

A first report of the New Zealand mudsnail in British Columbia by George P. Holm

The New Zealand mudsnail *Potamopyrgus antipodarum* (J. E. Gray, 1853) has been found for the first time in British Columbia and the discovery is also a first for the species in Canada.



D. L. Gustafson photos with permission



The find was reported at Home Page-News, New Zealand Mudsnails in the Western USA, a web-site maintained by the Montana State University for the assimilation of information about the snails. On the site there are links to Identification, Status & Maps, Biology, Bibliography, Research, Management and Photos.

“Tim Davidson [currently at Portland State University], found a small population of the snails, in Port Alberni, British Columbia. [The snails were found] under woody debris in the mid-low intertidal, [where the Somass River empties into Alberni Inlet], lat/long = 49.247918, -124.8395221. The ID was confirmed by Robert Hershler. This is the northernmost report for Western North America.”

The species attains a maximum size of 5 mm.

Reference: <http://www.esg.montana.edu/aim/mollusca/nzms/>