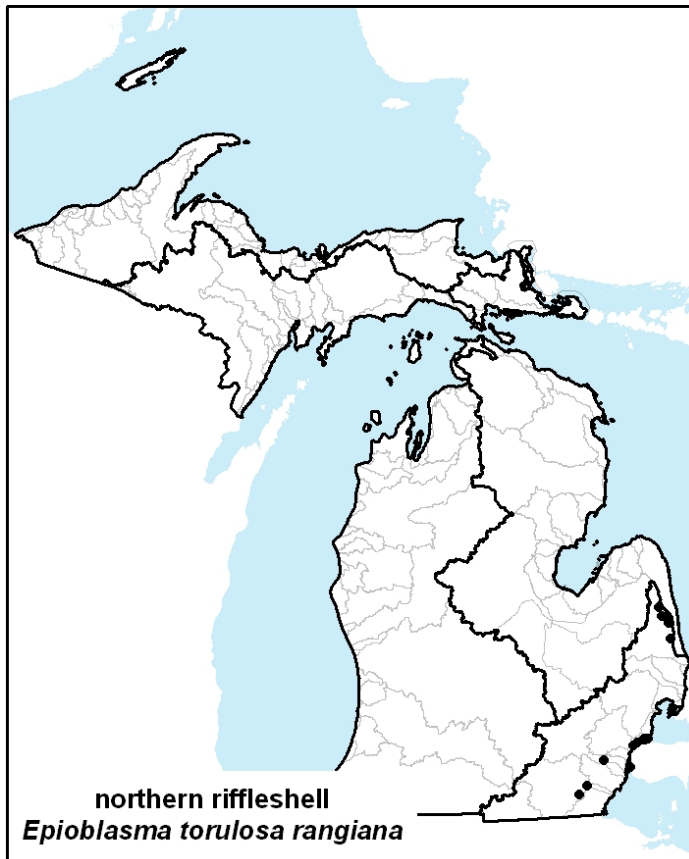


MUSSELS



northern riffleshell

(*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*)

DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE: State and federally listed as endangered. Historically occurred in only three watersheds in Michigan. Populations in the State have been devastated by stream dredging and the introduction of zebra mussels. Abundance is very low and species is imperiled.

ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES: shoreline; medium rivers; large rivers; rock substrates

ASSOCIATED THREATS: altered hydrologic regimes; altered sediment loads; dams; dredging & channelization; fragmentation; invasive plants & animals; lack of scientific knowledge; pesticides & herbicides; urban, municipal, and industrial pollution

COMMENTS: Host species determined in laboratory, field verification needed. Population status needs to be determined, no live individuals have been observed since the late 1980's. Opportunities for restoration and reintroduction should be sought. The continued spread of zebra mussels into inland stream systems will make eventual recovery extremely difficult.