

ENDANGERED CRAYFISH SURVEY

Tug Fork River, Naugatuck, Mingo County, WV

Client

E.L. Robinson

Key Services Provided

- Survey Plan
- Crayfish Survey
- Report
- Agency Coordination

Project Duration

July 2016

ES Key Staff

Nicole Jordan



Typical stream habitat for the Big Sandy and Guyandotte River crayfish

The Mingo County Public Service District has plans for a project that requires a pile wall to be installed along the bank of the Tug Fork River in Mingo County, West Virginia. EnviroScience, Inc. completed surveys for the federally threatened Big Sandy River crayfish (*Cambarus callainus*) in the Tug Fork River in July 2016. The newly listed species is found only in a few watersheds in West Virginia, Kentucky, and Virginia. EnviroScience conducted the survey using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Big Sandy and Guyandotte River Crayfish Survey Protocol, with slight modifications under an approved survey plan.

Due to the extreme depth and high flows in the stream, seining was completed by divers. In addition to searching for crayfish, we recorded water quality parameters and completed a Qualitative Habitat Evaluation. Due to poor habitat, we found no crayfish despite a significant survey effort.

EnviroScience completed the survey in one day and submitted the report to the client less than a week later. Our rapid turnaround allowed the client to begin construction following expedited agency coordination.