.

##### B. Overutilization for Commercial, Recreational, Scientific, or Educational Purposes.

None known.

##### C. Disease or Predation.

None known.

##### D. The Inadequacy of Existing Regulatory Mechanisms.

Invertebrates are not protected by any State law or regulation. The species habitat is on the boundary of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The portion of the population on the National Forest receives administrative protection from the Forest Service.

##### E. Other Natural or Manmade Factors Affecting its Continued Existence.

Because the species has an extremely small and restricted population, it is vulnerable to any detrimental stochastic event which may destroy the species' habitat or population, such as disease to either the species directly or the maple forest comprising its habitat. The species has not had measurable reproduction since 1998 and may be on the verge of a population collapse.

FOR RECYCLED PETITIONS: N/A.

LAND OWNERSHIP: The species habitat is part National Forest and part private land.

PRELISTING: The Forest Service is preparing a management plan for the species. In addition the Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife Service are jointly preparing a conservation agreement.

## REFERENCES:

- Binney, W.G. 1886. A second supplement to the fifth volume of the terrestrial air breathing molluscs of the United States and adjacent territories. Bull of the Museum of Comparative Zoology (second supplement) 13:25-48.
- Clarke, A. 1993. Final Report: Status Survey of Fifteen Species and Subspecies of Aquatic and Terrestrial Mollusks from Utah, Colorado, and Montana. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Contract No. 14-16-0006-91-046 (Revised).
- Meadows, D. 2000. *Oreohelix peripherica wasatchensis* status survey Dec. 2000. Report prepared for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Salt Lake City, Utah. 2 pp.
- Meadows, D. 2001. *Oreohelix peripherica wasatchensis* population survey for 2001. Report prepared for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Salt Lake City, Utah. 2 pp.
- Meadows, D. 2002. Abundance, Distribution and Dispersal of the Ogden Mountainsnail (*Oreohelix peripherica wasatchensis*) in press, Western American Naturalist, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. 25 pp.
- Meadows, D. 2002. The Effect of Roads and Trails on Movement of the Ogden Mountainsnail (*Oreohelix peripherica wasatchensis*) in press, Western American Naturalist, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. 10 pp.
- Morin, M.R. 1999. Abundance, Distribution and Dispersal of the Ogden Rocky Mountain Land Snail, *Oreohelix peripherica wasatchensis*. Thesis in Zoology. Weber State University, Ogden, Utah January 1999. 25 pp.
- Oliver, G.V. ,and W.R. Bosworth. Rare, Imperiled and Recently Extinct or Extirpated Mollusks of Utah. A Literature Review. Publication num. 00-29, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Salt Lake City, Utah. 231 pp.

## LISTING PRIORITY

THREAT			
MAGNITUDE	IMMEDIACY	TAXONOMY	PRIORITY
High	Imminent	Monotypic genus	1
		Species	2
		Subspecies/population	3
	Non-imminent	Monotypic genus	4
		Species	5
		Subspecies/population	6
Moderate to Low	Imminent	Monotypic genus	7
		Species	8
		Subspecies/population	9*
	Non-imminent	Monotypic genus	10
		Species	11
		Subspecies/population	12

**Rationale for listing priority number:**

*Magnitude:*

*Imminence:*

APPROVAL/CONCURRENCE: Lead Regions must obtain written concurrence from all other Regions within the range of the species before recommending changes to the candidate list, including listing priority changes; the Regional Director must approve all such recommendations. The Director must concur on all additions of species to the candidate list, removal of candidates, and listing priority changes.

Approve: Ralph O. Morgenweck  
Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service

April 1, 2003  
Date

Concur: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Fish and Wildlife Service

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Do not concur: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Fish and Wildlife Service

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Director's Remarks:

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Date of annual review: January 30, 2003

Conducted by: Larry England