Montana Natural Heritage Program 2006 Activities Report

- Transfer to University July 1, 2006
- Added 21,000 observation records to POD/MBD
- Cleaned & assigned spatial precision to 33,000 observation records
- Completed structural updates to MBD database (still needs a lot of cleaning work on Non-SOC)
- Completed EO processing for ~ ½ SOC (3X previous)
- Updating element article files
- Completed Stream Observation Database (SOD)
- Adding all Heritage photos to Portfolio
- Natural Heritage Information Portal (NHIP) website
- Completed update to SOC List

Heritage Funding Situation



- Figures represent 41% of all sources to overal NRIS funding of \$742,000
- Reflects \$18,750 reduction from funding level in FY02-03 biennium.

MOU for Montana Bird Distribution

- Audubon, Bird Records Committee, FWP, NHP
- Governs collection, management, and dissemination of bird observation information
- Election of Executive Committee
- Develop annual and multi-year action plans and task assignments for MBD partnership products
 - Montana Bird Distribution Database
 - P.D. Skaar's Montana Bird Distribution
 - Montana Bird Distribution Data on Heritage Website
- Signed by all partners February, 2007

Heritage and FWP MOU on Data Acquisition, Management, and Dissemination

Standard Data Acquisition Roles

Data Category	Data Subcategory	MFWP Role	MNHP Role
Monitoring data	Collectors Permits and Managed Game Species	Lead	Ancillary
	Managed Nongame Species	Lead	Assist
	Unmanaged Nongame Species	Assist	Lead
Miscellaneous	MFWP Agency Data	Lead	Assist
Observations	Other State Agencies	Assist	Lead
	Federal Agency Data	Assist	Lead
	Public Data	Assist	Lead

- Data management roles for about 30 different animal databases
- Roles for data dissemination and tracking requirements on data use
- Structure for coordination of efforts

Digital Data Exchange Basics

- Central databases are typically simplistic flat table structures with widely used data fields while monitoring databases have more complex structures and information completely unique to that database
- Exchange on common data fields
- Data fields not held in common can either not be exchanged or can be loaded into memo fields
- Link on data source and unique record ID for that data source to allow for data updates between databases as well as addition of new records
- Exchange data on annual, semiannual, or other appropriate time schedule
- * Please email <u>bmaxell@mt.gov</u> for POD data structure and data entry forms



Fauna Structure



Graphic Example



Conservation Management Extent

EOs and IEs for Greater Sage Grouse



Conservation Units For Greater Sage Grouse



2006 Species of Concern Report Updates

- Dropped 5 previously listed species due to invalid taxonomy
- Moved 1 species to PSOC list because of recent surveys
- Added the following species to the SOC list
 - Idaho Giant Salamander
 - Lake Trout
 - Short-tailed Shrew
 - Western Spotted Skunk

- 1 freshwater sponge
- 2 slugs
- 1 crayfish
- 8 millipedes
- 6 insects

Species Totals by Animal Group Species of Concern

Mammals	9
Birds	60
Reptiles	9
Amphibians	6
Fish	9
Invertebrates	73

Potential Species of Concern

Mammals	8
Birds 18	8
Fish	8
Invertebrates	6

HABITAT ASSOCIATION SUMMARY FOR ALL SPECIES OF CONCERN AND POTENTIAL SPECIES OF CONCERN

Streams/Rivers/Lakes	27%
Wetlands	20%
Sagebrush/Grassland	14%
Conifer Forest	13%
Riparian Forest	7%
Other/Generalist	6%
Alpine	5%
Rock Outcrop	5%
Caves	3%

2006 Species of Concern Report Updates

Fish	Invertebrates	
Mountain Streams/Rivers/Lakes44% Prairie Streams/Rivers/Lakes56%	Streams/Rivers/Lakes 29% Wetlands 28% Conifer Forest 15% Alpine 6% Caves 6% Other/Generalist 5% Rock Outcrop 5% Sagebrush/Grassland 5% Riparian Forest 1%	
Reptiles	Amphibians	
Rock Outcrop44% Streams/Rivers/Lakes22% Other/Generalist22% Wetlands12%	Wetlands83% Streams/Rivers/Lakes17%	
Mammals	Birds	
Sagebrush/Grassland	Sagebrush/Grassland	

Goals for Montana's Nongame Wildlife

- Assess statewide <u>status</u> and <u>distribution</u>
- Monitor status and distribution statewide over time in conjunction with a variety of covariates that may or may not be affected with management actions
- Eventually want to set a priori management triggers
- How to assess status?
 - population size (abundance estimators)
 - population growth rates
 - viability measured as a probability of persistence over a certain period of time
 - percent of habitat patches occupied
- Tradeoff spatial inference vs. strength of inference

