

LEO DROZDOFF  
Director

Department of Conservation  
and Natural Resources

JENNIFER E. NEWMARK  
Administrator

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor



Nevada Natural Heritage Program  
Richard H. Bryan Building  
901 S. Stewart Street, suite 5002  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245  
U.S.A.

tel: (775) 684-2900  
fax: (775) 684-2909



STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**Nevada Natural Heritage Program**  
<http://heritage.nv.gov>

28 March 2011

Diana M. Gould  
JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
1165 East Jennings Way, Suite 101  
Elko, NV 89801

RE: Data request received 25 March 2011

Dear Ms. Gould:

We are pleased to provide the information you requested on endangered, threatened, candidate, and/or At Risk plant and animal taxa recorded within or near the Bluebell and Goshutes WSA's Riparian Improvements and Water Developments Project areas. We searched our database and maps for the following, a five kilometer radius around:

Township 31N Range 68E Sections 07 and 28  
Township 32N Range 68E Sections 02, 14 and 15  
Township 33N Range 68E Sections 10 and 35  
Township 34N Range 68E Sections 27 and 28

The enclosed printout lists the taxa recorded within the given area. Please be aware that habitat may also be available for, the northern leopard frog, *Rana pipiens*, a Nevada Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Sensitive Species, and the transverse gland pyrg, *Pyrgulopsis cruciglans*, a Nevada BLM Sensitive Species. The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) manages, protects, and restores Nevada's wildlife resources and associated habitat. Please contact Chet Van Dellen, NDOW GIS Coordinator (775.688.1565) to obtain further information regarding wildlife resources within and near your area of interest. Removal or destruction of state protected flora species (NAC 527.010) requires a special permit from Nevada Division of Forestry (NRS 527.270).

Please note that our data are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations, and in most cases are not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys. Natural Heritage reports should never be regarded as final statements on the taxa or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments.

Thank you for checking with our program. Please contact us for additional information or further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric S. Miskow".

Eric S. Miskow  
Biologist /Data Manager

# At Risk Taxa Recorded Near the Bluebell and Goshutes WSA's Water Development Project Areas

Compiled by the Nevada Natural Heritage Program for JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc.

28 March 2011

<u>Scientific name</u>	<u>Common name</u>	<u>Usfws</u>	<u>Blm</u>	<u>Usfs</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Srank</u>	<u>Grank</u>	<u>Lat</u>	<u>Long</u>	<u>Prec</u>	<u>Last observed</u>
<b>Invertebrates</b>											
<i>Oreohelix loisae</i>	Goshute mountain snail					S2	G1G3	403336N	1141706W	S	2002-05-06
<b>Mammals</b>											
<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat		N;C	S;I;L	YES	S2	G4	403840N	1141550W	S	1991-06-07
<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	western small-footed myotis		N;C			S3	G5	403840N	1141550W	S	1991-06-07
<i>Myotis evotis</i>	long-eared myotis		N;C			S4	G5	403840N	1141550W	S	1991-06-07
<i>Myotis volans</i>	long-legged myotis		N			S4	G5	403840N	1141550W	S	1991-06-07

Bureau of Land Management (Blm) Species Classification:

N Nevada Special Status Species - designated Sensitive by State Office  
 C California Special Status Species (see definition S and N)

United States Forest Service (Usfs) Species Classification:

S Region 4 (Humboldt-Toiyabe NF) sensitive species  
 I Region 5 (Inyo NF) sensitive species  
 L Region 5 (Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit) sensitive species

Nevada State Protected (State) Species Classification:

Fauna:  
 YES Species protected under NRS 501.

