

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Terrestrial Mollusks of Glacier National Park

**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance

**Discipline:** Natural Resources

**Funding Agency:** National Park Service

**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana, Montana Natural Heritage Program

**Effective Dates:** 8/1/2008 - 12/31/2009

**Funding Amount:** \$5,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The work proposed is a pilot study to determine the presence of several Species of Concern (SOC) land snail species likely to occur in Glacier National Park. The work will include training of Park Service personnel in survey and inventory techniques, as well as field identification of taxa encountered, so that the park can undertake additional survey work when resources become available.

Identification of survey sites will be aided through use of predictive distribution models currently being developed to guide surveys for SOC terrestrial mollusks on Forest Service Northern Region lands. Surveys in Glacier National Park will be valuable for determining the utility of the models, and will help in refining them. Effort will be made to select sites of similar pre-fire vegetation cover, so that both burned and unburned sites can be sampled, thereby providing an initial measure of land snail response to this landscape disturbance.

All survey sites will be geo-referenced through use of a GPS, and documented with digital imagery. Site surveys will be timed, to provide a measure of survey effort. All species detected during the surveys, whether SOC or not, will be noted, and vouchers of all species will be taken and deposited in the Glacier National Park collections. All survey site locations and associated presence data will be added to the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MNHP) databases and made available for Park Service and public use through the MNHP Tracker website.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:** Due Date for Final Report and/or Products: August 31, 2009

**Products delivered**

- 1) Electronic and hard-copy reports summarizing geospatial and habitat-association information, with maps, for all terrestrial mollusk species.
- 2) Preliminary key and/or guide to the terrestrial mollusks of Glacier National Park.
- 3) Collection of digital photographs of survey sites and representative terrestrial mollusk species.
- 4) Reference collection of voucher specimens properly identified and labeled, to be deposited with Glacier National Park.

**Keywords:** Species of Concern, snails, surveys, Glacier National Park, UM- Montana Natural Heritage Program