

Hummock Crayfish

Procambarus lunzi

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DESCRIPTION

Taxonomy and Basic Description

Procambarus lunzi is reddish-brown with orange, tan, and black markings. The thoracic and abdominal sections have longitudinal stripes flanked by lighter pink stripes while the ventral surface is cream. The chelae are greenish cream to olive color with tubercles (Hobbs 1981).

Status

NatureServe (2011) identifies this species with a rank of vulnerable to apparently secure (S3/S4) in Georgia and imperiled to vulnerable (S2/S3) in South Carolina. The Hummock Crayfish was considered to be currently stable in Georgia and South Carolina by Taylor et al. (2007).

POPULATION SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION

The Hummock Crayfish is found primarily in lentic waters within the Coastal Plain of South Carolina and Georgia (Hobbs 1989). In South Carolina, it has been collected in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties. This is the only crayfish species that has been found in a survey of South Carolina hammock/hummock islands (McCord et al. 2004). Hobbs (1989) also lists Aiken and Bamberg counties as part of the range of *P. lunzi*, but these locations have not been confirmed by recent collections. This species is common at some sites including those in the Francis Marion National Forest.

HABITAT AND NATURAL COMMUNITY REQUIREMENTS

P. lunzi is found in lentic and sluggish lotic environments and sometimes burrows (Hobbs 1989).

CHALLENGES

The Hummock Crayfish should be considered a research priority because not much is known about its distribution and habitat requirements.

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The hammock island where *P. lunzi* is found is protected as a South Carolina Heritage Preserve (McCord et al. 2004).

CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

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

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

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

LITERATURE CITED

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