Precision (Prec) of Mapped Occurrence:

Precision, or radius of uncertainty around latitude/longitude coordinates:  
 S Seconds: within a three-second radius  
 M Minutes: within a one-minute radius, approximately 2 km or 1.5 miles  
 G General: within about 8 km or 5 miles, or to map quadrangle or place name

Nevada Natural Heritage Program Global (Grank) and State (Srank) Ranks for Threats and/or Vulnerability:

G Global rank indicator, based on worldwide distribution at the species level  
 T Global trinomial rank indicator, based on worldwide distribution at the infraspecific level  
 S State rank indicator, based on distribution within Nevada at the lowest taxonomic level

- 1 Critically imperiled and especially vulnerable to extinction or extirpation due to extreme rarity, imminent threats, or other factors
- 2 Imperiled due to rarity or other demonstrable factors
- 3 Vulnerable to decline because rare and local throughout its range, or with very restricted range
- 4 Long-term concern, though now apparently secure; usually rare in parts of its range, especially at its periphery
- 5 Demonstrably secure, widespread, and abundant

A Accidental within Nevada  
 B Breeding status within Nevada (excludes resident taxa)  
 H Historical; could be rediscovered  
 N Non-breeding status within Nevada (excludes resident taxa)  
 Q Taxonomic status uncertain  
 U Unrankable  
 Z Enduring occurrences cannot be defined (usually given to migrant or accidental birds)  
 ? Assigned rank uncertain



BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

1100 Valley Road  
Reno, Nevada 89512  
(775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

KENNETH E. MAYER  
*Director*

RICHARD L. HASKINS, II  
*Deputy Director*

PATRICK O. CATES  
*Deputy Director*

April 25, 2011

Ms. Diana M. Gould  
Environmental Analyst  
JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
1165 E. Jennings Way  
Suite 101  
Elko, NV 89801

RE: Bluebell and Goshute Peak WSA Riparian Improvements and Water Developments project

Dear Ms. Gould,

This letter is in response to your recent request for information regarding threatened, endangered, proposed, sensitive or candidate species in the Bluebell and Goshute Peak WSA Riparian Improvement and Water Development project vicinity. As this project is scattered throughout the Goshute Mountains, NDOW has a variety of occurrence data for this range.

Several game species are present throughout the Goshute Mountains, including mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain lion and chukar. Bobcat have been documented, too.

Several raptor nests have been documented through the Goshute Mountains. Most documented nests are ferruginous hawk, however, NDOW has a single golden eagle nest documented in the center of the range. See enclosed map. In addition to raptor nests, several raptors have been sighted, including northern goshawk (Bluebell Spring), Cooper's hawk, great horned owl, peregrine falcon, golden eagle, and Swainson's hawk. Additional raptors, such as American kestrel, rough-legged hawk, and red-tailed hawk are also likely to be present.

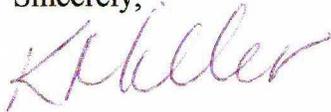
The Great Basin Bird Observatory has conducted surveys in proximity to the project area. Those surveyed identified brown-headed cowbird, black throated gray warbler, rock wren, mountain chickadee, and mountain bluebird. Given that much of this project is in the proximity of several mountain springs, a wide variety of migratory bird species may be present, especially those that are closely associated with riparian areas.

NDOW has documented Townsend's big-eared bat at Sidehill spring. Several other bat species may be present, including pallid bat, spotted bat, western small-footed myotis, long-eared myotis, and more. The project's proximity to springs means that several bat species may forage in the area.

Three species of invertebrates have been documented in the Goshute Mountains: mitered vertigo, Schell creek mountain snail, and the lyrate mountain snail. Spring snails may be present at any of these springs. NDOW is looking to document the presence and identification of spring snails. I have enclosed a simple key. If possible, when spring snails are encountered, NDOW would appreciate location and identification information.

