



## **Caddisflies: Susan's purse-making caddisfly (*Ochrotrichia susanae*)**

(Trichoptera: Hydroptilidae)

Profile prepared by Celeste Mazzacano, The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Susan's purse-making caddisfly (*Ochrotrichia susanae*) is a small caddisfly with dark brown wings crossed by three silver bands, with a wingspan of 2 mm. The larvae are aquatic and inhabit small, cold streams that are well-oxygenated, highly buffered, and low in trace metals. Susan's purse-making caddisfly was identified as a new species in 1976, and has only been found in two sites in central Colorado: Trout Creek Spring in Chaffee County, where the species was first described, and High Creek Fen in Park County. This species is seriously threatened by habitat loss, primarily due to the effects of livestock grazing and timbering projects in the Trout Creek Spring area. The limited habitat of Susan's purse-making caddisfly is also threatened by groundwater depletion due to increasing usage by surrounding cities, damage from unregulated off-road recreational vehicle use and hiking, and the effects of drought, altered stream hydrology, and changing water temperature that are likely to occur in the mountainous West due to global climate change.

conservation status

description and taxonomic status

habitat requirements

diet and life cycle

distribution

threats and conservation needs

references

additional documents