

Procambarus hirsutus

No Common Name

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DESCRIPTION

Taxonomy and Basic Description

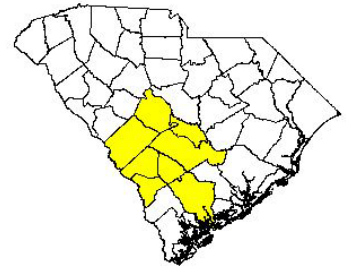
The body of *Procambarus hirsutus* is dark brown with bright orange mottlings. The chelae are brownish orange with black tubercles on the upper surface, and lighter tubercles on the lower surface. The rostrum of this species has marginal spines and is covered in the dense hairs at the base of the acumen that give the species its name; “hirsutus” means “shaggy” in Latin. The holotypic male measured 68.4 mm (2.7 inches) in length, while the allotypic female and morphotypic male were slightly smaller (Hobbs 1958).

Status

NatureServe (2004) identifies *P. hirsutus* with a rank of apparently secure (S4) in South Carolina, but more information is needed to determine if this ranking is appropriate.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND SIZE

P. hirsutus is endemic to South Carolina and has been found in the Santee, Edisto, Salkahatchie and Savannah River basins in Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Lexington, Colleton and Orangeburg Counties (Hobbs 1958).



HABITAT AND NATURAL COMMUNITY REQUIREMENTS

Procambarus hirsutus is found in streams (Hobbs 1989). Little else is known about its habitat requirements.

CHALLENGES

Little is known about *P. hirsutus* and research is needed on all aspects of its biology before its conservation status can be determined. The restricted range of this species is cause for some concern.

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conduct research to determine the range, distribution and habitat requirements for *P. hirsutus*.

MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

Collection of data that better describes the range, distribution and habitat requirements for *P. hirsutus* may be considered a measure of success.