

Long-tailed Shrew

Sorex dispar

Federal Listing	N/A
State Listing	SGCN
Global Rank	G4
State Rank	S4
Regional Status	Very High

Justification (Reason for Concern in NH)

The population status of long-tailed shrews is largely unknown, but they are thought to be rare (Degraaf and Yamasaki 2001). The species is likely difficult to trap and therefore they may be more abundant than current studies have shown.

Distribution

Little is known about the distribution and habitat of this species in New Hampshire. Trapping in the White Mountain National Forest of Maine and New Hampshire varied from 0.2-0.6 percent of the total capture (Yamasaki 1997).

Habitat

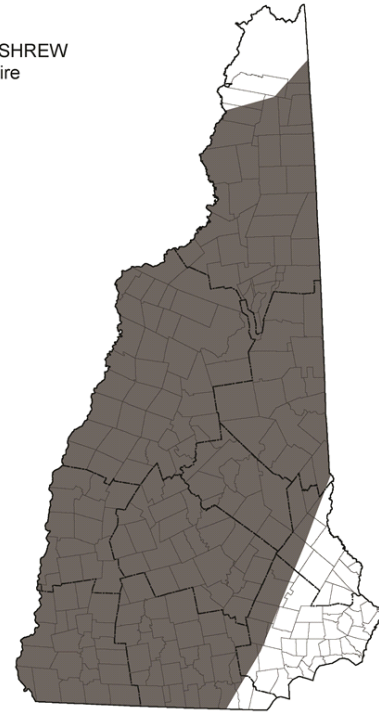
Long-tailed shrews are found at higher elevations in the mountains of New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and western Massachusetts (Degraaf and Yamasaki 2001). They inhabit cold, damp coniferous forests, typically near moss-covered rocks and logs that provide shady protective crevices or wooded talus slopes (Connor 1960, Richmond and Grimm 1950). They can also be found in deciduous and mixed forests. They are primarily insectivorous.

Appendix A: Mammals

NH Wildlife Action Plan Habitats

- High Elevation Spruce-Fir Forest
- Northern Hardwood-Conifer Forest

Distribution of
LONG-TAILED SHREW
in New Hampshire



Distribution Map

Current Species and Habitat Condition in New Hampshire

There are insufficient data to draw conclusions about the population health or distribution of long-tailed shrew.

Population Management Status

There are no management efforts for long-tailed shrew in New Hampshire.

Regulatory Protection (for explanations, see Appendix I)

None

Quality of Habitat

Little is known about the distribution and habitat for long-tailed shrew in New Hampshire.

Habitat Protection Status

Little is known about the distribution and habitat for long-tailed shrew in New Hampshire.

Habitat Management Status

There are no habitat management efforts for long-tailed shrew.

Appendix A: Mammals

Threats to this Species or Habitat in NH

Threat rankings were calculated by groups of taxonomic or habitat experts using a multistep process (details in Chapter 4). Each threat was ranked for these factors: Spatial Extent, Severity, Immediacy, Certainty, and Reversibility (ability to address the threat). These combined scores produced one overall threat score. Only threats that received a “medium” or “high” score have accompanying text in this profile. Threats that have a low spatial extent, are unlikely to occur in the next ten years, or there is uncertainty in the data will be ranked lower due to these factors.

There are no threats ranked high or medium for this species.

List of Lower Ranking Threats:

Species impacts from the accumulation of heavy metals and pesticides from consumption of invertebrates

Habitat conversion from ski area expansion and development that removes talus habitat

Actions to benefit this Species or Habitat in NH

Conduct research on habitat needs and distribution

Primary Threat Addressed:

Objective:

General Strategy:

Political Location:

Watershed Location:

Support efforts to minimize air pollution leading to heavy metal deposition in the atmosphere

Primary Threat Addressed: Species impacts from the accumulation of heavy metals and pesticides from consumption of invertebrates

Specific Threat (IUCN Threat Levels): pollution

Objective:

General Strategy:

Political Location:

Watershed Location:

Minimize habitat conversion in high elevation habitats

Primary Threat Addressed: Habitat conversion from ski area expansion and development that removes talus habitat

Specific Threat (IUCN Threat Levels): Residential & commercial development

Appendix A: Mammals

Objective:

General Strategy:

Political Location:

Watershed Location:

References, Data Sources and Authors

Data Sources

(DeGraaf and Yamasaki, 2001)

Nature Serve 2015

Information on habitat, population distribution, and status was collected from unpublished data, scientific literature, and limited agency data.

Data Quality

With the cooperation of the WMNF, Yamasaki conducted a 3-year systematic survey of small mammals between 1995 and 1997. This survey took place in potential habitats across three levels of vegetation management in the White Mountains region. Out of the 108 study sites surveyed across managed, unmanaged, and remote locations in the forest, long-tailed shrew captures varied between 0.1-0.7 captures per 100 trap-nights (Yamasaki 1997).

There is very little data on the condition of the species and its habitats statewide.

2015 Authors:

Jillian Kilborn, NHFG

2005 Authors:

Literature

Connor R. F. 1960. The small mammals of Otsego and Schoharie Counties, New York. Bull. N.Y. State Museum Ser. 382:1-84

DeGraaf, R.M., and M. Yamasaki. 2001. New England Wildlife: habitat, natural history, and distribution. University Press of New England. Hanover, New Hampshire, USA.

NatureServe. 2015. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life (web application). NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.

Richmond N. D., Grimm W. C. 1950. Ecology and distribution of the shrew, *Sorex dispar*, in Pennsylvania. Ecology 31:279-282.

Yamasaki, M. 1997. White Mountain National Forest Small Mammal Identification and Collection Report. Unpublished Report. Northeastern Forest Experimental Station RWU-4155, Durham, New Hampshire, USA.