Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: *Ortmanniana* Frierson, 1927 replaces *Actinonaias* Crosse and Fischer in Fischer and Crosse, 1894 for United States species.

Background: Frierson (1927) described *Ortmanniana* as a subgenus of *Lampsilis* Rafinesque, 1820 with *Unio carinatus* Barnes, 1823 as the type species and included *Unio abruptus* Say, 1831 and *Unio higginsii* Lea 1857. MolluscaBase (2024) lists *Ortmanniana* Frierson, 1927 as a valid genus in Unionidae Rafinesque, 1820, and included two species, *Ortmanniana ligamentina* (Lamarck, 1819) (including *Unio carinatus* Barnes, 1823 as a junior synonym of *O. ligamentina*) and *Ortmanniana higginsii* (Lea, 1857). The first modern use of *Ortmanniana* was by Pfeiffer et al. (2019). MolluscaBase (2024) listed *Unio abruptus* in the genus *Lampsilis*. MUSSELp (2024), GBIF (2024), and ITIS (2024) recognized *Ortmanniana* as a valid genus that included *O. ligamentina* and *O. pectorosa* (Conrad, 1834), and placed *U. higginsii*, and *U. abruptus* in the genus *Lampsilis*. Also, recent phylogenetic analysis does not place *ligamentina* in the same clade with *pectorosa*.

Supplemental Information: Campbell et al. (2005) noted *Actinonaias pectorosa* did not cluster with *A. ligamentina* but appeared closely related to the *Lampsilis ovata* (Say, 1817) group, while *A. ligamentina*, *Lampsilis teres* (Rafinesque, 1820), and L. *siliquoidea* (Barnes, 1823) formed a group with low boot strap values. Williams et al. (2017) noted *Actinonaias* is not a monophyletic lineage, and the two North American *Actinonaias* species do not form a monophyletic grouping. The *Actinonaias* type species is from Central America, and the 10 species recognized in the genus are restricted to that region, but no species attributable to *Actinonaias* occurs in the region between central Mexico and the ranges of *A. ligamentina* and *A. pectorosa*. *Actinonaias ligamentina* and *A. pectorosa* require placement in two different genera.

Porto-Hanes et al. (2019) showed two *Lampsilis* clades, and one included *Actinonaias ligamentina*. The branch containing *A. ligamentina* is sister to the clade with *Lampsilis ovata*, type species of *Lampsilis*. The type species of *Actinonaias, A. sapotalensis* Lea, 1841 from Mexico, and a large group of *Actinonaias* spp. are all restricted to central Mexico, so *A. ligamentina* does not belong to this genus.

Smith et al. (2019) included *Actinonaias ligamentina* and *A. pectorosa* in their analysis of *Potamilus* Rafinesque, 1818 and showed these two species as separate branches sister to the included *Lampsilis* taxa. Pfeiffer et al. (2019) used sequences of *Ortmanniana ligamentina* and *Lampsilis cardium* (Rafinesque, 1820) and applied the generic name *Ortmanniana* in a figure without discussion.

Inoue et al. (2020) noted the use of *Actinonaias* in the US as questionable but needs to be analyzed with specimens of the *Actinonaias* type species. Their analyses put *A. ligamentina* in a clade sister to one containing *L. bergmanni* Inoue and Randklev in Inoue et al. (2020), *L. hydiana* (Lea, 1838), *L. virescens* (Lea, 1858), and *L. straminea* (Conrad, 1834), but separate and sister to the clade composed of *L. bracteata* (Gould, 1855), *L. cariosa* (Say, 1817), *L. fasciola* Rafinesque, 1820, *L. ornata* (Conrad, 1835), and *L. ovata* [type species of *Lampsilis*].

Stodola et al. (2021) provided genetic confirmation of Louisiana Fatmucket, *Lampsilis hydiana* (Lea, 1838) in Illinois. They used *Ortmanniana* for a clade composed of *A. ligamentina*, *L. abrupta* (Say, 1831) and *L. higginsii* (Lea, 1857) that did not include *A. pectorosa*. It is interesting to note that in erecting *Lampsilis* (*Ortmanniana*) Frierson (1927) included *ligamentina* (+ *carinatus* type species), *abrupta*, and *higginsii*.

Graf and Cummings (2021), Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF 2024), Integrated Taxonomic Information System (IT IS 2024), and MUSSELp (2024) recognized *Ortmanniana* and included *A. ligamentina* and *A. pectorosa* in the genus. MolluscaBase (2024) recognized *Ortmanniana* and included *O. ligamentina* and *O higginsii*.

