

**United States Fish and Wildlife Service
South Florida Ecological Services Field Office
Recommendations for a Stock Island Tree Snail Survey**

Please provide the information listed below. Reports not signed and dated by the observer will not be accepted. **Surveys must be conducted in August and September or December and January during a rain event.** The survey conditions, including the **rain event**, must be documented. A Fish and Wildlife Service biologist must be notified no later than one day after conducting a survey. The survey will not be accepted if these conditions are not met, or if the minimum recommended information listed below is not included in the report. Contact Winston Hobgood at 772-562-3909, extension 306 for additional information. Color scans of Stock Island tree snails are available on request.

How to Survey

All individual hardwoods 3 or more inches at breast height (4.5 feet from grade) and several smaller hardwoods should be examined from top to bottom for snails. The trunk and branches of individual trees should be examined from all sides and from underneath with binoculars and the naked eye. Some trees may be climbed to gain a better view. All tree "crotches" and forks are examined to the greatest extent possible. Feeding trails, aestivation marks, waste excretions and shells should be noted in addition to live snails. If no snails are seen, the ground, soil humus, and leaf litter around the tree base should be carefully examined for shells by removing the leaf litter and humus layer with a heavy stick ("routing") around trunks and along and between all roots.

Information to Record

- Observer name, address, and phone number.
- GPS location and property Real Estate number.
- Survey conditions (weather, precipitation, cloud cover, etc.).
- Amount of precipitation.
- Date and Time survey begins and ends.
- Number, height, diameter (dbh), and species of trees surveyed (*i.e.* wild tamarind (*Lysiloma latisiliquum*), Jamaican dogwood (*Piscidia piscipula*, etc).
- Number and species of tree snails observed, GPS location, number of aggregations, activity (feeding, aestivating, etc), tree species, tree diameter (dbh), height in tree, location in tree (crevice, trunk, fork, etc).
- GPS location of Stock Island tree snails found.
- Digital photographs
- Other observations.

Survey Schedule

- Minimum of 2 x ½ hour walk-thru surveys conducted in 2 of 4 recommended months are suggested for a standard 50 x 100 lot. For example, one survey in August plus one survey in January or one survey in August plus one survey in September are both acceptable. Survey effort will vary according to survey area size.

Date	Duration/Time of day	Surveys
August (or December)	½ hour between 9 am and 12 noon	1
September (or January)	½ hour between 9 am and 12 noon	1

Report

- Write-up of recorded information.
- Include property location (decimal degrees latitude and longitude), legal and physical description, Real Estate number, project name (if any), and owner.
- Signed and dated.
- Complete and verified data, report, and photographs will be delivered via digital and/or electronic file.
- Include original, recorded data, not a photocopy.

The FWS will work with the landowner to develop a relocation plan if Stock Island tree snails are documented on a property. If applicable, the FWS will transmit details regarding the translocation of the snails, including a translocation site.