

# Hutton Springs Tui Chub SMU

ESA Designation:

*Threatened 1985*

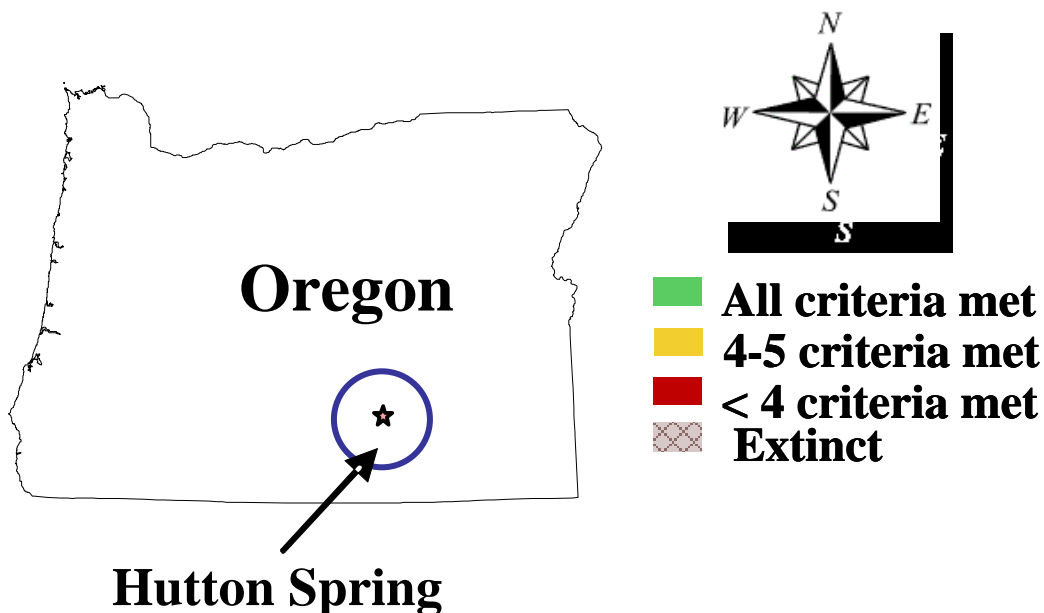
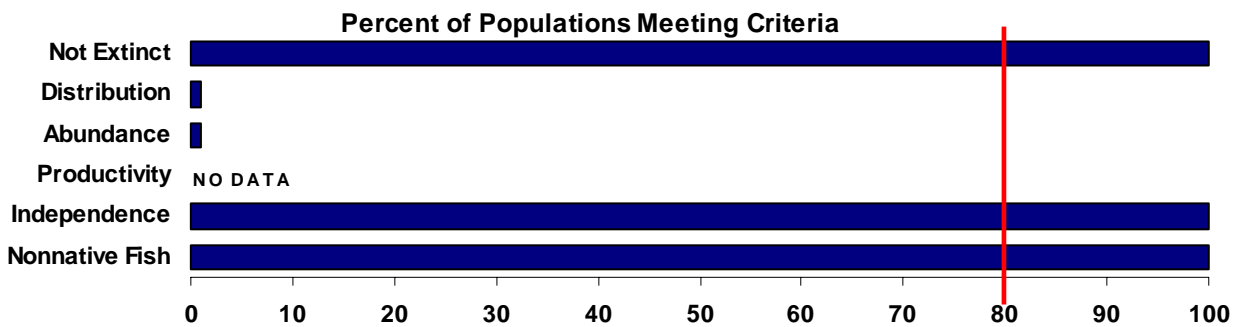
State Status:

*Threatened*

Interim Assessment:

*At Risk*

The Hutton Springs Tui Chub Species Management Unit (SMU) is comprised of a single population that inhabits Hutton Spring on the northwest side of Alkali Lake in Lake County, Oregon. The Hutton Springs tui chub (*Gila bicolor* ssp.) was listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act in 1985. Hutton Spring is located on private land and the habitat is reportedly in good condition, primarily due to conscientious long-term land stewardship by the landowner. The habitat is currently fenced from cattle grazing and is in stable condition (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1997). A second unnamed spring was reported to contain Hutton Springs tui chub but was not located in 1996 surveys and the existence of a second population is questionable. Records are not available to evaluate whether Hutton Springs tui chub existed historically at other locations.



### ***Abundance- fail***

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- Data describing the abundance of the Hutton Springs tui chub population since 1977 are not available.
- The only population abundance estimate on record for tui chub in Hutton Spring is a visual estimate of 300 fish made in 1977.
- An estimate of 150 fish in a nearby unnamed spring was also obtained in 1997. This spring was not located in 1996 surveys and the existence of a second population is questionable.
- Hutton Springs tui chub fail the abundance criterion.

### ***Hybridization and negative impacts of nonnative fishes- pass***

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- Interspecific hybridization and other immediate threats from non-native fishes have not been identified as issues for Hutton Springs tui chub.
- Hutton Springs tui chub pass this criterion.

### ***Distribution- fail***

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- The known distribution of Hutton Springs tui chub is limited to a single spring in the Alkali basin.
- Records are not available to evaluate whether Hutton Springs tui chub existed historically at other locations.
- Because of its highly restricted distribution and dependence on a single water source, Hutton Springs tui chub are vulnerable to catastrophic loss.
- Hutton Springs tui chub fail this criterion.

### ***Additional Information***

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- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife plans has undertaken a population estimate and habitat assessment of the tui chub in Hutton Springs.
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### ***Productivity- not assessed***

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- No data are available to assess productivity and the rate of population growth at the population level.
- This criterion was not assessed.

### ***Reproductive Independence- pass***

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- All Hutton Springs tui chub are naturally produced. No hatchery program exists.
- Hutton Springs tui chub pass this criterion.