Recommendations:

1. Recognize *Ortmanniana* Frierson, 1927 as valid with the type species *Unio carinatus* Barnes, 1823 [= *O. ligamentina* (Lamarck, 1819)].
2. Move *Actinonaias ligamentina* to *Ortmanniana ligamentina.*
3. Move *Lampsilis abrupta* and *L. higginsii* to *Ortmanniana* as *O. abrupta* and *O. higginsii*.
4. Move *Actinonaias pectorosa* to the *Lampsilis* clade with *L. ovata* and change name to *Lampsilis pectorosa.*

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Submitted By: Arthur E. Bogan and John L. Harris

Proposal Date: 4 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-01

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support recognition of *Ortmanniana* Frierson, 1927 as valid with the type species *Unio carinatus* Barnes, 1823 [= *O. ligamentina* (Lamarck, 1819)].

☐ I do not support recognition of *Ortmanniana* Frierson, 1927 as valid with the type species *Unio carinatus* Barnes, 1823 [= *O. ligamentina* (Lamarck, 1819)].

☐ I support recognizing *Actinonaias ligamentina* as *Ortmanniana ligamentina*.

☐ I do not support recognizing *Actinonaias ligamentina* as *Ortmanniana ligamentina*.

☐ I support recognizing *Lampsilis abrupta* and *L. higginsii* as members of *Ortmanniana* [*O. abrupta* (Say 1831) and *O. higginsii* (Lea 1857)].

☐ I do not support recognizing *Lampsilis abrupta* and *L. higginsii* as members of *Ortmanniana* [*O. abrupta* (Say 1831) and *O. higginsii* (Lea 1857)].

☐ I support recognizing *Actinonaias pectorosa* as member of the *Lampsilis* clade with *L. ovata* and changing the name to *Lampsilis pectorosa* (Conrad 1834).

☐ I do not support recognizing *Actinonaias pectorosa* as member of the *Lampsilis* clade with *L. ovata* and changing the name to *Lampsilis pectorosa* (Conrad 1834).

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

B-2025-02 Quadrulini

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Supraspecific changes within Quadrulini following Neemuchwala et al. (2023).

Background: Neemuchwala et al. (2023) used a holistic approach incorporating biogeographical, ecological, molecular, and morphological datasets to reconstruct the evolution of Quadrulini. Comparative phylogenetic analyses support the following taxonomic changes:

1) Recognizing *Cyclonaias* as a monotypic genus consisting of the type species, *C. tuberculata*.
2) Designating *Cyclonaias* as monotypic leaves the clade consisting of the following species recognized by FMCS (2023) without a generic epithet: *C. archeri* (Frierson, 1905), *C. infucata* (Conrad, 1834), *C. kieneriana* (Lea, 1852), *C. kleiniana* (Lea, 1852), *C. necki* Burlakova, Karatayev, Lopes-Lima & Bogan, 2018, *C. nodulata* (Rafinesque, 1820), *C. petrina* (Gould, 1855), *C. pustulosa* (Lea, 1831), and *C. succissa* (Lea, 1852). Neemuchwala et al. (2023) elevated the oldest available generic epithet, *Pustulosa* (type species – *Obliquaria* (*Quadrula*) *bullata* Rafinesque, 1820; replacement name in errata for *Bullata* Frierson, 1927 non Jousseaume, 1875 [Gastropoda]), from synonymy to represent this clade. *Obliquaria* (*Quadrula*) *bullata* is considered a junior synonym of *P. pustulosa* (Williams et al., 2008); therefore, *P. pustulosa* (Lea, 1831) was designated as the type species of *Pustulosa*.
3) Graf and Cummings (2007) elevated *Cyclonaias archeri* (Frierson, 1905) from synonymy with *C. asperata* (Lea, 1861) (in genus *Quadrula* at that time). Williams et al. (2008) recognized *C. archeri* as distinct based on its morphology, absence of intergrades, and isolated and restricted distribution, but the taxonomic status as a unique species or a subspecies of *C. asperata* has not been satisfactorily determined due to lack of specimens for genetic analysis. Williams et al. (2017) summarily assigned *C. archeri* to specific status. Lopes-Lima et al. (2019) considered *C. asperata* a synonym of *C. kieneriana*, and by extension of its unresolved taxonomic status, *C. archeri* should also be considered a synonym of *C. kieneriana*.
4) *Tritogonia* was non-monophyletic in the phylogenomic analyses of Neemuchwala et al. (2023), with *T. nobilis* and *T. verrucosa* resolved in a monophyletic group with *Quadrula*, and subsequent phylogenetic analyses rejected the monophyly of *Tritogonia* ($p < 0.0001$). Previous studies delineated *Quadrula* and *Tritogonia* based on sexual dimorphism of their shells despite their low level of genetic divergence (Lopes-Lima et al., 2019). However, the two genera have many similar life history traits, including brooding morphology, host use and infection strategy, miniaturized larval morphologies, and parasitic growth (Hove et al., 2012, 2011; Sietman et al., 2012). Neemuchwala et al. (2023) synonymized *Tritogonia* into *Quadrula*, which aligns with recommendations from previous studies based on molecular or morphological characters (Ortmann, 1912; Serb et al., 2003; Utterback, 1915).
   These changes have been recognized by MolluscaBase (2025) and MUSSELp (2025).