Northern Rocky Mountain Refugium (NRMR) (Gustafson 2001)



Idaho Giant Salamander (*Dicamptodon atterimus*)

Green = Survey Location Turquoise = Detection

- Only 1 previous detection
- 450 animals detected in 2006
- 15 different tributaries
- 4 different watersheds



Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog

Green = Survey Location

Turquoise = Detection



Easily out number and out weigh fish

Westslope Cutthroat Trout

Green = Survey Location Turquoise = Detection

Globally Rare Land Snails on R1 Forests

- Selway Forestsnail (Allogona lombardii) (ID) G1
- Dry Land Forestsnail (Allogona ptychophora solida) (ID)? G5T2T3
- Nimapuna Tigersnail (Anguispira nimapuna) (ID) G1
- Chrome Ambershell (Catinella rehderi) (MT, ID?) G1G2Q*
- Salmon Oregonian (Cryptomastix harfordiana) (ID)? G3G4
- Mission Creek Oregonian (Cryptomastix magnidentata) (ID)? G1
- Oregonian (Cryptomastix mullani blandi) (ID)? G4T1
- River of No Return Oregonian (Cryptomastix mullani clappi) (ID) G4T1
- Kingston Oregonian (Cryptomastix sanburni) (ID)? G1
- Lake Disc (Discus brunsoni) (MT)? G1
- Marbled Disc (Discus marmorensis) (ID) G1G3
- Striate Disc (Discus shimekii) (MT, ID?) G5
- Salmon Coil (Helicodiscus salmonaceus) (ID) G1G2
- Alpine Mountainsnail (Oreohelix alpina) (MT) G1
- Bitterroot Mountainsnail (Oreohelix amariradix) (MT) G1G2
- Keeled Mountainsnail (Oreohelix carinifera) (MT) G1
- Carinate Mountainsnail (Oreohelix elrodi) (MT) G1
- Seven Devils Mountainsnail (Oreohelix hammeri) (ID) G1
- A Land Snail (Hells Canyon) (Oreohelix idahoensis baileyi) (ID) G1G2T1
- Costate Mountainsnail (Oreohelix idahoensis idahoensis) (ID)? G1G2T1T2
- Deep Slide Mountainsnail (Oreohelix intersum) (ID)? G1
- Boulder Pile Mountainsnail (Oreohelix jugalis) (ID)? G1
- Berry's Mountainsnail (Oreohelix strigosa berryi) (MT) G5T2
- Striate Mountainsnail (Oreohelix strigosa goniogyra) (ID) G5T1Q
- Whorled Mountainsnail (Oreohelix vortex) (ID)? G1G3
- Lava Rock Mountainsnail (Oreohelix waltoni) (ID)? G1G3
- Gallatin Mountainsnail (Oreohelix yavapai mariae) (MT) G4T1
- Robust Lancetooth (Haplotrema vancouverense) (MT, ID) G5
- Western Flat-whorl (Planogyra clappi) (ID) G3G4
- Humped Coin (Polygyrella polygyrella (MT, ID) G2G3
- Northern Tightcoil (Pristiloma arcticum) (MT, ID?) G3G4*
- Thinlip Tightcoil (Pristiloma idahoense) (ID) G2G3
- Fir Pinwheel (Radiodiscus abietum) (MT, ID) G3

SUMMARY

- 31 Species G1-G3 so USFS SOC
- 2 Species G5, but S1-S3 so USFS SOI

2006 Report on Heritage Website

Globally Rare Land Snails - Examples



Fir Pinwheel (Radiodiscus abietum)



Nimapuna Tigersnail (Anguispira nimapuna)



Selway Forestsnail (Allogona lombardii)



Humped Coin (Polygyrella polygyrella)

Globally Rare Slugs on R1 Forests

- Marbled Jumping-slug (Hemphillia danielsi) (MT) G2G3
- Pale Jumping-slug (Hemphillia camelus) (MT, ID) G3G4
- Pygmy Slug (Kootenaia burkei) (MT, ID) G1G2
- Magnum Mantle-slug (Magnipelta mycophaga) (MT, ID) G3
- Reticulate Taildropper (Prophysaon andersoni) (MT, ID) G5
- Blue-gray Taildropper (Prophysaon coeruleum) (ID) G4
- Papillose Taildropper (Prophysaon dubium) (ID) G4
- Smoky Taildropper (Prophysaon humile) (MT, ID) G2
- Lyre Mantleslug (Udosarx lyrata lyrata) (MT, ID) G2T2
- Russell Mantleslug (Udosarx lyrata russelli) (MT)? G2T1
- Sheathed Slug (Zacoleus idahoensis) (MT, ID) G3G4

