

Land Snailing in Kitsap County

by Drew V. Skinner Jr.

On November 13, Brian Gregory and I revisited a collecting locality near Long Lake in Kitsap County. The area is a portion of old growth forest of maple, alder, and salmonberry. Salmonberry Creek was close by and we could hear salmon splashing as they journeyed up the creek to spawn.

Brian was in search of specimens to photograph and was particularly interested in locating species of *Carychium occidentale* Pilsbry, 1891. We did not locate any *Carychium* even though they are known to be present in the area. Our search did turn up two *Hemphillia glandulosa* Bland & Binney, 1873 which were found under some decaying maple leaves.

On December 5th we also revisited a locality along Curley Creek. That area as with the previous, is also mostly alder and maple trees and with salmonberry bushes growing along the dirt road which leads there.

The land snails we located that day were again found on damp decaying maple leaves. The species were *Carychium occidentale* Pilsbry, 1891 *Euconulus (E.) fulvus* (Müller, 1774), *Columella edentula* (Draparnaud, 1805) and one *Vertigo* sp. The *Vertigo* was estivating and it had an almost clear diaphanous membrane covering the aperture thus making the teeth within too obscured to make a positive identification at the time. In speaking with Terry Frest at a later date, I was informed that the membrane can be dissolved in warm water.



Area near Long Lake, Kitsap Co., Washington and one of the *Hemphillia glandulosa* Bland & Binney, 1873 (inset) which was collected there under a maple leaf on the ground. Brian Gregory photos.