Specific Recommendation: We recommend adopting the taxonomic changes set forth by Neemuchwala et al. (2023).

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B-2025-02 Quadrulini

Submitted By: Nathan Johnson

Proposal Date: 7 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-02

Subcommittee Member Voting:_____

Recognize *Cyclonaias* as a monotypic genus consisting of the type species, *C. tuberculata* (Rafinesque, 1820).

☐ I support

☐ I do not support

Elevate *Pustulosa* from synonymy with the type of the genus as *P. pustulosa* and the following eight taxa assigned to *Pustulosa*: *P. infucata* (Conrad, 1834), *P. kieneriana* (Lea, 1852), *P. kleiniana* (Lea, 1852), *P. necki* (Burlakova, Karatayev, Lopes-Lima & Bogan, 2018), *P. nodulata* (Rafinesque, 1820), *P. petrina* (Gould, 1855), *P. pustulosa* (Lea, 1831), and *P. succissa* (Lea, 1852).

☐ I support

☐ I do not support

Synonomy of *Pustulosa archeri* (Frierson, 1905) under *P. kieneriana* (Lea, 1852) based on the results of Lopes-Lima et al. (2019).

☐ I support

☐ I do not support

Synonymy of *Tritogonia* into *Quadrula* with the type of the genus *Q. quadrula* (by absolute tautonomy) and the following five taxa now assigned to *Quadrula*: *Q. couchiana* (Lea, 1860), *Q. fragosa* (Conrad, 1835), *Q. nobilis* (Conrad, 1854), *Q. quadrula* (Rafinesque, 1820), and *Q. verrucosa* (Rafinesque, 1820).

☐ I support

☐ I do not support

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: *Strophitus howellsi*, a new species endemic to the Edwards Plateau in Texas

Background: *Strophitus undulatus* (Say, 1817) is considered one of the most wide-ranging species of mussels globally (Watters et al. 2009), occurring in streams across the United States and eastern Canada (Williams et al. 2008; Watters et al. 2009; Randklev et al. 2020). The species is hypothesized to be distributed throughout the Mississippian Basin, Atlantic coast drainages from Nova Scotia south to Georgia, and western Gulf of Mexico drainages to the San Jacinto River with a disjunct population in the Colorado River drainage in Texas (Smith et al. 2023). The widespread distribution of *S. undulatus* and high intraspecific morphological variation have led previous authors to doubt the taxon is representative of a single species (Strecker 1931; Watters et al. 2009). Strecker (1931:13) described *Strophitus undulatus* from streams along the Edwards Plateau in the Colorado River drainage, including the San Saba and Llano rivers, as "almost worthy of a varietal name" based on morphological differences from east Texas specimens. Molecular data based on limited sampling suggested *S. undulatus* from the Colorado River drainage was genetically distinct from individuals throughout the remainder of its range (Smith et al. 2018), but additional work incorporating specimens throughout *S. undulatus*' range, as well as other datatypes (e.g., ecological, morphological), were required to investigate species boundaries.

Supplemental Information: Smith et al. (2023) incorporated environmental, molecular, and morphological characters to investigate species boundaries in *S. undulatus*. They focused molecular sampling across the range of *S. undulatus* with an emphasis on genetic material from Texas and included representatives of *Anodontoides denigrata*, *A. ferussacianus*, *S. pascagoulaensis*, *S. radiatus*, and *S. williamsi* to serve as outgroups based on the findings of Smith et al. (2018). Smith et al. (2023) sequenced two mitochondrial genes and two nuclear loci: a partial portion of *cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1* (*COX1*), *NADH dehydrogenase subunit 1* (*ND1*), the nuclear-encoded ribosomal *internal transcribed spacer 1* (*ITS1*), and *UbiAprenyltransferase domain-containing protein 1* (*UbiA*). They performed phylogenetic inference on a concatenated alignment of the four loci under Bayesian inference (BI), maximum likelihood (ML), and maximum parsimony (MP). The molecular matrix used in phylogenetic analyses consisted of 48 individuals represented by 3315 characters: *COX1* (658), *ND1* (904), *UBiA* (767), *ITS1* (944), and coded *ITS1* indels (42). Analyses under BI, ML, and MP strongly supported *S. undulatus* as monophyletic (i.e., BS $\geq$ 70, ufBS $\geq$ 95, PP $\geq$ 95) and resolved four monophyletic and geographically isolated clades within *S. undulatus*: (1) Atlantic Slope drainages (i.e., Neuse, Savannah, and Tar); (2) Calcasieu, Mississippi Embayment (i.e., Arkansas, Red, and Ouachita), and Sabine River drainages; (3) Colorado River drainage; and (4) Tennessee River drainage. The MP analysis resolved *S. undulatus* from the Colorado River drainage sister to the remainder of *S. undulatus* with strong support (Johnson et al. 2023).