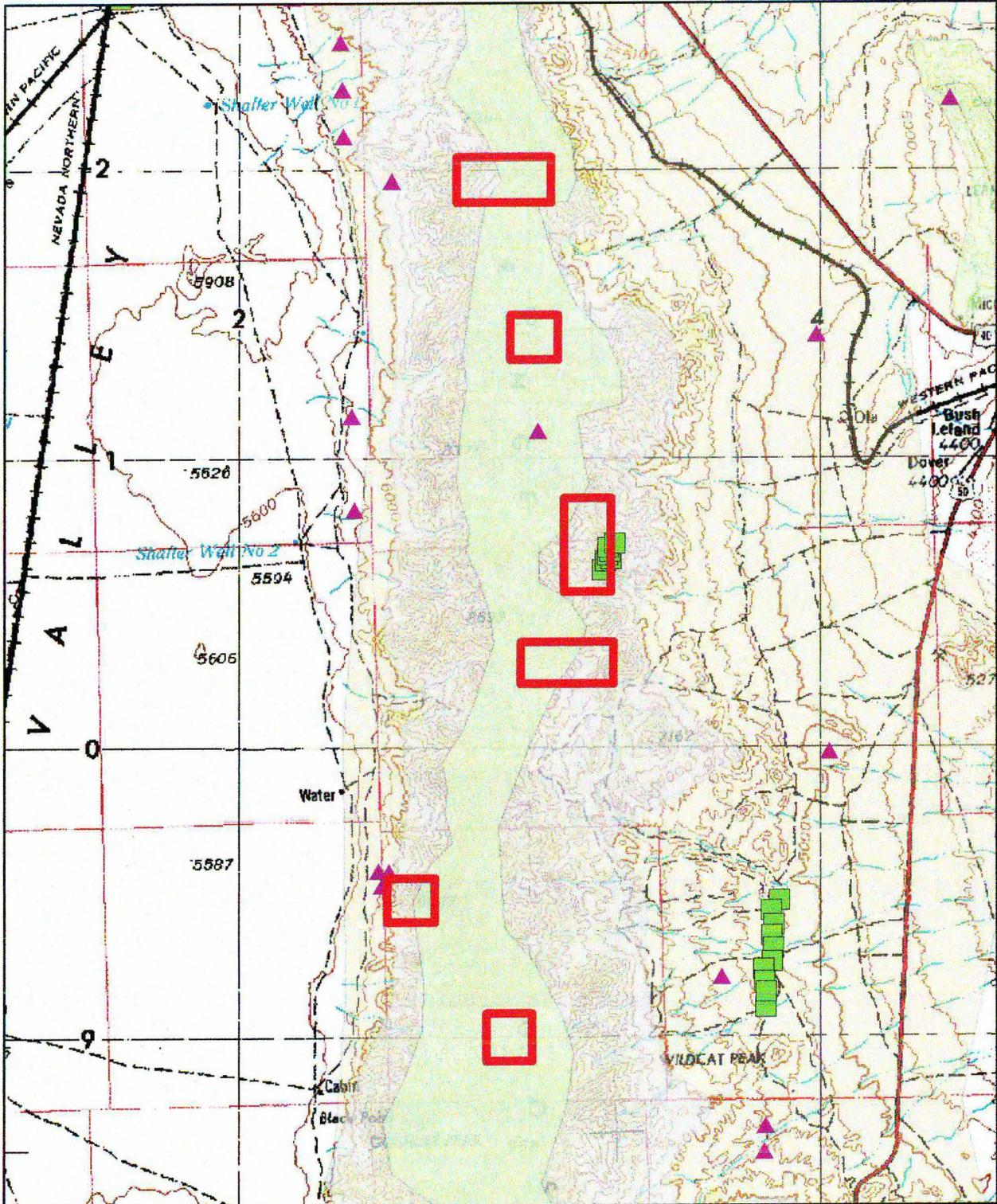
Please contact me if you need additional information or clarification on any of the data provided.

Sincerely,



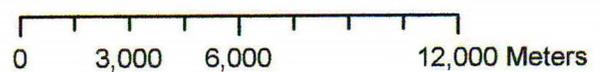
Katie Erin G. Miller  
Eastern Region Mining Biologist  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
60 Youth Center Road  
Elko, NV 89801  
775-777-2368  
[kmiller@ndow.org](mailto:kmiller@ndow.org)

