# Freshwater Mollusks Conservation Society Names of Freshwater Mollusks Subcommittee

The initial meeting of the FMCS Names of Freshwater Mollusks Subcommittee was convened on March 22, 2015. The goal was to develop an accepted list of scientific and common names of North American freshwater mollusks (gastropods and bivalves) which would be updated every two years on the FMCS website. Members in attendance included Art Bogan, Kevin Cummings, Jeff Garner, John Harris, David Hayes, Nate Johnson, Paul Johnson, Kevin Roe, Jeremy Tiemann, Tom Watters, Nathan Whelan and Jim Williams.

The FMCS needs to support stability of scientific and common names to promote communication and mollusk conservation to the general FMCS membership, state and federal resource managers, non-governmental organizations, and academics. Taxonomic changes are often difficult to understand and tracking the history of various synonymies or continuing systematics / taxonomic research efforts can be challenging. Ongoing systematics research suggests in the next decade there will be revisions leading to substantial changes in the current taxonomy of both bivalves and gastropods. An organized effort to review and evaluate these changes will facilitate the assimilation of new names and stabilize taxonomic changes more rapidly. Additionally, the committee will assist ongoing research and publication efforts by better defining problems and highlighting deficiencies. By providing consensus checklists, the FMCS Names of Freshwater Mollusks Committee would promote ongoing conservation and recovery activities.

Discussions during and following the initial meeting focused on the structure and procedural guidelines of the Committee. It was generally agreed the formal Committee would follow the protocol of the American Fisheries Society, Names of Fishes Committee (Page et al. 2013). Tasks 1 through 4 presented below were evaluated individually and after discussion and modification were approved unanimously. Paul Johnson and John Harris were appointed Names Subcommittee chairs until the next FMCS biennial meeting

On April 14, 2019 the FMCS Executive Committee formally approved the creation of the Scientific and Common Names Committee. However, the motion will require a vote of the FMCS membership before it's official. The eventual Committee will be organized into two subcommittees, one for Gastropods and another for Bivalves. Initial consensus lists would be confined to the families, genera, species native to the United States and Canada. However, the geographic scope of the checklists may be expanded to include Mexico and the remaining North American continent. Additionally, the Gastropod Subcommittee would continue to maintain a checklist of native Hawaii freshwater snails. Individual subcommittees are charged with reviewing potential changes and maintaining consensus lists on the FMCS website. The Committee will publish consensus checklists and summary appendices of petitions considered by

the committee in Freshwater Mollusk Biology and Conservation every 6 years. The printed checklist would include all modifications since previous checklists and provide summary appendices of all Committee decisions.

### **Guidelines of the FMCS Scientific and Common Names Committee**

The scientific and common names committee initially agreed the structure and duties would include:

- 1. Establish criteria for committee organizational structure (number of subcommittee members, length of term, and frequency of meetings).
  - a. Each subcommittee shall be composed of 7 appointed FMCS members with taxonomic expertise (bivalves and gastropods). Individuals may have simultaneous appointments on both subcommittees.
  - b. Committee meetings shall be held at 2-year intervals in conjunction with the FMCS biennial symposium. Committee meetings will be open to any FMCS member interested in observing and/or participating in the proceedings.
  - c. Chairperson for each subcommittee (gastropod and bivalve) will serve one 6-year term and may not be reelected to 2 consecutive terms. Chairpersons shall be nominated and elected at biennial meetings by subcommittee members.
  - d. Initial subcommittee members shall be appointed by subcommittee Chairs. Continuing with 2015 subcommittee members, Chairs shall appoint volunteers to fill any remaining slots for initial subcommittees. Future subcommittee member changes will require approval from the FMCS Board of Directors. Chairs shall present to the FMCS Board a list of members that have expressed interest in serving, along with their recommendations.
  - e. To ensure continuity of subcommittee composition, three members will be appointed to four-year terms and the remaining three for two-year terms. Once the initial terms have concluded, all members could volunteer to serve another 4-year term. Individual subcommittee members may be reappointed to consecutive terms. After initial terms are completed, subcommittee appointments will require the approval of FMCS Board of Directors. The subcommittee chairs (member 7) has a six-year appointment.
  - f. If at any point during their 4-year term, a subcommittee member decides they can no longer serve, the Chair shall recommend a replacement to serve the remainder of the open term. New appointments will require approval of FMCS Board of Directors.
  - g. If a subcommittee member is unresponsive to repeated requests, ignores deadlines, or fails to register votes with the appropriate subcommittee Chair, a quorum may vote by majority to remove the member. Removal cannot be initiated by the Chair, but by fellow subcommittee participants. The Chair will recommend a replacement member to complete the term of the removed member. Final approval of a replacement member would be subject to approval by the FMCS Board of Directors.

