

[a species of] *Fossaria (Galba techella)*

## **Species Status Statement.**

### Distribution

This freshwater snail occurs across much of the central and western United States, as well as part of central Canada and much of northern Mexico. In Utah, the currently understood distribution consists of three occurrences. These include one each in Duchesne (Brooks 1936), Iron, and Garfield counties (Gregg 1941, 1942).

Table 1. Utah counties historically occupied by this species. There are no recent observations to verify the presence of this species in these counties.

<b><i>Galba techella</i></b>
DUCHESNE
GARFIELD
IRON

### Abundance and Trends

Information is lacking in this regard. All observational records are very old, requiring an inventory of previously documented sites. In addition, managers should perform inventory surveys of likely sites that exhibit suitable habitat characteristics (Oliver and Boswell 1999).

## **Statement of Habitat Needs and Threats to the Species.**

### Habitat Needs

This species appears to rely on aquatic habitats. One surveyor reported it from a pond near 10,000 feet in elevation (Brooks 1936). Another surveyor reported it from an elevation of 10,000 feet, in a series of springs in a swampy meadow (Gregg 1941, 1942).

### Threats to the Species

Specific statewide threats remain unknown and unidentified for this species. However, human activities that fragment habitats, alter banks, deposit sediment, or degrade water quality are plausible threats in localized situations

Table 2. Summary of a Utah threat assessment and prioritization completed in 2014. This assessment applies to the species' entire distribution within Utah. For species that also occur elsewhere, this assessment applies only to the portion of their distribution within Utah. The full threat assessment provides more information including lower-ranked threats, crucial data gaps, methods, and definitions (UDWR 2015; Salafsky et al. 2008).

<b><i>Galba techella</i></b>
<b>No Identified Threats - Data Gaps Only</b>

### **Rationale for Designation.**

This species remains very poorly known in Utah, with questionable and inconsistent taxonomy (Oliver and Bosworth 1999). The lack of applicable information about the species is an impediment to threat assessment and management. In general, direct human pressures, and climate change, presently threaten many aquatic systems in Utah, and managers and scientists expect these issues to intensify. In order to develop adequate understanding of the distribution and status of this species in Utah, managers need to complete a taxonomic review, conduct surveys, and monitor potential threats. These activities will help prevent the possibility of Endangered Species Act listing of this species.

### **Economic Impacts of Sensitive Species Designation.**

Sensitive species designation is intended to facilitate management of this species, which is required to prevent Endangered Species Act listing and lessen related economic impacts. An ESA listing of *Galba techella* would have unknown economic impacts for Utah, especially since there are no recent collections of this species. Designated Sensitive Species with no identified threats, only data gaps, will be researched until concerns are allayed, or specific threats are identified for management. In the absence of specific threats to manage, generic measures to protect aquatic habitats are recommended

### **Literature Cited.**

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