

# Australian Aquatic Biological Pty Limited

A.C.N. 127 431 118

**Current Status** The research area is remote, high altitude and much is inaccessible. Surveying has been postponed over winter (June July August) due to low water temperatures creating inactivity in cold blooded animals like freshwater crayfish. Additionally, wet weather, storm damage and freezing conditions made access impossible for many areas over winter. Surveying recommenced in September being successful in those streams over 8 deg C but unsuccessful in those still under 7 deg C. Due to landslides, bridge failures and landslips, large areas are still inaccessible but access road repair is underway and roads should be open again in coming months.

**Project: 100070**

**New records and review of the distribution and ecology of nine species of freshwater crayfish (Crustacea, Decapoda, Parastacidae) occurring within the Hastings River catchment, New South Wales, Australia.**

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## **Abstract**

The Hastings River catchment encompasses 3,846 square kilometres containing a diverse range of aquatic habitats from high altitude cold mountain streams to lowland warm coastal streams. The whole catchment was surveyed and the distribution of all nine native freshwater crayfish species present was documented. The habitat was distinctly divided between species, in this paper we discuss our observations of species interactions, distributions and habitat partitioning.

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