

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Invertebrate Abstract

Element Code: IIODO12030

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Ophiogomphus arizonicus*

COMMON NAME: Arizona snaketail

SYNONYMS:

FAMILY: Ophiogomphus

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Kennedy, 1917. Proceedings of the United States National Museum 49: 259-345.

TYPE LOCALITY: Huachuca Mountains, Arizona.

TYPE SPECIMEN: Unknown

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: There are 21+ species in this genus.

DESCRIPTION: A fairly large mostly green dragonfly. The thorax is all green except for reduced black shoulder stripes, and an abdomen striped lengthwise. The larva is flat and brown with an oval abdomen. The *Ophiogomphus arizonicus* is nearly identical to *O. severus*, but the male epiproct is only half length of cerci (3/4 in *O. severus*), and the female has a straight post-ocellar ridge on vertex (strongly undulate in *O. severus*). And the larva has higher dorsal abdominal spines than *O. severus*.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: The *Ophiogomphus arizonicus* is nearly identical to *O. severus*, but the male epiproct is only half length of cerci (3/4 in *O. severus*), and the female has a straight post-ocellar ridge on vertex (strongly undulate in *O. severus*). And the larva has higher dorsal abdominal spines than *O. severus*.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Color photo (©D. Paulson) http://www.pugetsound.edu/files/resources/4295_Ophari.jpg

Color Photo (©RA Behrstock)

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Ophiogomphus+arizonicus&FORM=HDRSC2>

TOTAL RANGE: Eastern Arizona and westernmost New Mexico.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Eastern Arizona.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

BIOLOGY:

REPRODUCTION: The adult males perch on rocks near stream pools to wait for females. The females perch on a rock until they accumulate a ball of eggs then fly out to deposit them in water. The larvae overwinter and the flight season is from early June to early September.

FOOD HABITS: They are invertivores as adults and immatures.

HABITAT: They are found in fairly swift rocky mountain streams in pine woodland with silt for larval habitat.

ELEVATION: Unknown

PLANT COMMUNITY: Open pine forests.

POPULATION TRENDS: Unknown

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:

STATE STATUS:

OTHER STATUS:

None. USDA, FS Region 3, 2013
[Forest Service Sensitive (USDA, FS Region 3
1999)]

MANAGEMENT FACTORS: The major threats to this population are lumbering, overgrazing and fires that destabilize stream flow. The larvae are susceptible degradation of water flow and alterations of stream flow.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN: Unknown

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Unknown

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Unknown

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

- NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. 2001. Version 1.6. Arlington, Virginia, USA: NatureServe. Available:<http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: June 6, 2002).
- USDA, Forest Service Region 3. 1999. Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List.
- USDA, Forest Service Region 3. 2013. Regional Forester's List of Sensitive Animals.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Revised: 2002-06-21 (AMS)
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