Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Mussels and Snails

PURPLE WARTYBACK MUSSEL

CHERRYSTONE DROP SNAIL

Overview

Mussels and snails are important because they serve as indicators of water quality and are vital members of stream, river and lake aquatic communities. Dwindling numbers of native mussels in Wisconsin rivers and lakes are an indication that water quality is being degraded and habitat is being lost. These animals have varied lifestyles, habitats and methods of reproduction, and several species are commercially valuable.

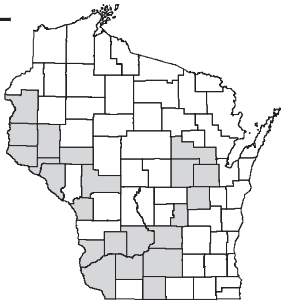
Eighteen species of freshwater mussels and four species of terrestrial snails are federally and/or state-listed in Wisconsin. Like fish, mussels and snails are best protected by protecting water quality, streambed integrity, and associated terrestrial habitat. Forestry operations in watersheds where these rare mollusks (mussels and snails) occur should be conducted in a manner to avoid soil erosion and prevent sediments and other pollutants from entering the waterways. Refer to *Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality* by the Wisconsin Bureau of Forestry.

There are 22 state-listed endangered and threatened mollusk species in Wisconsin. Following are a series of maps that show their known ranges.

BUCKHORN MUSSEL

(Triogonia verrucosa)

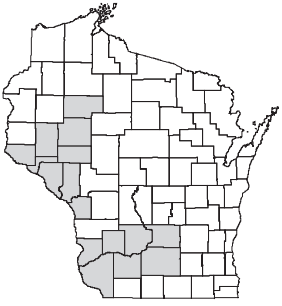
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



BULLHEAD MUSSEL

(Plethobasus cyphus)

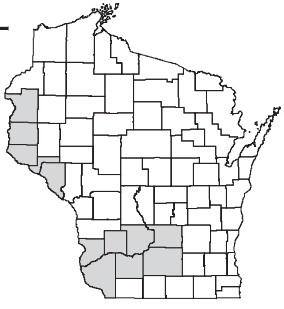
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



BUTTERFLY MUSSEL

(Ellipsaria lineolata)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



CHERRYSTONE DROP SNAIL

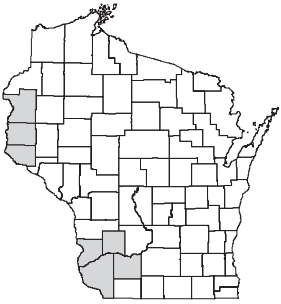
(Hendersonia occulta)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened

EBONY SHELL MUSSEL

(Fusconaia ebena)

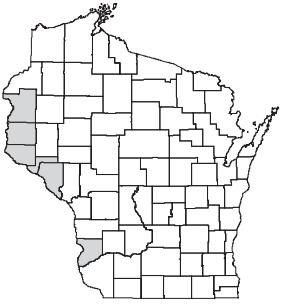
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



ELEPHANT EAR MUSSEL

(Elliptio crassidens)

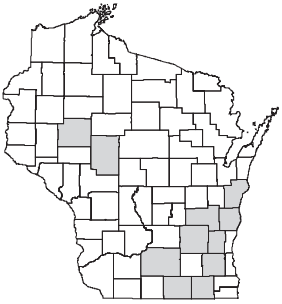
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



ELLIPSE MUSSEL

(Venustaconcha ellipsiformis)

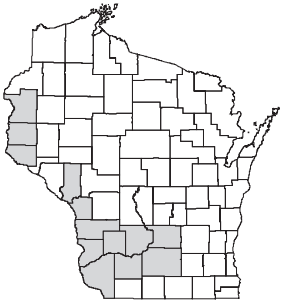
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



HIGGINS' EYE PEARLYMUSSEL

(Lampsilis higginsi)

