

Wai Kō'ie'ie

Run

A run is an area of the stream that has some of the same characteristics as a pool and riffle combined. It is deep with fast-flowing water.

The *'ōpae kala'ole* is an endemic freshwater shrimp that sometimes makes its home in these waters. It is adept at climbing and lives in areas of the stream where the water is fresh and fast moving. This native shrimp has pinchers with bristle-like hairs. When the pinchers are extended, they form a catcher's mitt, snagging food particles from the currents. The *'ōpae* is an omnivore. It likes to eat plant and animal materials.

The post-larvae or shrimp fry *'ōpae kala'ole* is only 5 mm long, but extremely active. If a current is generated by forming a water stream down the side of a five-gallon bucket, the shrimp fry will attempt to climb the stream of water.

The *'ōpae kala'ole* were a favorite food of early Hawaiians. In the 1900s, the mountain *'ōpae* would enter tunnels that carried water from one district to the next. Maintenance workers described the tunnels as being "black" with *'ōpae*. Today, the *'ōpae* are not nearly as common in Hawaiian streams.

These shrimp are such excellent climbers that some were found in the drip pan of an air conditioner on the roof top of a five-story building!

