

Spadefoot Assemblage:

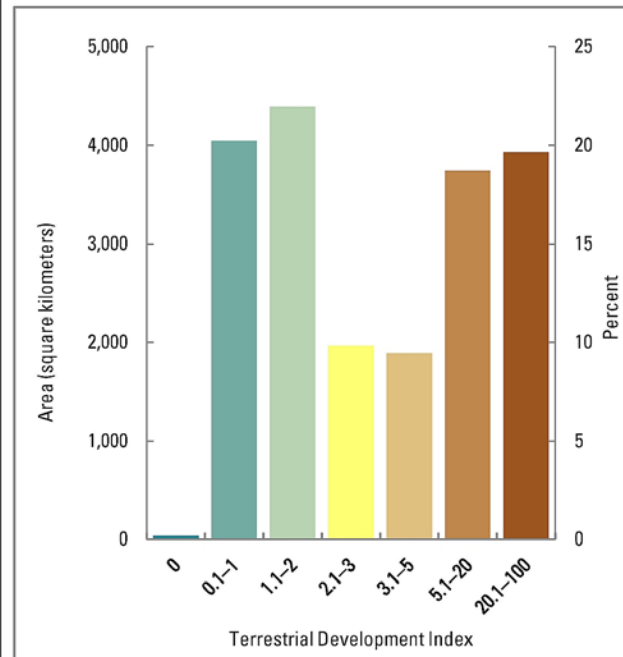
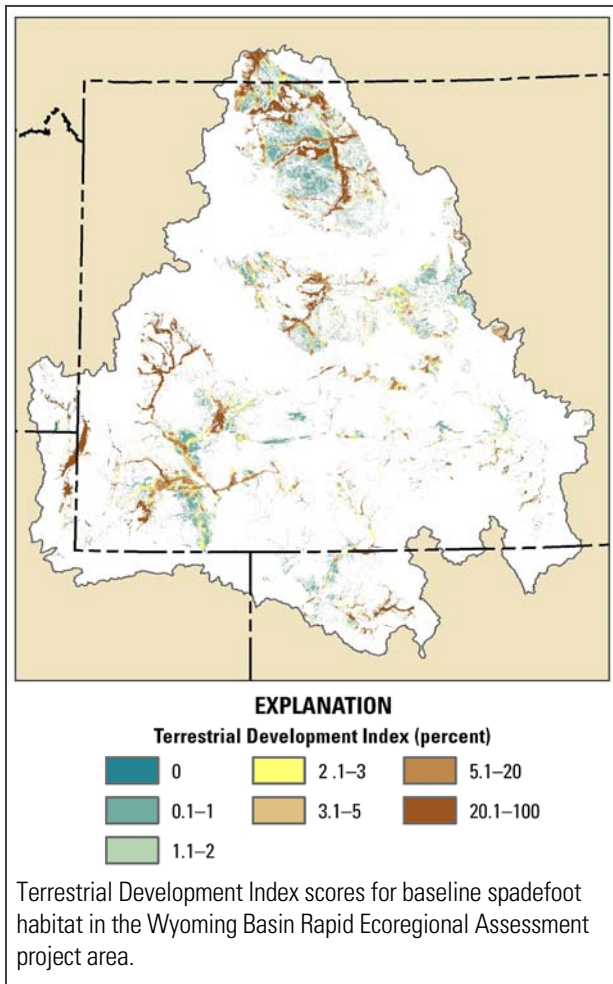
Great Basin Spadefoot
Plains Spadefoot

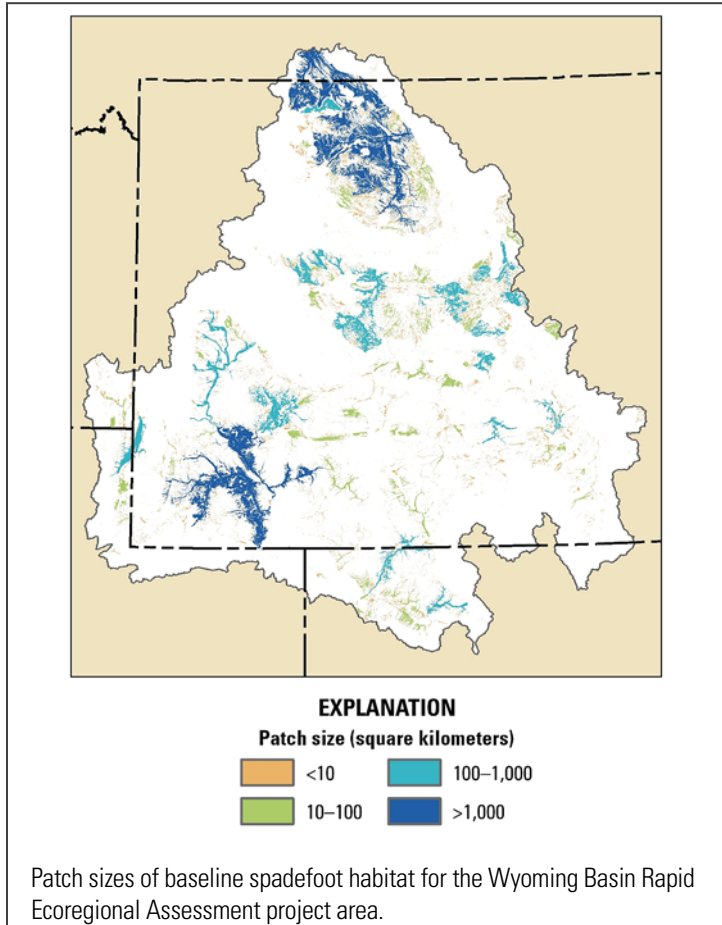


Photo credit: Great Basin spadefoot, National Park Service.

