

**SCIENTIFIC NAME:** *Parapsyche extensa*  
**COMMON NAME:** King's Creek parapsyche caddisfly  
**CLASS, FAMILY:** Insecta, Hydropsychidae

**ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION:** Denning, D.G. 1949. New species of Nearctic caddis flies. Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society 44(2):40, figs. 4, 4A (lateral views of male genitalia and apex of aedeagus).

**TYPE MATERIAL:** *Holotype:* Adult male - California: Lassen Co.; Lassen Volcanic National Park, King's Creek, 6 Jul 1957; deposited in California Academy of Sciences, type #16279.

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

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** *Parapsyche extensa* is known only from the male holotype and may be extirpated from the type locality or extinct. Larvae of this genus usually have the ventral apotome of the head parallel-sided, and also have a tuft of several long setae or scale-hairs in the *sa1* and *sa2* areas of most abdominal segments.

**DIAGNOSIS:** Givens and Smith (1980) give the following diagnosis: "*P. extensa* is very closely related to *P. turbinata*. The claspers of *P. extensa* are single-segmented while the claspers of *P. turbinata* are two-segmented. The dorsoapical angle of the claspers of *P. extensa* are truncate, whereas in *P. turbinata* they are rounded. *P. extensa* may be distinguished from the other species in the genus by the shape of the clasper and ninth tergite. The claspers of *P. extensa* have a truncate dorsal surface with a caudoventral digitate process which is one-half the length of the clasper, while *P. almota* has a very broad and dorsal curvature to the claspers with a short caudoventral digitate process."

**OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS:**

Wiggins 1996, Fig. 7.8A-D (lateral view of larva, lateral view of abdominal segment, dorsal and ventral views of head).

Merritt and Cummins (1996) illustrate the ventral apotome of the larval head (Fig. 18.42) and the lateral view of a larval abdominal segment (Fig. 18.53) of *P. cardis*.

Givens and Smith (1980) redrew the male genitalia (Fig. 10A-C; lateral view of genitalia, ventral view of ninth segment and claspers, and dorsal view of ninth and tenth segment).

**DISTRIBUTION:** Known only from King's Creek in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Givens and Smith (1980) reported that some specimens previously identified as this species were found, upon further examination, to be *P. turbinata*.

**HABITAT:** Larvae in this genus usually live in small, cold, fast-flowing streams. The habitat in King's Creek is cobble, sand, and gravel, with a grassy shoreline.

**LIFE HISTORY/BEHAVIOR:** There is no life history or behavioral information available for this species, but larvae of other *Paraspyche* construct a retreat of small stones and detritus, with a silken mesh net for capturing food particles.

**SELECTED REFERENCES:**

- Givens, D.R. and S.D. Smith. 1980. A synopsis of the western Arctopsychinae (Trichoptera: Hydropsychidae). *Melanderia* 35:1-25.
- Merritt, R.W. and K.W. Cummins. 1996. An Introduction to the Aquatic Insects of North America. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., Dubuque. 862 pp.
- Wiggins, G.B. 1996. Larvae of the North American caddisfly genera. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. University of Toronto Press, Toronto. 457 pp.

Written by Sandra Shanks, California Department of Fish and Game, Natural Diversity Database