Mountain Goat (*Oreamnos americanus*) Predicted Suitable Habitat Modeling

Distribution Status: Resident Year Round State Rank: <u>S4</u> Global Rank: <u>G5</u>

Modeling Overview

Data Source Last Updated: August 17, 2017 Model Produced On: August 18, 2017



Deductive Modeling

Modeling Process, Outputs, and Suggested Uses

This is a simple rule-based model using general range and winter/general range mapping that the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks has compiled for Big Game species. See the Montana Distribution section under species accounts in the Montana Field Guide and Big Game species distribution, management unit, and hunting district information from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks at: http://datamtfwp.opendata.arcgis.com/ For compatibility with other predictive distribution models the Montana Natural Heritage Program produces, we have intersected the Big Game general range and winter/general range information with a uniform grid of hexagons that have been used for planning efforts across the western United States (e.g. Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies - Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool). Each hexagon is one square mile in area and approximately one kilometer in length on each side. Any hexagon that had at least one quarter of its area intersecting with general or winter/general range was coded as such with a default to winter range if it was present. National parks and tribal reservations were not evaluated by Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and these hexagons are classified as not assessed. Model outputs are not evaluated and we suggest they be used to generate potential lists of species that may occupy lands within each hexagon for the purposes of landscape-level planning. Model outputs should not be used in place of on-the-ground surveys for species and wildlife and land management agency biologists should be consulted about the value of using model output to guide habitat management decisions for regional planning efforts or local projects. See Suggested Contacts for State and Federal Natural Resource Agencies attached to this document.

Suggested Citation: Montana Natural Heritage Program. 2017. Mountain Goat (*Oreamnos americanus*) predicted suitable habitat models developed on August 18, 2017. Montana Natural Heritage Program, Helena, MT. 4 pp.

Montana Field Guide Species Account: <u>http://fieldguide.mt.gov/speciesDetail.aspx?elcode=AMALE02010</u>

Deductive Model Map Output

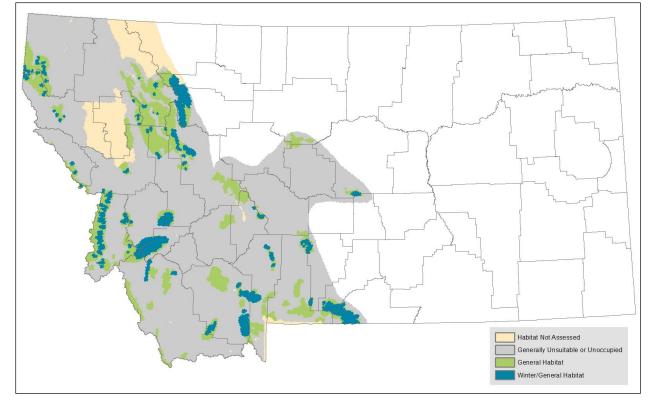


Figure 1. Deductive habitat suitability model summarized into hexagons at a scale of 259 hectares per hexagon.

Suggested Contacts for State and Federal Natural Resource Agencies

As required by Montana statute (MCA 90-15), the Montana Natural Heritage Program works with state, federal, tribal, nongovernmental organizations, and private partners to ensure that the latest animal and plant distribution and status information is incorporated into our databases so that it can be used to inform a variety of planning processes and management decisions. In addition to the information you receive from us, we encourage you to contact state, federal, and tribal resource management agencies in the area where your project is located. They may have additional data or management guidelines relevant to your efforts. In particular, we encourage you to contact the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks for the latest data and management information regarding hunted and high profile management species and to use the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information Planning and Conservation (IPAC) website http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/ regarding U.S. Endangered Species Act listed Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate species.

For your convenience, we have compiled a list of relevant agency contacts and links below:

Fish Species	Zachary Shattuck zshattuck@mt.gov (406) 444-1231		
	or Lee Nelson <u>leenelson@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-2447		
American Bison			
Black-footed Ferret			
Black-tailed Prairie Dog			
Bald Eagle			
Golden Eagle	Lauri Hanauska-Brown LHanauska-Brown@mt.gov (406) 444-5209		
Common Loon			
Least Tern			
Piping Plover			
Whooping Crane			
Grizzly Bear			
Greater Sage Grouse			
Trumpeter Swan	John Vore <u>ivore@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-5209		
Big Game			
Upland Game Birds			
Furbearers			
Managed Terrestrial Game and	Adam Messer – MFWP Data Analyst		
Nongame Animal Data	(406) 444-0095, <u>amesser@mt.gov</u>		
Fisheries Data	Bill Daigle – MFWP Fish Data Manager		
	(406) 444-3737, <u>bdaigle@mt.gov</u>		
Wildlife and Fisheries Scientific	•		
Wildlife and Fisheries Scientific Collector's Permits	(406) 444-3737, <u>bdaigle@mt.gov</u>		
	(406) 444-3737, <u>bdaigle@mt.gov</u> http://fwp.mt.gov/doingBusiness/licenses/scientificWildlife/default.html		
	(406) 444-3737, <u>bdaigle@mt.gov</u> <u>http://fwp.mt.gov/doingBusiness/licenses/scientificWildlife/default.html</u> Merissa Hayes for Wildlife (406) 444-7321 <u>merhayes@mt.gov</u>		
Collector's Permits	 (406) 444-3737, <u>bdaigle@mt.gov</u> <u>http://fwp.mt.gov/doingBusiness/licenses/scientificWildlife/default.html</u> Merissa Hayes for Wildlife (406) 444-7321 <u>merhayes@mt.gov</u> Beth Giddings for Fisheries (406) 444-7319 <u>begiddings@mt.gov</u> Renee Lemon <u>RLemon@mt.gov</u> (406) 444-3738) See also: <u>http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/livingWithWildlife/buildingWithWildlife/</u> 		
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Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

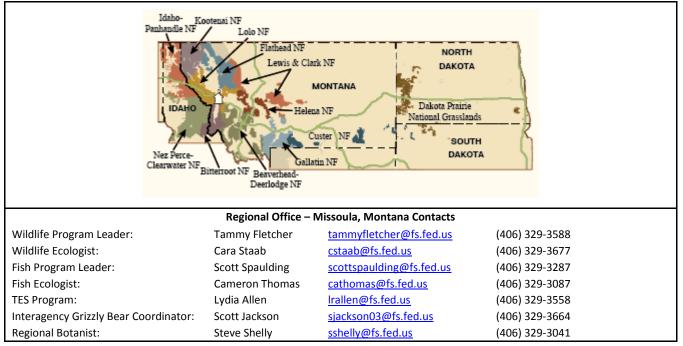
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Information Planning and Conservation (IPAC) website: <u>http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/</u> Montana Ecological Services Field Office: <u>http://www.fws.gov/montanafieldoffice/</u> (406) 449-5225

Bureau of Land Management

Montana Field Office Contacts:		
mund charge	Billings:	(406) 896-5013
HAVRE	Butte:	(406) 533-7600
CREAT MALTA	Dillon:	(406) 683-8000
MISSOULA	Glasgow:	(406) 228-3750
	Havre:	(406) 262-2820
	Lewistown:	(406) 538-1900
CUTTE	Malta:	(406) 654-5100
EINTIGS	Miles City:	(406) 233-2800
2 Therefore	Missoula:	(406) 329-3914

United States Forest Service



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