

Threatened species of the Northern Territory

Fenn Gap squat snail

Semotrachia filixiana

Conservation status

Australia: Not listed

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Northern Territory: Vulnerable

Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976

Description

The Fenn Gap Squat Snail is a medium-sized camaenid land snail, with a shell diameter of 9–12 mm. The light brown shell has a flat to weakly elevated spire. Other distinguishing characters are listed in Solem (1993)¹. This species differs from the similar Runutjirba Ridge Squat Snail *Semotrachia runutjirbana* by its less elevated spire and relatively longer periostracal setae.

Distribution

The Fenn Gap Squat Snail is endemic to the Northern Territory (NT), where it is known only from the West MacDonnell Ranges, including Fenn Gap.

NT conservation reserves where reported:
Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park.

Ecology and life-history

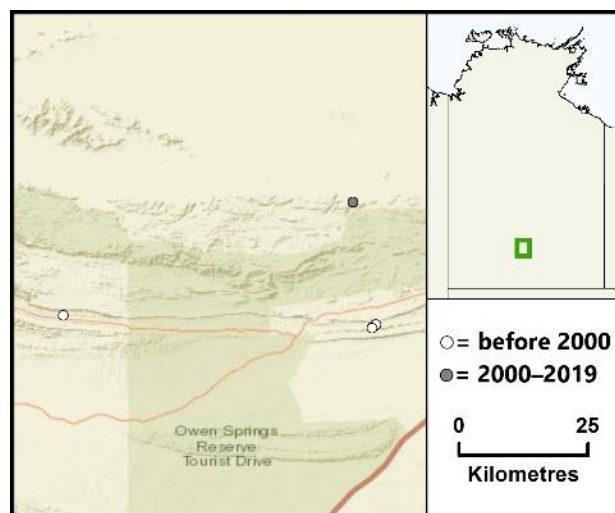
There is no published information on the ecology of the Fenn Gap Squat Snail.



Credit: T. Robinson & P. Hunt/South Australian Museum

Threatening processes

There is no direct evidence that any factors have caused a decline in the numbers or distribution of the Fenn Gap Squat Snail. However, there has been no monitoring of status, and this species may be detrimentally affected by an increased frequency and/or intensity of fire, fuelled in part by invasive exotic grasses, particularly Buffel Grass *Cenchrus ciliaris*.



Caption: Known localities of the Fenn Gap Squat Snail in the NT (nrmmaps.nt.gov.au)

Conservation objectives and management

There is currently no management program for the Fenn Gap Squat Snail in the NT.

Research priorities are: to conduct further surveys to determine whether the species occurs elsewhere; and to identify specific threats at the known localities.

A monitoring program should be established. The management priority is to better safeguard the known localities through establishment of appropriate fire regimes.

References

¹ Solem, A., 1993. Camaenid land snails from Western and central Australia (Mollusca: Pulmonata: Camaenidae). VI Taxa from the red centre. Rec. West. Aust. Mus. Suppl. 43, 983–1459.