SUMMARY

- 8 Species G1-G3 so USFS SOC
- 3 Species G4-G5, but S1-S3 so USFS SOI

Globally Rare Slugs - Examples



Pale Jumping-Slug (Hemphillia camelus)



Lyre Mantleslug (Udosarx lyrata lyrata)



Smoky Taildropper (Prophysaon humile)



Magnum Mantleslug (Magnipelta mycophaga)

Globally Rare Macroinvertebrates

*G1-G3 - 28 species in Montana *8 species are endemic to the NRM Refugia Area





Margaritifera falcata - Species-of-Interest (CFWS T1)



Super abundant in Idaho, huge beds, declining in MT.

G4, Unranked in Idaho, S2S4 in MT

Summary of Harlequin Duck Surveys

- Created new Stream Observation Database (SOD) for Non-MFish Species
- Contains all MT surveys except GNP, recent East Front, and recent Beartooth
- Tracks both negative and positive survey information



Harlequin Duck Surveys by Time Period



Green = pre-1990 Blue = 1990-1994

Orange = 1995-1999 Red = 2000-2005

Harlequin Duck Observations by Time Period



Green = pre-1990 Blue = 1990-1994

Orange = 1995-1999 Red = 2000-2005

Montana Bat Species

Myotis lucifugus	G5/S4	Star Star	
Myotis yumanensis	G5/S3S4	-	
Myotis evotis	G5/S4		
Myotis thysanodes	G4G5/S3	SOC	BLM Sensitive
Myotis volans	G5/S4	99. A.	
Myotis californicus	G5/S4		
d Myotis Myotis ciliolabrum	G5/S4		
Myotis septentrionalis	G4/S2S3	SOC	BLM Sensitive
Lasionycteris noctivagans	G5/S4		
Eptesicus fuscus	G5/S4		
Lasiurus borealis	G5/S2S3	SOC	
Lasiurus cinereus	G5/S3S4		
Euderma maculatum	G4/S2	SOC	USFS/BLM Sensitive
ed Bat Corynorhinus townsendii	G4/S2	SOC	USFS/BLM Sensitive
Antrozous pallidus	G5/S2	SOC	USFS/BLM Sensitive
	Myotis lucifugus Myotis yumanensis Myotis evotis Myotis evotis Myotis thysanodes Myotis volans Myotis californicus d Myotis californicus d Myotis Myotis ciliolabrum Myotis septentrionalis Lasionycteris noctivagans Eptesicus fuscus Lasiurus borealis Lasiurus borealis Lasiurus cinereus Euderma maculatum ed Bat Corynorhinus townsendii Antrozous pallidus	Myotis lucifugusG5/S4Myotis yumanensisG5/S3S4Myotis evotisG5/S4Myotis evotisG4G5/S3Myotis thysanodesG4G5/S3Myotis volansG5/S4Myotis californicusG5/S4d Myotis aptentrionalisG5/S4Myotis septentrionalisG4/S2S3Lasionycteris noctivagansG5/S4Eptesicus fuscusG5/S4Lasiurus borealisG5/S43Lasiurus cinereusG5/S3S4Euderma maculatumG4/S2Antrozous pallidusG5/S2	Myotis lucifugusG5/S4Myotis yumanensisG5/S3S4Myotis evotisG5/S4Myotis thysanodesG4G5/S3Myotis thysanodesG5/S4Myotis volansG5/S4Myotis californicusG5/S4Myotis septentrionalisG4/S2S3Myotis septentrionalisG5/S4Lasionycteris noctivagansG5/S4Eptesicus fuscusG5/S4Lasiurus borealisG5/S2S3Lasiurus cinereusG5/S3S4Euderma maculatumG4/S2G5/S2SOCAntrozous pallidusG5/S2

Montana Bat Data Through 2006 Field Season



Bat Species Richness Data by USFS District

page 1

FOREST	DISTRICT	Predicted # of Species	All Data as % of Predicted
Beaverhead/Deerlodge	Dillon *	10	80%
	Pintler (Philipsburg/Deer Lodge)	11	73%
	Jefferson	10	70%
	Butte *	10	70%
	Madison	10	20%
	Wisdom	10	10%

Bitterroot	Sula *	11	45%
	Darby	11	45%
	Stevensville	11	18%
	West Fork	11	9%

Custer	Beartooth *	12	100%
Contraction of the second s	Ashland	12	75%
	Sioux	11	73%

