

# Am I your BUSH Bud?

## Murray River Crayfish

### About me:

Also known as the Murray Crayfish, Murray Lobster and Mungola, the Murray River Crayfish is the second largest freshwater crayfish in the world. This iconic freshwater crayfish is a true spiny crayfish with numerous large, sharp spines along its body. They are renowned for their bright white chelae (claws), which, similar to human hair, lighten in colour with age. Amazingly, this crayfish can live up to 30 years old!

The Murray River Crayfish is endemic to the southern Murray–Darling Basin. In our region it lives in the Murrumbidgee River, lower Cotter River below the Cotter Dam, Tumut River, Goobragandra River and lower Goodradigbee River. Murray River Crayfish like to live in permanent rivers and large streams where the water flows moderately fast. They burrow in amongst boulders and cobble and use tree 'snags' for cover.



### Threats:

Freshwater crayfish and their habitats are imperilled globally, and the Murray River Crayfish is no exception. The major threats are habitat destruction or modification, river regulation, overfishing, alien species, disease, barriers to passage and climate change. Crayfish are sensitive to water quality and sediment addition, thermal pollution, pollutant discharges and bushfire impacts.

## Become my Bush Bud!

Take a stand for Canberra's Nature and sign up to get the chance to walk with an expert in the habitat of the Murray River Crayfish!