Smith et al. (2023) also compiled morphological data from available museum specimens using three external shell measurements: maximum length, height, and maximum width to the nearest 0.01 mm using digital calipers. Length, height, and width values were log-transformed and evaluated for normality using Shapiro–Wilk tests. They tested significant differences in morphological variation between sister clades of *S. undulatus* from the Colorado River drainage and the remainder of *S. undulatus* using a permutational multivariate analysis of variance (Oksanen et al. 2016). To test which shell dimensions were significantly different among the two groups, log-transformed variables were converted into three ratios: height/length, width/length, and width/height. Ratios were evaluated for normality, and t (normal) or Wilcox (non-normal) tests were used to assess statistical significance between the two groups for each ratio. A total of 101 *S. undulatus* were measured from the following provinces: Colorado (14), Great Plains (4), Interior Highlands (1), Mississippi Embayment (14), Northern Atlantic (7), Ohioan (2), Sabine-Trinity (32), Southern Atlantic (4), St. Lawrence-Great Lakes (4), and Tennessee-Cumberland (19). The permutational multivariate analysis of variance identified significant morphological differentiation in log-transformed variables between *S. undulatus* from the Colorado River drainage and the remainder of *S. undulatus* specimens ($p < 0.001$). *Strophitus undulatus* from the Colorado River drainage was

found to be significantly less elongate (height/length; $p < 0.001$) than the remainder of *S. undulatus* specimens but were not significantly different using width/length ($p = 0.08$) or width/height ($p = 0.77$).

Molecular and morphological data resolved *Strophitus undulatus* from the Colorado River as distinctive. *Strophitus howellsi* sp. nov. was diagnosable from all populations of *S. undulatus* using mtDNA (~ 2.1–2.8%) and nDNA (~ 1.0–1.6%) sequence data (Fig. S1; Table 2) and was found to have significantly less elongate ($p < 0.001$) shells than *S. undulatus*. *Strophitus howellsi* also appears to have a smaller maximum size (75 mm) than *S. undulatus* (105 mm), albeit based on limited morphological sampling. Based on these combined results, *Strophitus howellsi*, was formally described as new species of mussel, endemic to Edwards Plateau streams in the Colorado River drainage in Texas by Smith et al. (2023).

Recommendations:

Recognize *Strophitus howellsi* Smith, Kiser, Johnson, & Randklev, 2023 as a new species with the common name Hill Country Creeper

Literature Cited:

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Williams J.D., A.E. Bogan, J.T. Garner. 2008. Freshwater mussels of Alabama and the Mobile basin in Georgia. University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Submitted By: Nathan A. Johnson and John L. Harris

Proposal Date: 20 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-03

Subcommittee Member Voting:_____

☐ I support recognition of *Strophitus howellsi* Smith, Kiser, Johnson, & Randklev, 2023 with the common name Hill Country Creeper

☐ I do not support recognition of *Strophitus howellsi* Smith, Kiser, Johnson, & Randklev, 2023 with the common name Hill Country Creeper

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Synonomy of *Pleurobema rubrum* (Rafinesque, 1820) under *P. sintoxia* (Rafinesque, 1820)

Background: The Pyramid Pigtoe, *Pleurobema rubrum* (Rafinesque, 1820), and Round Pigtoe, *Pleurobema sintoxia* (Rafinesque, 1820) were both described in the same publication with limited detail regarding type localities; "found in the Kentucky [River]" for *P. rubrum* and "found in the Ohio [River]" for *P. sintoxia*. Previous studies using mitochondrial sequence data and external shell morphology indicated the two species were potentially conspecifics, but until recently, there have been no formal taxonomic revisions or recommendations (Campbell et al. 2005; Campbell and Lydeard 2012; Jones et al. 2015; Inoue et al. 2018; Olivera-Hyde et al. 2023). The scientific community at large considers *Pleurobema rubrum* and *P. sintoxia* valid species (Jones et al. 2005, 2021; Williams et al. 2008, 2017; Watters et al. 2009; Haag and Cicerello 2016, FMCS 2023) pending a comprehensive taxonomic assessment that includes genetic sampling throughout the ranges of both nominal species.