Management Questions

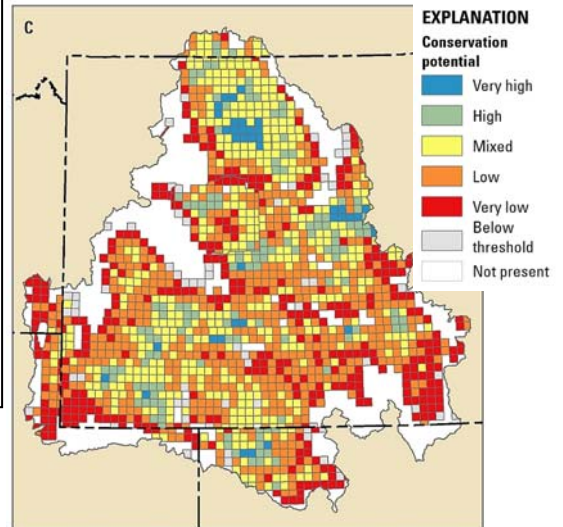
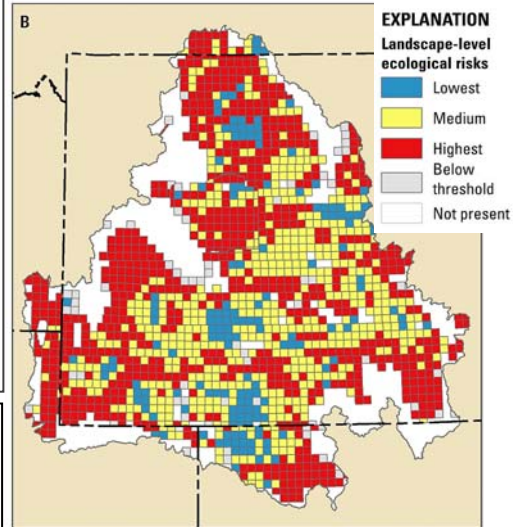
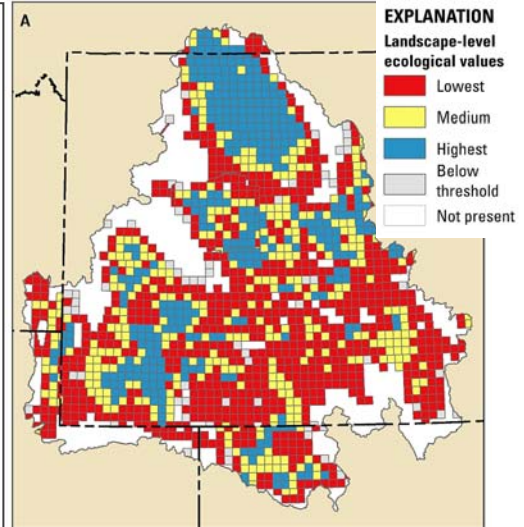
- Where is baseline spadefoot habitat, and what is the total area?
- Where does development pose the greatest threat to baseline spadefoot habitat, and where are the relatively undeveloped areas? (Left map below)
- How has development fragmented baseline spadefoot habitat, and where are the large, relatively undeveloped patches? (Top left map following page)
- How has development affected connectivity of spadefoot habitat relative to baseline conditions?
- Where are potential barriers and corridors that may affect animal movements among relatively undeveloped habitat patches?
- Where have recent fires occurred in spadefoot habitat, and what is the total area burned per year?
- How does risk from development vary by land ownership for spadefoot habitat?
- Where are the townships with the greatest landscape-level ecological values? (Top right map following page)
- Where are the townships with the greatest landscape-level risks? (Center right map following page)
- Where are the townships with the greatest conservation potential? (Bottom right map following page)





Summary

Spadefoot habitat is widely distributed in the Bighorn Basin but is patchily distributed throughout much of the rest of the Wyoming Basin. Agricultural conversion, roads, and energy development have cumulatively led to habitat loss, increased fragmentation, and decreased connectivity of Great Basin and plains spadefoot habitat. These species require connectivity between breeding and wintering sites, and therefore, development that disrupts movement (roads and agriculture) is a concern. In addition, Great Basin and plains spadefoots are sensitive to pesticides, herbicides, and other toxins in their breeding wetlands associated with agricultural and energy development. A large proportion of the spadefoot habitat in the Basin is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and spadefoot habitat on BLM lands has much lower development values than on other land ownerships and jurisdictions.



(A) Landscape-level ecological values, (B) ecological risks, and (C) conservation potential of Great Basin and plains spadefoot habitat summarized by township