

Threatened species of the Northern Territory

Huckitta Ruins squat snail

Semotrachia huckittana

Conservation status

Australia: Not listed

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Northern Territory: Vulnerable

Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976



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

Description

The Huckitta Ruins Squat Snail is a small camaenid land snail, with a shell diameter of 8–10 mm. The light brown shell has a flat to low spire. Other distinguishing characters are listed in Solem (1993)¹.

Distribution

The Huckitta Ruins Squat Snail is endemic to the Northern Territory (NT), where it is known only from near the Old Huckitta Homestead in the Dulcie Ranges northeast of Alice Springs.

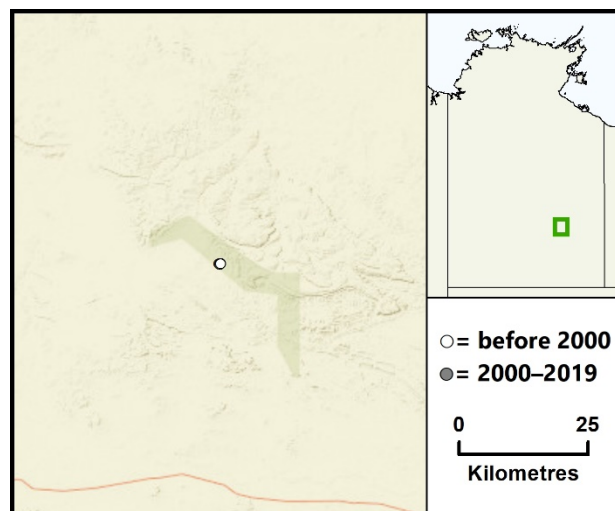
NT conservation reserves where reported: Dulcie Ranges National Park.

Ecology and life-history

There is no published information on the ecology of the Huckitta Ruins Squat Snail, other than that the collections have come from under moist rocks within a gorge.

Threatening processes

There is no direct evidence that any factors have caused a decline in the numbers or distribution of the Huckitta Ruins 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 Huckitta Ruins Squat Snail in the NT (nrmmaps.nt.gov.au)

Conservation objectives and management

There is currently no management program for the Huckitta Ruins 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 location.

A monitoring program should be established. The management priority is to better safeguard the known location 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.