



# ***Endangered Mussels and CCAA Progress***

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# ***Freshwater Mussels Under Consideration for Federal Protection in Brazos River Basin***

Texas Fawnsfoot



Smooth Pimpleback



False Spike



# Recently Documented Candidate-Listed Mussel Populations in the Brazos River Basin

## Legend

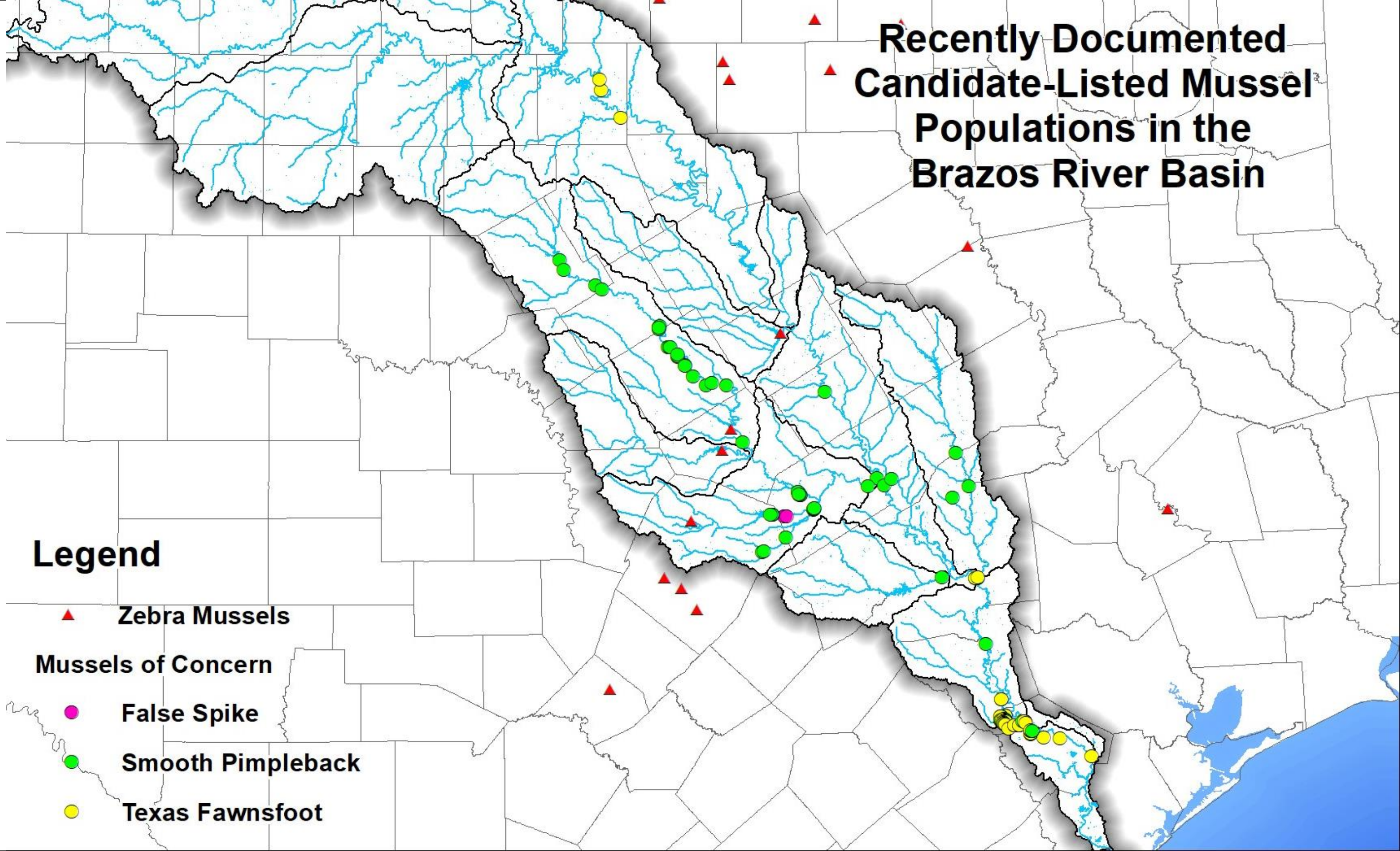
▲ Zebra Mussels

Mussels of Concern

● False Spike

● Smooth Pimpleback

● Texas Fawnsfoot



## ***Listing Decision on Texas Fawnsfoot and False Spike***

- **Delayed until Fall**

## ***Listing Decision on Smooth Pimpleback***

- **Anticipated that it will be removed from consideration for Endangered Species Act protection**

# ***Candidate Conservation Agreement With Assurance (CCAA)***

- **Voluntary agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**
- **Provides net conservation benefit to Covered Species**
- **Allow for continued water supply development to meet the growing demands of an increasing population within the Brazos River basin**
- **Incidental take protection**
- **Regulatory assurance for no additional conservation measures if listed**



## ***Risk of No Agreement***

- **The Endangered Species Act (ESA) prohibits activities that affect listed species and their habitats**
  - **By covering our operations under a CCAA agreement with USFWS we minimize future impacts to BRA water supply operations**
  - **USFWS has disrupted state water rights systems in other states**
- **Permit required for activities that may “take” threatened or endangered species**
  - **Minimize exposure to ESA liabilities during conditions beyond our control**



# CCAA Status Update

Task	Percent Completion
Permit Type Determination	100%
Internal Meetings, Coordination, Reporting	75%
Consultation with USFWS	85%
Data Compilation and Analysis	100%
Future Drought Scenario and Environmental Flows Analysis	100%
Habitat Quantification Tool	5%
Field Work to Fill Data Gaps	33%
Permit Development	95%
NEPA Support to USFWS	5%
Operations/Business Plan	10%
Sampling Plan/Standard Operating Procedures	5%
Scientific Collection Permits	0%
Staff Training	0%