

Procambarus chacei

No Common Name

Contributor: Jennifer Price

DESCRIPTION

Taxonomy and Basic Description

This species is very similar to *Procambarus enoplosternum*, and there is a concern that the two species may be synonymous (Hobbs 1981, 1989).

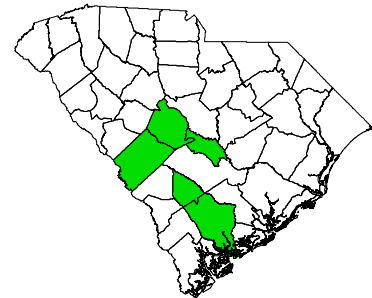
The chelae of *P. chacei* are slender and elongate and covered in tubercles. The fingers of the chelae are not gaping and have well developed longitudinal ridges on the upper and lower surfaces. This species is greenish tan in color with darker specks on the rostrum and black saddle-like markings. The chelae are greenish tan with dark and light spots and reddish fingers, while the legs are pale greenish-cream (Hobbs 1958).

Status

NatureServe (2004) has identified *P. chacei* as imperiled (S2) in Georgia and apparently secure (S4) in South Carolina.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND SIZE

P. chacei is found in streams from the Wateree and Congaree River basins in South Carolina to the Ogeechee and Canoochee River basins in eastern Georgia. It has been recorded in Aiken, Bamberg, Calhoun, Colleton and Lexington counties in South Carolina. (A. Eversole, Clemson University, pers. comm., 2004).



HABITAT AND NATURAL COMMUNITY REQUIREMENTS

This species is found in coastal plain streams (Hobbs 1989).

CHALLENGES

Little is known about *P. chacei* or its conservation status. Surveys are needed to provide more information about its distribution and research is needed on all aspects of its natural history. Taxonomic and genetic work is needed on this species, which may be conspecific with *P. enoplosternum* (Hobbs 1981, 1989).



CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There are no significant conservation accomplishments for *P. chacei* at this time.

CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conduct research to determine the range, population densities and habitat associations for *P. chacei*.
- Conduct taxonomic studies to determine the relationship between *P. enoplosternum* and *P. chacei*.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Describing the range, population densities and habitat associations for *P. chacei* may be considered a measure of success. Additionally, completion of taxonomic studies to determine the relationship between *P. enoplosternum* and *P. chacei* would be considered a sign of success.