Flathead	Tally Lake *	11	55%
	Swan Lake *	11	45%
	Hungry Horse	11	18%
	Spotted Bear	. 11 .	9%

Gallatin	Bozeman *	10	70%
	Big Timber	11	50%
	Livingston	11	18%
	Hebgen Lake	10	10%
	Gardiner	10	4%

Bat Species Richness Data by USFS District

page 2

FOREST	DISTRICT	Predicted # of Species	All Data as % of Predicted
Helena	Townsend *	11	91%
	Helena *	11	82%
	Lincoln *	11	55%

Kootenai	Libby *	11	100%
an literation of the state	Cabinet	11	91%
	Rexford	11	82%
	Fortine *	11	73%
	Three Rivers	11	73%

Lewis and Clark	Judith *	10	70%
	Musselshell	10	70%
	Rocky Mountain	10	60%
	White Sulphur Spring	10	30%
	Belt Creek	10	10%

Lolo	Superior *	11	82%
	Missoula	11	55%
	Plains/Thompson Falls	11	45%

USFS Wildlife Grid



USFS Wildlife Grid – Land Ownership



Montana Bat Sampling Scheme



Grid Cells With Multiple Surveys (Calculate Detection Probability and Site Occupancy Rates?)



Grid Cells With Multiple Surveys by Forest



Nested Latilong Grid Cells for Montana



Multiple Survey Data by USFS District

FOREST	DISTRICT	Predicted Number of Species	All Data as % of Predicted	Multiple Surveys as % of Predicted
Custer	Beartooth	12	100%	92%
Helena	Townsend	11	91%	91%
Kootenai	Libby	11	100%	73%
Lewis and Clark	Judith	10	70%	70%
Helena	Helena	Ш	82%	64%
Beaverhead/Deerlodge	Butte	10	70%	60%
Beaverhead/Deerlodge	Dillon	10	80%	60%
Gallatin	Bozeman	10	70%	60%
Flathead	Tally Lake	11	55%	55%
Lolo	Superior	Ъ.	82%	55%
Flathead	Swan Lake	- 11	45%	45%
Bitterroot	Sula	11	45%	36%
Helena	Lincoln	11	55%	27%
Kootenai	Fortine	11	73%	27%

Number of Cells Per Forest

FOREST	Cell Count	# of Cells with Multiple Surveys	% of Total
Beaverhead-Deerlodge	151	4	3%
Bitterroot	60	2	3%
Custer	50	. 3	6%
Flathead	104	6	6%
Gallatin	86	1	1%
Helena	43	5	12%
Kootenai	114	5	4%
Lewis and Clark	79	6	8%
Lolo	95		1%
TOTAL	782	33	4%

Detection Rates for Acoustic versus Mist Netting Surveys

	OVERALL PERCENT DETECTION RATE		
SPECIES	ACOUSTIC	MIST-NET	
Little Brown Myotis (Myotis lucifugus)	76.9	14.5	
Western Long-eared Myotis (Myotis evotis)	58.9	32.2	
Fringed Myotis (Myotis thysanodes)	15.3	4.8	
Long-legged Myotis (Myotis volans)	17.9	32.2	
California Myotis (Myotis californicus)	5.1	8.0	
Western Small-footed Myotis (Myotis ciliolabrum)	33.3	8.0	
Silver-haired Bat (Lasionycteris noctivagans)	30.7	28.9	
Big Brown Bat (Eptesicus fuscus)	33.3	18.8	
Hoary Bat (Lasiurus cinereus)	71.7	18.8	
Spotted Bat (Euderma maculatum)	7.6	0.0	

Overall percent capture rate for species during acoustic versus mist-netting surveys on eight Region 1 National Forests in Montana, 2 July – 28 September, 2006. Thirty-nine acoustic surveys and 62 mist-netting surveys were conducted across 74 sites.

Next Steps

- Calculate detection probabilities with existing data
- Examine confidence intervals and determine sample size needed for future grid cell surveys
- Fill in data holes
- Targeted surveys for USFS SOC species
- Targeted surveys of roost sites for management of roost habitat (e.g., bridge surveys MDT project)
- Extend grid sampling (probably latilong based grid) across Montana with all partners (BLM, FWP/SWG)

Yuma Myotis Data...????