Supplemental Information: Molecular studies have been integral in resolving taxonomic uncertainty of some *Pleurobema* species (Perkins et al. 2017; Inoue et al. 2018; Morrison et al. 2021; Johnson et al. 2023), but questions remained regarding the validity and distribution of multiple species within the genus. Johnson et al. (2023) investigated the relationships within and among extant populations of *P. rubrum* and *P. sintoxia* to resolve taxonomic uncertainties. They analyzed DNA sequence data from two mitochondrial (mtDNA) genes, one nuclear DNA (nDNA) locus, and genome-wide single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) generated using genotype-by-sequencing (GBS).

In previous studies (e.g. Jones et al. 2015; Inoue et al. 2018; Olivera-Hyde et al. 2023), *Pleurobema rubrum* and *P. sintoxia* were not diagnosable using molecular characters. Johnson et al. (2023) mtDNA and nDNA sequence data showed extensive haplotype sharing among individuals morphologically identified as representative of the two nominal species. and they formally recognized *P. rubrum* as a synonym of *P. sintoxia*.

Both *P. sintoxi*a and *P. rubrum* were described by Rafinesque in 1820. Following the principle of the first reviser (International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, Article 24.2), Johnson et al. (2023) fixed the precedence of *P. sintoxia*, which classifies *P. rubrum* as a synonym (ICZN 1999). Johnson et al. (2023) selected *P. sintoxia* as the valid name for this species, based on frequency of usage in the literature and broader distribution when compared to *P. rubrum*.

Recommendations: Following the findings of Johnson et al. (2023), recognize *Pleurobema rubrum* (Rafinesque, 1820) as a synonym of *P. sintoxia* (Rafinesque, 1820).

Literature Cited:

Campbell, D.C., J.M. Serb, J.E. Buhay, K.J. Roe, R.L. Minton, C. Lydeard. 2005. Phylogeny of North American amblemines (Bivalvia, Unionoida): prodigious polyphyly proves pervasive across genera. Invertebr Biol. 2005:124:131–164. doi: 10.1111/j.1744-7410.2005.00015.x

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Submitted By: Nathan Johnson and John L. Harris

Proposal Date: 20 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-04

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support the petition to recognize *P. rubrum* as a synonym of *P. sintoxia*.

☐ I do not support the petition to recognize *P. rubrum* as a synonym of *P. sintoxia*.

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Taxonomic changes within *Alasmidonta* Say, 1818 following Whelan et al. (2023).

Background: *Alasmidonta* species are found in most Atlantic slope drainages of the eastern USA and Canada, Great Lake drainages, some gulf coast drainages and large parts of the Mississippi River drainage, including in the Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee and Cumberland drainages (Clarke, 1981). Only one phylogenetic study focusing on *Alasmidonta* has been carried out to date (Bogan *et al.*, 2008); however, this study was published in the grey literature, and underlying data arenot publicly available. Bogan et al. (2008) used only mitochondrial genes for phylogenetic inference, which could lead to incorrect determinations of species diversity or inferred relationships that reflect mitochondrial evolution but not species evolution (Maddison, 1997; Funk & Omland, 2003). Nevertheless, Bogan *et al.* (2008) indicated that *Alasmidonta* is polyphyletic, that cryptic diversity might exist within *Alasmidonta*, and that *A. arcula* and *A. triangulata* might not be distinct species. Whelan et al. (2023) used a multilocus phylogenetic approach to assess species-level taxonomy of *Alasmidonta* and test supraspecific relationships in Alasmidontina.