- h. Both subcommittees meet simultaneously in a single room, so all members can participate in discussions. FMCS members in good standing are welcome to attend the Scientific and Common Names meetings. However only respective subcommittee members (bivalve or gastropod) can vote on proposed petitions.
- 2. Maintain a consensus checklist of names on the FMCS website.
  - a. Consensus checklists of freshwater bivalve and gastropod scientific and common names as determined by the respective subcommittees shall be open access on the FMCS website. Links to the list of names shall appear on the FMCS main webpage.
  - b. The Johnson *et al.* (2013) and Williams *et al.* (2017) publications shall constitute starting points for respective checklists and modifications would be formally initiated at the 2019 biennial symposium. Additional changes are anticipated at the 2021, 2023, and 2025 Symposia, with publication of the first subcommittee lists in Freshwater Mollusk Biology and Conservation (FMBC) coming later that year.
  - c. Subcommittees decisions will be cited in individual petitions (form attached) to guide future decisions.
  - d. Subcommittee Chairs will make an announcement of pending taxonomic changes to the FMCS general membership 30 days prior to the Names Committee meeting.
  - e. Subcommittees will maintain a record of decisions from each meeting. Subcommittee Chairs are responsible for maintaining records in the format of Appendix 1 of Turgeon et al., 1998 (Common and Scientific Names of Mollusks, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition).
  - f. Subcommittee Chairs will be responsible for providing proposed changes to subcommittee members 60-90 days prior to the biennial meeting for comment. Any proposed changes would be accompanied by a formal petition detailing the anticipated change(s). A formal petition should provide justification and cite appropriate references in support of a specific taxonomic change or newly included taxon.
- 3. Periodically print checklists as an FMCS special publication, or in FMBC.
  - a. Update both lists (gastropod and bivalve) every 2 years on the FMCS website.
  - b. Updated checklists would be published in FMBC or as a special FMCS publication every six years. Since the committees were formally initiated in 2019, the first published lists would appear in 2025.
- 4. Establish a process for reviewing proposed name changes (scientific and common)
  - a. For a scientific or common name to be taken into consideration by the committee it must fulfill all requirements of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature with respect to availability and validity of nomenclatural acts.
  - b. The source of a published report should be carefully considered by a petitioner. For example, efforts to utilize citations from predatory journals or individual websites should generally be discouraged.

- c. Proposed changes shall be submitted for subcommittee review on the attached form 60-90 days prior to the next biennial symposium. Submissions for consideration may be submitted by any FMCS member.
- d. Proposed changes can be considered by the entire subcommittee, but only gastropod or bivalve subcommittee members may vote on changes to their respective checklists. In the case of a tie vote, the Chair will be asked to cast the tie breaking vote.
- e. If a subcommittee member cannot attend the meeting, they may vote in absentia. Members voting in absentia should register their votes with the respective subcommittee Chair, at least 5-days prior to the meeting.
- f. Votes on individual petitions will occur by paper ballot. Final petitions will include an appropriate space (support or do not support) to register member votes. Tally of the ballots and maintaining voting records will be the duty of each respective Chair.
- g. A summary of meeting proceedings and any resulting changes to the list shall be drafted by the subcommittee chairs for approval by subcommittee members and published online as an appendix to the list. A standard format will be developed to resemble Appendix 1 in Turgeon et al. AFS Common and Scientific Names of Mollusks publication (1998).

# Finalization of Subcommittees and Results of Initial Meeting

The Scientific and Common Names Subcommittee held its first meeting following the conclusion of the Executive Committee meeting on April 14, 2019. The formal guidelines were reviewed, edited and approved Subcommittee members. The following individuals were nominated and approved to serve for each Subcommittee.

# **Bivalve Subcommittee**

Chair: John Harris

Members: Art Bogan, Kevin Cummings, Andrew Henderson, Nathan Johnson, John Pfeiffer and Kevin Roe. Andrew Henderson, Nathan Johnson and Kevin Roe agreed to initial 2-year terms while Art Bogan, Kevin Cummings and John Pfeiffer have 4-year terms. FMCS Names Subcommittee members may serve multiple terms.

The Bivalve Subcommittee reviewed and approved 7 of the 8 petitions received on 14 April 2019. A summary of petition details are as follows.

- The bivalve subcommittee recognized three new species descriptions: *Cyclonaias necki*, *Strophitus pascagoulaensis*, and *Strophitus williamsi*.
- The reassignment of Anodontoides radiatus to Strophitus was recognized.
- The reassignment of *Strophitus connasaugensis* and *S. subvexus* to *Pseudodontoideus* was recognized.
- The synonymy of *Cyclonaias aurea*, *C. houstonensis*, *C. mortoni* and *C. refulgens* into *Cyclonaias pustulosa* was also recognized.

