



Marbled Crayfish (*Marmokrebs*) Control in Ohio

Injurious Aquatic Invasive Species (IAIS) are animals that cause or are likely to cause damage or harm to native ecosystems or to commercial, agricultural, or recreational activities that are dependent on these ecosystems. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife has the authority to establish an active list of Ohio IAIS high-risk species through a risk-analysis process to evaluate non-native candidate species via Ohio Administrative Code 1501:31-19-01. Listed species are unlawful to possess, import, or sell unless dead and/or preserved.

Prevention: Risk Reduction

State and federal partners are working to eliminate the risk of invasive Marbled Crayfish (also known as *Marmokrebs*) by preventing this Ohio-listed IAIS from public possession and sales in Ohio and to prevent their introduction and spread in Ohio waters and fish culture facilities.



Marbled Crayfish (Marmokrebs)
Procambarus fallax f. virginalis

Background

- Adult size – 10 to 13 cm (4 to 6 inches).
- Grow and mature rapidly in captivity.
- Not native to Ohio, Great Lakes or Ohio River watersheds.
- Not known to occur in the wild, except through accidental or purposeful release.
- Mostly a cultured species in the North American and European pet trade. “Marmokrebs” is its European common name. An all-female species, it reproduces asexually through parthenogenesis.
- Closely related to the slough crayfish, *Procambarus fallax*, native to Florida and southern Georgia.

Current Status, Management, Control and Exclusion in Ohio

- Marbled crayfish have been defined as a high-risk IAIS in Ohio as they are non-native, adult females have a high reproductive capacity, and they can displace native crayfish.
- The federal Lacey Act prevents movement and distribution of live IAIS into and out of Ohio.
- For more information on Marbled Crayfish and other AIS, visit our website and the Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information System at: (<https://www.glerl.noaa.gov/glansis/index.html>) .

Injurious AIS negatively impact aquatic wildlife, are costly to manage or eradicate once established, and cost all of us financially - so prevention is key.

