



Peck's Cave Amphipod Species Information

Scientific Name: Stygobromus pecki

Family: Crangonyctidae

Description: The Peck's cave amphipod is large when compared to Comal Springs riffle and dryopid beetles, growing to more than 1 cm (about half an inch). The young are carried by the adult females in special protected areas called brood chambers where they grow to look much like very small adults. While it is not known what these little shrimp-like crustaceans eat, it is presumed that they eat almost any food they can find, including organic materials growing on rocks, decaying leaves, and even each other. Little is known about the reproduction of the Peck's Cave amphipod. Young are found year-round.

Status: It was listed as endangered in 1997.

Native Area: They are blind and live in the aquifer and at the stream bottom, hidden between rocks and in decaying leaves. They occur in and around Comal and Hueco springs.

Additional Comments: Some amphipods have survived in captivity for more than 2 years.



Information and photo provided by San Marcos National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center

http://fws.gov/southwest/fisheries/san_marcos/index.html