

FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL

Banbury Springs Limpet



Photo: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A SLIDING SNAIL

The Banbury Springs Limpet (*Lanx* sp.) is a small, aquatic snail found in four isolated freshwater spring complexes along the Snake River in central Idaho. Threatened by habitat modification, reduced water quality and invasive species, the snail was listed as “endangered” under the Endangered Species Act in 1992. A recent assessment concluded that conditions have worsened for the species.

HOME SWEET HOME

Freshwater springs are among the most degraded habitats in the Sagebrush Sea. Water pumping and diversion have dried up many springs in the region. Protecting spring flow and water quality will help ensure survival for the Banbury Springs Limpet and other flora and fauna.

KNOW YOUR SNAIL

- **Lovely Lanx:** the Banbury Springs limpet is known for its distinguishable cinnamon-red, conical and pyramid-like shell.
- **Desert Dwellers:** dozens of freshwater snail species have been identified in springs, ponds, streams and wetlands in the Sagebrush Sea.
- **Star-crossed Snail:** of the five Snake River snails listed as “threatened” or “endangered” in 1992, the Banbury Springs Limpet is the only one for which surveys have identified only one additional population.

SAGEBRUSH SEA STAT

Climate change is predicted to affect the timing and amount of flow from springs across the American West.

