



# Illinois ENDANGERED & THREATENED SPECIES



## orangefoot pimpleback *Plethobasus cooperianus* [state and federally endangered]

The orangefoot pimpleback is a thick-shelled, rounded mussel that may grow to four inches. It has bumps on the posterior part of the shell and the foot is orange in live specimens. This mussel mainly lives in deep, fast-flowing rivers, especially with gravel or sand on the bottoms. It buries itself in the substrate.

### Reasons for Concern

- river impoundment
- water siltation and pollution