Federal Status: Endangered
State Status: Endangered

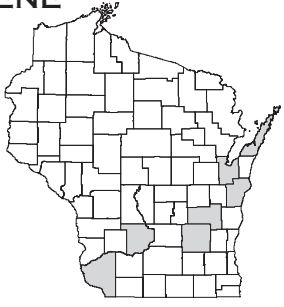


MIDWEST PLEISTOCENE VERTIGO SNAIL

[HUBRICHT'S VERTIGO SNAIL]

(Vertigo hubrichtii)

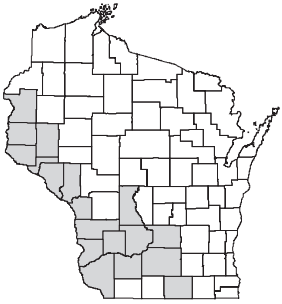
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



MONKEYFACE MUSSEL

(Quadurla metanevra)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



OCCULT VERTIGO SNAIL

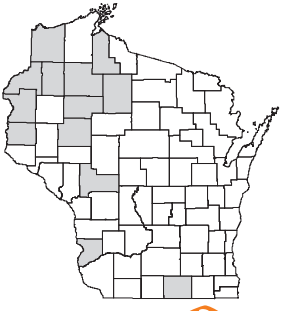
(Vertigo occulta)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered

PURPLE WARTYBACK MUSSEL

(Cyclonaias tuberculata)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



RAINBOW SHELL MUSSEL

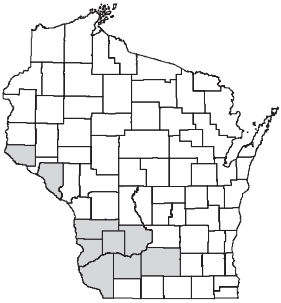
(Villosa Iris)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered

ROCK POCKETBOOK MUSSEL

(Arcidens confragosus)

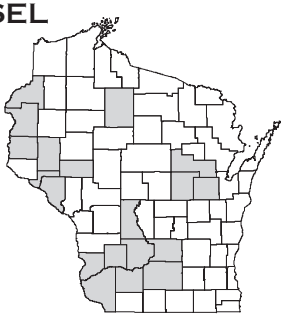
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



SALAMANDER MUSSEL

(Simpsonaias ambigua)

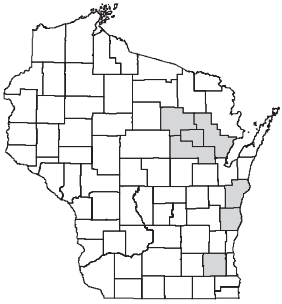
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



SLIPPERSHELL MUSSEL

(Alasmidonta viridis)

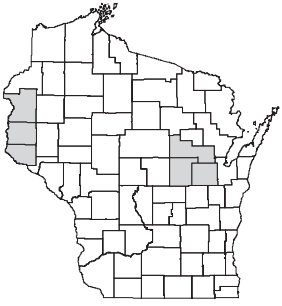
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



SNUFFBOX MUSSEL

(Epioblasma triquertra)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered



SPECTACLE CASE MUSSEL

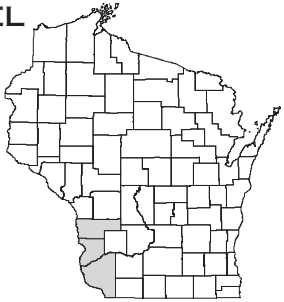
(Cumberlandia monodonta)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered

WARTYBACK MUSSEL

(Quadrula nodulata)

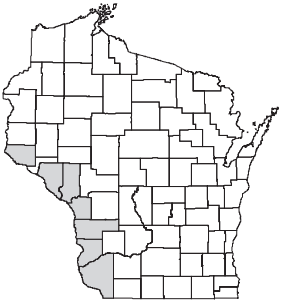
Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



WING SNAGGLETOOTH SNAIL

(Gastrocopta procera)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Threatened



WINGED MAPLELEAF MUSSEL

(Quadrula fragosa)

Federal Status: Endangered
State Status: Endangered

YELLOW SANDSHELL

[Slough Sandshell]
(Lampsilis teres)

Federal Status: Not Listed
State Status: Endangered