# Bluebell and Goshute Peak WSA Wildlife Data



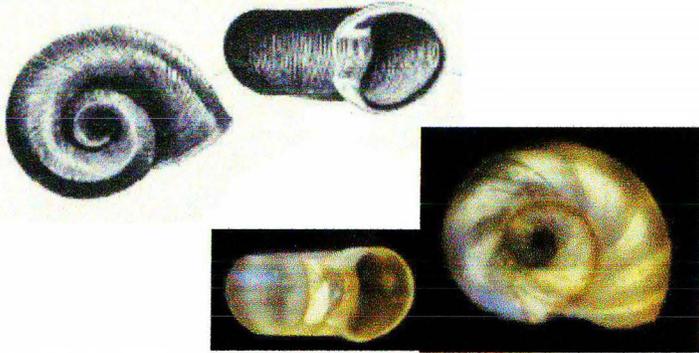
## Legend

- ▲ Raptor\_NestSites\_20101108
- GBBO\_NBC\_2009\_NAD83
- BighornSheep\_Distribution\_2010
- Elk\_Distribution\_2009
- MuleDeer\_Distribution\_2009



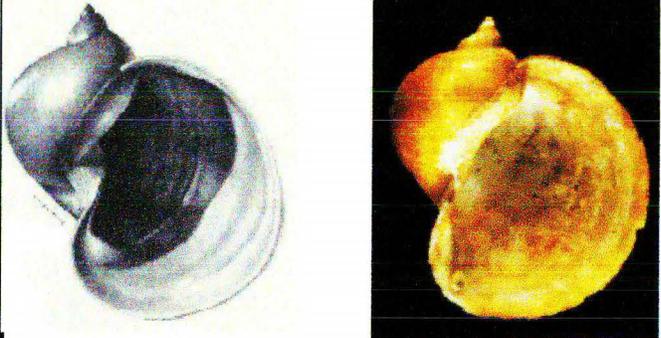
***Planorbella* spp. "Rams-Horns"**

Large, 30 mm (1.2 inch) across, 15 mm (0.6 inch) high  
Redish-brown, diverse habitats



***Radix auricularia***

Large, up to 23-30 mm (1 inch),  
Sharp spire, huge aperture (looks like an ear)



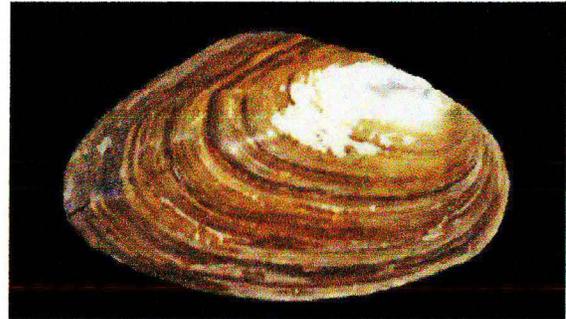
***Gonidea angulata* Western Ridgemussel**

Dark brown or black shell, up to 15 cm (6 inch)  
Distinct ridge from the beak to the margin of the shell



***Anodonta* spp. Floaters**

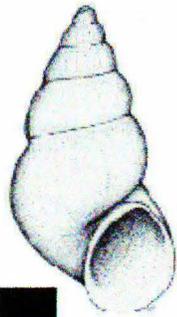
Olive, pale-brown, or redish-brown, up to 12-18 cm (7 inch)  
"Wing" on the dorsal surface near beak



***Potamopyrgus antipodarum***

**INVASIVE - New Zealand Mudsnail**

Small 5-6 mm (0.2 inch), high narrow spire, thin body whorl  
5-6 whirls, operculum present



***Corbicula* spp. **INVASIVE** - "Asian Clam"**

Very large beak and teardrop shape  
up to 5 cm (2 inch)





# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office  
1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234  
Reno, Nevada 89502

Ph: (775) 861-6300 ~ Fax: (775) 861-6301

April 29, 2011

File No. 2011-SL-0203

Ms. Diana M. Gould  
JBR Environmental Consultants, Incorporated  
1165 East Jennings Way, Suite 101  
Elko, Nevada 89801

Dear Ms. Gould:

Subject: Species List Request for the Bluebell and Goshute Peak Wilderness Study  
Areas Riparian Improvements and Water Developments, Elko County, Nevada

This responds to your letter received on March 28, 2011, requesting a species list for the Bluebell and Goshute Peak Wilderness Study Areas Riparian Improvements and Water Developments project located in Elko County, Nevada. To the best of our knowledge, no listed, proposed, or candidate species occur in the subject project area. This response fulfills the requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to provide a list of species pursuant to section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended, for projects that are authorized, funded, or carried out by a Federal agency.

The Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office no longer provides species of concern lists. Most of these species for which we have concern are also on the Animal and Plant At-Risk Tracking List for Nevada (At-Risk list) maintained by the State of Nevada's Natural Heritage Program (Heritage). Instead of maintaining our own list, we adopted Heritage's At-Risk list and are partnering with them to provide distribution data and information on the conservation needs for at-risk species to agencies or project proponents. As you may know, the mission of Heritage is to continually evaluate the conservation priorities of native plants, animals, and their habitats, particularly those most vulnerable to extinction or in serious decline. In addition, in order to avoid future conflicts, we ask that you consider these at-risk species early in your project planning and explore management alternatives that provide for their long-term conservation.

For a list of at-risk species by county, visit Heritage's website (<http://heritage.nv.gov>). For a specific list of at-risk species that may occur in the project area, you can obtain a data request form from the website (<http://heritage.nv.gov/forms.htm>) or by contacting the Administrator of

TAKE PRIDE  
IN AMERICA 

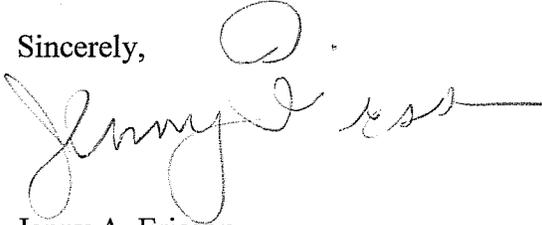
Heritage at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5002, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245, (775) 684-2900. Please indicate on the form that your request is being obtained as part of your coordination with the Service under the ESA. During your project analysis, if you obtain new information or data for any Nevada sensitive species, we request that you provide the information to Heritage at the above address.

Furthermore, certain species of fish and wildlife are classified as protected by the State of Nevada (<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-503.html>). You must first obtain the appropriate license, permit, or written authorization from the Nevada Department of Wildlife to take, or possess any parts of protected wildlife species. Please visit <http://www.ndow.org> or contact the Nevada Department of Wildlife at (775) 777-2300.

Based on the Service's conservation responsibilities and management authority for migratory birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*), MBTA, we recommend you consider the potential impacts the proposed project may have on migratory birds in the area. Given these concerns, we recommend that any land clearing or other surface disturbance associated with proposed actions within the project area be timed to avoid potential destruction of bird nests or young, or birds that breed in the area. Such destruction may be in violation of the MBTA. Under the MBTA, nests with eggs or young of migratory birds may not be harmed, nor may migratory birds be killed. Therefore, we recommend land clearing be conducted outside the avian breeding season. If this is not feasible, we recommend a qualified biologist survey the area prior to land clearing. If nests are located, or if other evidence of nesting (*i.e.*, mated pairs, territorial defense, carrying nesting material, transporting food) is observed, a protective buffer (the size depending on the habitat requirements of the species) should be delineated and the entire area avoided to prevent destruction or disturbance to nests until they are no longer active.

Because wetlands, springs, or streams are present in the vicinity of the project area, we ask that you be aware of potential impacts project activities may have on these habitats. Discharge of fill material into wetlands or waters of the United States is regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended. We recommend you contact the ACOE's Regulatory Section 300 Booth Street, Room 3060, Reno, Nevada 89509, (775) 784-5304 regarding the possible need for a permit.

Please reference File No. 2011-SL-0203 in future correspondence concerning this species list. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or require additional information, please contact me or Steve Abele at (775) 861-6300.

Sincerely,   
Jenny A. Ericson  
Acting State Supervisor