Supplemental Information: Whelan et al. (2023) tested the following hypotheses: (1) unrecognized species diversity exists in what current taxonomy would classify as *A. varicosa*; (2) *A. arcula* and *A. triangulata* are distinct species; and (3) *Alasmidonta* is polyphyletic. Their approach to testing *Alasmidonta* monophyly included greater taxon sampling than past studies that have focused on subsets of Alasmidontina, which also allowed testing the previously reported non-monophyly of other genera, such as *Lasmigona* Rafinesque, 1831 (Breton *et al*., 2011). Whelan et al. (2023) consistently recovered the type species of *Alasmidonta*, *A. undulata*, in a well-supported clade (99–100% UFBoot) that included *A. arcula* (I. Lea, 1838), *A. marginata* Say, 1818, *A. raveneliana* (I. Lea, 1834), *A. triangulata* (I. Lea, 1858), *A. varicosa* (Lamarck, 1819) and *Alasmidonta uwharriensis* sp. nov Whelan, Perkins, and Mays in Whelan et al. (2023). *Alasmidonta heterodon* (I. Lea, 1829) was recovered outside the main *Alasmidonta* clade as either an isolated lineage (*ND1* tree) or closely related to *Lasmigona subviridis* (Conrad, 1835) and *Lasmigona compressa* (Lea, 1829) (*COI*, mtDNA, mtDNA_reduced and mtDNA + ITS1) (Whelan et al. 2023). *Alasmidonta viridis* (Rafinesque, 1820) was also recovered as a distinct clade, but the sister lineage to *A. viridis* was uncertain. *A. viridis* was highly supported as not being in the same clade as most other *Alasmidonta* species (Whelan et al. 2023). Previous studies indicated that *A. viridis* and *A. heterodon* are not members of *Alasmidonta s.s.* (Fuller, 1977; Bogan *et al.*, 2008; Chong *et al.*, 2008) or that they belong to their own subgenus in *Alasmidonta* (Clarke, 1981). From a morphological standpoint, lateral teeth are much more well developed and prominent in *A. heterodon* and *A. viridis* compared with *Alasmidonta s.s.* (Lea, 1829; Clarke, 1981). In comparison to *Alasmidonta s.s.*, *A. viridis* and *A. heterodon* also have less inflated umbones, sexual dimorphism in shell morphology, and glochidia that are depressed pyriform in shape (Clarke, 1981). The genus name *Pressodonta* Simpson, 1900 is available for *A. viridis*, and the genus name *Prolasmidonta* Ortmann, 1914 is available for *A. heterodon*.

Specific Recommendation: Findings of Whelan et al. (2023) support the following taxonomic changes:

1) Recognition of *Alasmidonta uwharriensis* sp. nov Whelan, Perkins, and Mays in Whelan et al. (2023)
2) Resurrecting *Prolasmidonta* Ortmann, 1914 with type species *Unio heterodon* I. Lea, 1829 (by original designation) accepted as *Prolasmidonta heterodon* (I. Lea, 1829).
3) Resurrecting *Pressodonta* Simpson, 1900 with type species *Unio (Elliptio) viridis* Rafinesque, 1820 (by original designation) accepted as *Pressodonta viridis* (Rafinesque, 1820).

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B-2025-05 *Alasmidonta* Say, 1818

Whelan, N.V., N.A Johnson, A.S. Williams, M.A. Perkins, C.E. Beaver, J.W. Mays. 2023. Hidden in the hills: Phylogeny of the freshwater mussel genus *Alasmidonta* (Bivalvia: Unionidae) and description of a new species. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, *198*(2), Article 2. https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlac106

Submitted By: Nathan Johnson

Proposal Date: 12 March 2015

Petition Number: B-2025-05

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support recognition of *Alasmidonta uwharriensis* sp. nov Whelan, Perkins, and Mays in Whelan et al. (2023)

☐ I do not support recognition of *Alasmidonta uwharriensis* sp. nov Whelan, Perkins, and Mays in Whelan et al. (2023)

☐ I support resurrecting *Prolasmidonta* Ortmann, 1914 with type species *Unio heterodon* I. Lea, 1829 (by original designation) accepted as *Prolasmidonta heterodon* (I. Lea, 1829).

☐ I do not support resurrecting *Prolasmidonta* Ortmann, 1914 with type species *Unio heterodon* I. Lea, 1829 (by original designation) accepted as *Prolasmidonta heterodon* (I. Lea, 1829).

☐ I support resurrecting *Pressodonta* Simpson, 1900 with type species *Unio* (*Elliptio*) *viridis* Rafinesque, 1820 (by original designation) accepted as *Pressodonta viridis* (Rafinesque, 1820).

☐ I do not support resurrecting *Pressodonta* Simpson, 1900 with type species *Unio* (*Elliptio*) *viridis* Rafinesque, 1820 (by original designation) accepted as *Pressodonta viridis* (Rafinesque, 1820).

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Taxonomic changes within *Lasmigona* Rafinesque, 1831 following Whelan et al. (2023).