- A gender-based spelling change was made to *Anodontoides denigratus* and the spelling correction of *Popenaias* were approved.
- The subcommittee approved the affiliation of *Popenaias* and *Disconaias* to the tribe Popenaiadini and *Plectomerus* and *Reginaia* were reassigned to the Amblemini.
- The subcommittee also resurrected *Cumberlandia monodonta* as the scientific name of the Spectaclecase.
- The subcommittee did not approve the recognition of Fusconaia askewi.

### **Gastropod Subcommittee**

Chair: Paul Johnson

Members: Jeff Garner, David Hayes, Ken Hayes, Katheryn Perez, Ellen Strong, Nathan Whelan. Jeff Garner, David Hayes and Ellen Strong agreed to initial 2-year terms, while Ken Hayes, Katherine Perez and Nathan Whelan have 4-year terms. FMCS Names Committee members may serve multiple terms.

The Gastropod Subcommittee reviewed and approved 19 of 23 petitions received on 14 April 2019. A summary of the petition details are as follows.

- The recommendations to reassign *Archiphysa ashmuni* and *Archiphysa sonomae* to *Physella* and *Laurentiphysa chippauvarum* to *Physa* were tabled until 2021 when an appropriate review can be made.
- The recommendation to reassign *Micromenetus* to *Menetus* was tabled until 2021 when an appropriate review can be made.
- The inclusion of *Phreatodrobia conica* and *Physella acuta* were made to the existing checklist.
- The gastropod subcommittee recognized 16 new species descriptions: Fluminicola fresti, F. klamathensis, F. umpquaensis, Idaholanx fresti, Lithasia bubala, Pyrgulopsis hualapaiensis, P. lindae, P. lindahlae, P. marilynae, P. nuwuvi, P. ojaiensis, P. pinetorum, P. santaclarensis, P. similis, P. torrida, and Tryonia infernalis.
- The subcommittee recognized the validity of *Leptoxis coosaensis* as the priority name for the Painted Rocksnail.
- The Gastropod Subcommittee agreed to initiate a process for common name revisions. Currently, some gastropod common names, across multiple families, utilize a genus as part of the formal common name (e.g., *Elimia carinifera* (Lamarck, 1822), Sharp-crest Elimia). Since generic assignment is often transitory, this effort would target those taxa in an effort to develop more consistent and descriptive common names.

### **Literature Cited**

Johnson, P.D., A.E. Bogan, K.M. Brown, N.M. Burkhead, J.R. Cordeiro, J.T. Garner, P.D. Hartfield, D.A.W. Lepitzki, G.R. Mackie, E. Pip, T.A. Tarpley, J.S. Tiemann, N.V.

- Whelan, and E.E. Strong. 2013. Conservation Status of Freshwater Gastropods of Canada and the United States. Fisheries: 38(6):247-282.
- Page, L. M., H. Espinosa-Pérez, L. T. Findley, C. R. Gilbert, R. N. Lea, N. E. Mandrak, R. L. Mayden, and J. S. Nelson. 2013. Common and scientific names of fishes from the United States, Canada, and Mexico, 7th edition. American Fisheries Society, Special Publication 34, Bethesda, Maryland. 243 pages.
- Turgeon, D.D., A.E. Bogan, E.V. Coan, F.G. Hochberg, W.G. Lyons, P.M. Mikkelsen, R.J.
  Neves, C.E.F. Roper, G. Rosenberg, B. Roth, A. Scheltema, F.G. Thompson, M.
  Vecchione, and J.D. Williams. 1998. Common and scientific names of aquatic invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Mollusks. Second Edition. American Fisheries Society, Special Publication 26, Bethesda, Maryland. 526 pages.
- Williams, J.D., A.E. Bogan, R.S. Butler, K.S. Cummings, J.T. Garner, J.L. Harris, N.A. Johnson, and G.T. Watters. 2017. Revised list of the freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. Freshwater Mollusk Biology and Conservation 20:33–58.

# Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society Names of Freshwater Mollusk Subcommittee Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

### Title:

Provide a brief statement of the proposed change along with a full literature citation for the paper on which the proposal is based.

### **Background:**

This section shall summarize the specific proposal including a detailed justification, along with required references. Information shall be a succinct history and summary of the proposed changes.

# **Supplemental Information:**

This section shall reference any data (e.g., proposed phylogeny, character analyses) to be considered in support of the case for reassignment. Generally, formal petition changes reference peer reviewed literature, but that is not a necessary requirement. This section must also include a justification statement summarizing the rationale for the petition.

### **Specific Recommendation:**

Using the evidence provided, the presenter should provide the clear description of the action or question(s) the committee is being asked to review.

Literature Cited: Include all supporting references used in the summary. Submitted By: Proposal Date:			
		Petition Number:	
		Subcommittee Member Voting	<b>;</b>
		I support the petition	I do not support the petition

In the event of rejection, subcommittee members should provide a detailed summary of their consensus opinion.