Montana Amphibian Inventory Sampling Scheme Geographic Strata – Ownership Strata – Randomly Selected Watersheds



Montana Amphibian Inventory Status



- 8,000 standing water bodies surveyed
- 7,500 species records
- Rapid wetland assessment
- Wetland photos posted on NHIP
- 2 years of surveys remain in NE Montana Non-target observations (pika, h-marmot)

Reptile Surveys Statewide Scheme

3

Inventory Highlights Through Fall 2006

- Surveys of 520 watersheds and >8,200 sites
- 8,230 new species locality records
- Established new state high elevation records for 12 species
- Extended known geographic ranges for 10 species
- Statistically valid assessment of status for majority of amphibian species
- Produced 9 reports, data used in book projects, and nearing completion of amphibian and reptile conservation plans for Montana.
- 5 multiple day training workshops given to agency biologists and numerous presentations at meetings
- Extensive bibliographic database for access to primary literature
- Fencing off rare upland wetlands from cattle trampling on the Custer and Beaverhead-Deerlodge Forests
- Beaver reintroduction for lentic breeding site creation on Custer and Beaverhead-Deerlodge Forests
- Protection of amphibian populations from fish stocking on Bitterroot and Gallatin Forests
- ID of distribution of amphibian disease (chytrid) and need to decontaminate equipment
- Protection of remaining breeding populations of rare species (e.g., Western Toad)
- Proactive management of lentic wetlands in Forest Management Plans
- Heightened awareness of needs of amphibians and lentic wetlands by USFS and other agency personnel

Ex. Information on Apparent Occupancy and Breeding Rates for Regional Status

Species	Number and Percent of Watersheds That Were Occupied ³ (N = 21)	Number and Percent of Watersheds Where Breeding Was Detected ³ (N = 19)	Number and Percent of Sites Containing Water That Were Occupied ⁴ (N = 205)	Number and Percent of Sites Containing Water Where Breeding Was Detected ⁴ (N = 205)
Long-Toed Salamander (Ambystoma macrodactylum)	15 71% (95% CI = 55% - 88%)	15 79% (95% CI = 63% - 95%)	59 29% (95% CI = 23% - 35%)	59 29% (95% CI = 23% - 35%)
Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog ⁵ (Ascaphus montanus)	5 24% (95% CI = 8% - 40%)	4 21% (95% CI = 5% - 37%)	10 4.9% (95% CI = 1.9% - 7.8%)	6 3% (95% CI = 0.6% - 5.2%)
Western Toad (Bufo boreas)	8 38% (95% CI = 20% - 56%)	2 10.5% (95% CI = 0% - 23%)	8 3.9% (95% CI = 1.3% - 6.6%)	3 1.5% (95% CI = 0% - 3.1%)
Pacific Treefrog ⁶ (Pseudacris regilla)	2 9.5% (95% CI = 0% - 20%)	2 10.5% (95% CI = 0% - 23%)	2 1% (95% CI = 0% - 2.3%)	2 1% (95% CI = 0% - 2,3%)
Columbia Spotted Frog (Rana luteiventris)	18 86% (95% CI = 73% - 99%)	15 79% (95% CI = 63% - 95%)	96 47% (95% CI = 40% - 54%)	52 25% (95% CI = 19% - 31%)
Terrestrial Gartersnake ⁷ (Thamnophis elegans)	11 52% (95% CI = 34% - 71%)	NA	27 13% (95% CI = 9% - 18%)	NA
Common Gartersnake ⁷ (Thamnophis sirtalis)	7 33% (95% CI = 16% - 51%)	NA	33 16% (95% CI =11% - 21%)	NA
Non-indigenous ⁷ Salmonid Fishes	13 68% (95% CI = 51% - 86%)	NA	39 19% (95% CI = 14% - 24%)	NA

Carpp Creek - (HUC ID = 4_028 & ICBEMP HUC ID = 170102021002)

Map Legend

Black Cross = Potential lentic sites surveyed, but providing no breeding or overwintering habitat and not worth future survey due to reasons indicated in notes.

Black Square = Incidental observation of species indicated.

Brown Circle = Ephemeral lentic site that may support larval development in a wetter year, but was dry at the time of the survey.

Light Blue Circle = Ephemeral, or possibly a shallow permanent, lentic site that is likely to support larval development, but is unlikely to support aquatic overwintering.

Green Circle = Permanent lentic site with emergent vegetation that could support larval development and aquatic overwintering.

Dark Blue Circle = Permanent lentic site without emergent vegetation that could support larval development and aquatic overwintering.



Regional Fish Stocking and Impacts on Fish



or All Private

Percent of Lentic Sites Capable of Supporting Amphibian Reproduction Heavily Impacted by Cattle







Percent of Lentic Sites Capable of Supporting Amphibian Reproduction with Water Dammed or Diverted







Percent of Lentic Sites Created By Beaver

0 1 - 15 16 - 30 31 - 45 46 - 100

Black Outline = Dry Watershed or All Private











Spatial Distribution of Tissues Tested for *B. dendrobatidis*

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Plans