

Project 100078

Impact of bushfires on Freshwater Crayfish (Decapoda: Parastacidae)

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Abstract

Between 2013 and 2015 a number of forested areas devastated by bushfires were surveyed to ascertain if there were any detrimental effects on freshwater crayfish. Our research indicates that the impacts on crayfish is species specific and correlates to the burrow types utilised by the different crayfish species. Those in type 1 burrows are at high risk those in type 2 and 3 are uneffected. We document surveys of fire devastated areas from sealevel to over 1000 m and document mass mortality events and zero impact event.

Key Words

Bushfire, *Cherax setosus*, *Euastacus clarkae*, conservation, climate change,

Cherax setosus (Riek, 1951) (Fig. 1)