

INVASIVE SPECIES FACT SHEET



ODFW photo

Common Name: Ringed crayfish, Northern ringed crayfish

Species: *Orconectes neglectus*

Subspecies: *O. n. neglectus*

Family: *Cambaridae*

Order: *Decapoda*

Class: *Malacostraca*

Origin: Portions of Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

Size: Adults 1.5 to 3.5 inches in length

Description: Small crayfish olive-green to reddish-tan with prominent black or brown rings around the "fingers" of its pincers near their tips. It has a dark band across the carapace near its junction with the abdomen. In the subspecies *O. n. neglectus*, claw tips are orange with black rings and a black stripe along the edge of the abdomen is present.

Ecology: Found in lakes, ponds, streams and rivers. Prefers clean, rocky streams and rivers with swift current and coarse sediment, but can utilize most aquatic environments. During daylight, ringed crayfish often burrow under large rocks, exiting their burrows at night to feed on algae and organic matter.

Status: Prohibited in Oregon

Interesting facts: In Kansas, where it is native, the ringed crayfish is considered an imperiled species. Since their introduction to Oregon, ringed crayfish populations have expanded to the Umpqua River and waterbodies in the eastern part of the state.

Impact: Competes with Oregon's native signal crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*) for food and resources.

the OREGON
CONSERVATION
STRATEGY

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Introduction: First discovered in Oregon during the 1960s in the Rogue River. Possible introduction paths include anglers using crayfish as live bait, classroom experiments and releases by pet owners.

Lifespan: On average two and half years, some individuals may live up to five years

Reproduction: Breeding begins in late fall to spring; eggs are laid in late spring to early summer.

Action: Report sightings of ringed crayfish to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program. Do not return any ringed crayfish alive to the water. .



ODFW photo



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

4034 Fairview Industrial Dr Se

Salem, Or 97302

Phone (503) 947-6000

www.odfw.com

www.odfw.com/conservationstrategy

the OREGON
CONSERVATION
STRATEGY