Background: Bretton *et al.* (2011) recovered *Lasmigona* as being in two distinct clades. Whelan et al. (2023) used a multilocus phylogenetic approach to assess species-level taxonomy of *Alasmidonta* and test supraspecific relationships in Alasmidontina. Their approach to testing *Alasmidonta* monophyly included greater taxon sampling than past studies that have focused on subsets of Alasmidontina, which also allowed testing of the previously reported non-monophyly of other genera, such as *Lasmigona* Rafinesque, 1831 (Breton *et al*., 2011).

Supporting Information: Although *Alasmidonta* was the primary focus of Whelan et al. (2023), results indicated that *Lasmigona* was not monophyletic. The greater taxon sampling in Whelan et al. (2023) analyses (e.g. inclusion of *Arcidens* and *Pseudodontoideus*) placed *Lasmigona* taxa in up to four clades. On their mitochondrial trees, which had the greatest taxon sampling, four clades containing *Lasmigona* spp. were recovered with high support (100% UFBoot).

Alasmidonta heterodon was recovered outside the main *Alasmidonta* clade as either an isolated lineage (*ND1* tree) or closely related to *Lasmigona subviridis* (Conrad, 1835) and *Lasmigona compressa* (Lea, 1829) (*COI*, mtDNA, mtDNA_reduced and mtDNA + ITS1).

To be confident in taxonomic revisions for *Lasmigona*, greater taxonomic sampling is needed, in terms of both additional species sampled and more extensive geographical sampling of *Lasmigona* spp. However, names are available for every clade recovered in the Whelan et al. (2023) analyses. *Lasmigona costata* (Rafinesque, 1820) is the type species of *Lasmigona*, hence the genus name will belong to the clade that contains that species. *Pterosyna* Rafineqsue, 1831 is available for the clade containing *Lasmigona complanata* (Barnes, 1823). *Lasmigona subviridis* and *Lasmigona compressa* were both in the same well-supported clade. A synonym of *Lasmigona subviridis*, *Margaritana quadrata* Lea, 1861, is the type species for the genus *Margaritana* Lea, 1861, which Whelan et al. (2023) reported as having priority over the genus *Platynaias* Walker, 1918 for which *Lasmigona compressa* is the type species. However, *Margaritana* Lea, 1861 is a primary junior homonym of *Margaritana* Schumacher 1817 and not an available nomen. *Margaritana* Schumacher, 1817 is a junior synonym of *Margartifera* Schumacher, 1816 and the next name available for this clade is *Platynaias* Walker, 1918. Finally, *Lasmigona holstonia* (Lea, 1838) is the type species of *Alasminota* Ortmann, 1914, and the genus name would apply to *Lasmigona holstonia* and *Lasmigona etowaensis* (Conrad, 1849).

Despite progress, Alasmidontina is still in need of considerable taxonomic revision. Whelan et al. (2023) identified paraphyly of *Alasmidonta* and *Lasmigona*, but greater taxon sampling, and possibly greater character sampling, are needed to resolve relationships among genus-level clades.

The findings of Whelan et al. (2023) support the following taxonomic changes:

1) Resurrecting *Pterosyna* Rafinesque, 1831 with type species *Lasmigona complanata* by original designation.
2) Resurrecting *Platynaias* Walker, 1918 with type species *Symphynota. compressa* Lea, 1829 by original designation.
3) Reassigning *L. subvirdis* to *Platynaias* Walker, 1831.
4) Reassigning *L. decorata* to *Platynaias* Walker, 1831.
5) Resurrecting *Alasminota* Ortmann, 1914 to represent *L. holstonia* and *L. etowaensis* with *L. holstonia* as the type species following original designation.

Specific Recommendation: We recommend adopting the taxonomic changes supported by findings of Whelan et al. (2023).

Literature Cited:

Barnes, D.W. (1823). On the genera *Unio* and *Alasmodonta*; with introductory remarks [continued]. The American Journal of Science and Arts, 6(2): 258-280, plates 11-13.

Breton, S., D.T. Stewart, S. Shepardson, R.J. Trdan, A.E. Bogan, E.G. Chapman, A.J. Ruminas, H. Piontkivska, W.R. Hoeh. 2011. Novel protein genes in animal mtDNA: a new sex determination system in freshwater mussels (Bivalvia: Unionoida)? *Molecular Biology and Evolution* 28: 1645–1659.

Conrad, T.A. 1835. Appendix. Additions to, and corrections of, the catalogue of species of American naiades, with descriptions of new species and varieties of fresh water shells. Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, U.S.A. pp 1-8, plate 9.

Conrad, T.A. 1849. Descriptions of new fresh water and marine shells. *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.* 4: 152-156.

