

Drill-holes found in the fossil record are an important tool to study ecological patterns of the past. It is therefore important to gain a better understanding of the role of extant drilling snails in modern ecosystems. Although traditionally considered a predator, trophic position of 3.0, specimens of the muricid *Urosalpinx cinerea* from Long Island Sound revealed trophic positions between 2.3 and 2.5, suggestive of an omnivorous diet. This study addresses the generality of this result by examining a *U. cinerea* population from Wilmington, North Carolina. Preliminary whole body, soft tissue stable isotope analysis of nitrogen and carbon was conducted on five *U. cinerea* specimens. Isotopic baseline for the study area was calculated using proxy taxa, including *Geukensia demissa* for the pelagic baseline and *Littoraria irrorata* for the littoral baseline. Trophic position for these *U. cinerea* specimens ranged from 2.4 to 2.9. Working hypotheses to explain a trophic position lower than 3.0 in *U. cinerea* include: trophic omnivory driven by plant consumption, or a lower-than-average nitrogen discrimination factor. Although no studies on the nitrogen fractionation factors of muricids currently exist, the naticid *Neverita duplicata* from Long Island Sound has recently been demonstrated to have a normal nitrogen fractionation factor and omnivorous isotopic signatures. The difference between the trophic ranges of the two locations may indicate that *U. cinerea* have a more predatory diet in North Carolina than in Long Island Sound. However, further work is needed to confirm that these values reflect dietary differences, not a below average nitrogen fractionation factor.