



## Fauna Technical Note No. 13: Method for surveying for the keeled snail



*The Fauna Technical Note Series provides information for Forest Practices Officers on fauna management in production forests. These technical notes are advisory guidelines and should be read in conjunction with the requirements of the Forest Practices Code.*

*The technical notes can be accessed on the Forest Practices Authority's website: [www.fpa.tas.gov.au](http://www.fpa.tas.gov.au).*

### 1. Background

The keeled snail (*Tasmaphena lamproides*) is listed as rare on the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*.

Surveys may be required for this species in areas proposed for forestry operations. This technical note outlines the recommended survey methods. For further information on the keeled snail, see the reading list at the end of this technical note.

### 2. Who should do surveys?

Surveys should be conducted by trained Fauna Officers and/or specialists from DPIPWE/FPA. Collection of this species requires a permit from the Threatened Species Unit, DPIPWE.

### 3. Survey method

This species can be found in almost any well-developed forest type, especially wet, mixed and old-growth forest habitats of 30–60 years or older. It is found under logs, under rocks, and in leaf litter. The litter it most prefers is often in deep piles around the base of trees, or in ditches or dense piles of twigs. In general, a log that is too large to move easily is unlikely to have any specimens.

It is worthwhile to aim to survey sites across a range of different forest and soil types within any harvest area. *Tasmaphena lamproides* does not appear to occur in sandy soils and other types of soils should be checked as a higher priority. Areas that are often completely flooded are also not likely to support the snail, but unflooded rises within swamps can often contain the species and are worth searching.

Search in an area of radius about 15 metres for one person-hour searching at each site (i.e. if there is one person search for one hour, if there are two people search for half an hour). If *T. lamproides* is found, record whether each specimen is alive or dead, and adult or sub-adult, and keep searching until the time expires to get a total. Specimens above about 14mm wide should be considered adult, and the rest sub-adult.

Record the following for each site where the species is found: the grid reference; number of specimens; division into live/dead and adult/juvenile. Also record the names of searchers and the amount of time spent searching, the vegetation type and main tree species if possible, and what the soil was like (e.g. basaltic, mudstone, sandy etc). For sites where the species is not found, the same basic data is useful and should be recorded.

Completed data sheets should be sent to the FPA Biodiversity Program with a map showing the location of the sampling sites.

Contact staff of the FPA Biodiversity Program if assistance or further clarification is required



Photo: Fred Koolhof

## Further Reading

Bonham, KJ 1999, *Range boundary survey for the keeled snail Tasmaphena lamproides*, Report to Forestry Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania.

Bonham, K & Taylor, RJ 1997, 'Distribution and habitat of the land snail *Tasmaphena lamproides* (Pulmonata: Rhytididae) in Tasmania', *Molluscan Research* 18:1-10.

Regan, T, Bonham, K, Regan, H, Taylor, R, Tuson, D & Burgman, M 1999, *Forest management and conservation of Tasmaphena lamproides in north west Tasmania: use of population viability analysis to evaluate management options*, Report to Forestry Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania.

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This technical note has been prepared by Kevin Bonham for the FPA. It should be cited as:

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