

**SCIENTIFIC NAME:** *Caecidotea sequoiae*  
**COMMON NAME:** None; an isopod  
**CLASS, FAMILY:** Isopoda, Asellidae

**ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION:** Bowman, T.E. 1975. Three new troglobitic asellids from western North America (Crustacea: Isopoda: Asellidae). *International Journal of Speleology* 7:345, figs. 40-59 (dorsal view of male; male left and right antennae; incisor of male right mandible; palp of same; maxilla 1 - outer and inner lobes; lateral view of male pereopod 1; lateral view of pereopod 3; lateral view of dactyl of pereopods 6; lateral view of pereopod 7; dorsal view of male right and left uropods; anterior view of male pleopods 1 and 2; lateral view of male right pleopod 2; posterior and anterior views of endopod tip of male pleopod 2).

**TYPE MATERIAL:** *Holotype:* Male – CALIFORNIA: Tulare County; Lilburn Cave, 13 Oct 1974, S.J. Shimek and P. Hara, collectors; deposited in the United States National Museum of Natural History (Smithsonian Institution), catalog #152769. *Paratype:* Female – same data as holotype, catalog #152770.

**RANKING/STATUS:** G1G2S1S2 (NatureServe – CNDDDB).

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** Freshwater aquatic asellids; species in this family have the uropods attached posterolaterally or caudally, not anterolaterally. Length up to 5.3 mm; eyeless, unpigmented, with a slender, elongated body about 5.3 times as long as wide.

**DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS:** This species resembles some other troglobitic *Caecidotea* in having a slender body, elongate telson, and long antennae 2 and uropods, but can be distinguished by the accessory claws on the dactyls of pereopods 5-7, and the unique structure of the endopod of male pleopod 2 (fig. 56 in Bowman 1975).

**OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS:** Several drawings illustrating the morphology of species in the genus *Caecidotea* are available on the web at <http://www.lander.edu/rsfox/310CaecidoteaLab.html> (accessed 2/27/2006).

A color photograph of an undetermined *Caecidotea* species is pictured at <http://gallery.cs.umb.edu/gallery/FWInverts?page=5> (accessed 2/27/2006).

**DISTRIBUTION:** Known from Sequoia – Kings Canyon National Parks. The species occurs in Lilburn, Crystal, and Hurricane Crawl Caves; also taken from under rocks near the outlet of Big Spring, and from a spring below Hurricane Crawl Cave.

**HABITAT:** This species is aquatic and troglobitic. According to Krejca (2006, pers. comm.), aquatic troglobitic species are sometimes found under rocks at the mouths of springs, particularly when no fish are present.

**LIFE HISTORY/BEHAVIOR:** Nothing is known about the life history or behavior of this species.

**SELECTED REFERENCES:**

Krejca, Jean. 2004. Inventory of Karst Fauna in Sequoia, Kings Canyon and Yosemite National Parks, Third Progress Report. On the web at:  
[http://www.zaraenvironmental.com/Third\\_progress\\_report\\_Ca\\_Fauna.pdf](http://www.zaraenvironmental.com/Third_progress_report_Ca_Fauna.pdf)

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