Lea, I. 1829. Description of a new genus of the family of naïades, including eight species, four of which are new; also the description of eleven new species of the genus *Unio* from the rivers of the United States: with observation on some of the characters of the naïades. *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society.* new ser., 3: 403-457, pls 7-14.

Lea, I. 1838. Description of new freshwater and land shells. *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society.* new ser., 6: 1-154, plates 1-24.

Lea, I. 1861. Descriptions of twenty-five new species of Unionidae from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Florida. *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.* 13: 38-41 [19 March 1861].

Ortmann, A.E. 1914. Studies in najades [continued]. The Nautilus. 28(4): 41-47; 28(6): 65-69.

Rafinesque C.S. 1820. Monographie des coquilles bivalves et fluviatiles de la Rivière Ohio, contenant douze genres et soixante-huit espéces. *Annales Générales des Sciences Physiques.* 5(5): 287-322, pls 80-82.

Rafinesque, C.S. 1831. Continuation of a monograph of the bivalve shells of the river Ohio and other rivers of the western states. Philadelphia, privately printed. Pp. 1-8.

Walker, B. 1918. Notes on North American naides [sic]. I. Occasional Papers of the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, 49: 1-6

Whelan, N.V., N.A Johnson, A.S. Williams, M.A. Perkins, C.E. Beaver, J.W. Mays. 2023. Hidden in the hills: Phylogeny of the freshwater mussel genus *Alasmidonta* (Bivalvia: Unionidae) and description of a new species. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, *198*(2), Article 2. https://doi.org/10.1093/zoolinnean/zlac106

Submitted By: Nathan Johnson

Proposal Date: 12 March 2025

B-2025-06 *Lasmigona* Rafinesque, 1831

Petition Number: B-2025-06

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support the resurrection of *Pterosyna* Rafinesque, 1831 with the type species originally described as *Alasmodonta complanata* Barnes, 1823 [=*Lasmigona complanata* (Barnes, 1831)] and with two species currently recognized: *Pterosyna complanata* (Barnes, 1831) and *P. alabamensis* (Clarke, 1985).

☐ I do not support the resurrection of *Pterosyna* Rafinesque, 1831 with the type species originally described as *Alasmodonta complanata* Barnes, 1823 [= *Lasmigona complanata* (Barnes, 1831)] and with two currently recognized species: *Pterosyna complanata* (Barnes, 1831) and *P. alabamensis* (Clarke, 1985).

☐ I support the resurrection of *Platynaias* Walker, 1918 with type species originally described as *Symphynota compressa* Lea, 1829 [= *Platynaias compressa* (Lea, 1829)

☐ I do not support the resurrection of
Platynaias Walker, 1918 with type species originally described as *Symphynota compressa* Lea, 1829 [= *Platynaias compressa* (Lea, 1829)

☐ I support reassigning *L. subvirdis* (Conrad, 1835) to *Platynaias* Walker, 1918

☐ I do not support reassigning *L. subvirdis* to *Platynaias* Walker, 1918

☐ I support reassigning *L. decorata* (Lea, 1852) to *Platynaias* Walker, 1918

☐ I do not support reassigning *L. decorata* (Lea, 1852) to *Platynaias* Walker, 1918

☐ I support the resurrection of *Alasminota* Ortmann, 1914 to represent *L. holstonia* and *L. etowaensis*

☐ I do not support the resurrection of *Alasminota* Ortmann, 1914 to represent *L. holstonia* and *L. etowaensis*

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Addition of the Golden Mussel, *Limnoperna fortunei* (Dunker, 1857) [Modiolidae] to the list of invasive freshwater mussels of Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

Background: The Golden Mussel was found on Rough and Ready Island near Stockton, San Joaquin River, San Joaquin County, California on 17 October 2024. This is the first record of this highest risk invasive species in North America (Interagency Ecological Program, 29 October 2024). It has been genetically confirmed as the Golden Mussel (Fusaro et al. 2024; Interagency Ecological Program of California. (2024).

Supplemental Information:

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (2021) produced an assessment of the Golden Mussel and noted it was not yet present in North America. They summarized the biology, ecology and known distribution at the time and confirmed it had not yet been found in North America. They covered the potential means of introduction and its impact where introduced. This was followed by Boltovskoy et al. (2022) exploring the known and unknown about the Golden Mussel. The taxonomy of the Golden Mussel follows MolluscaBase (2024).

Recommendations:

1. Add *Limnoperna fortunei (*Dunker, 1857), Golden Mussel [Modiolidae] to the list of invasive species in the United States.

Literature Cited:

Boltovskoy, D., E. Paolucci, H.J. MacIsaac, A. Zhan, Z. Xia, and N. Correa. 2022. What we know and don't know about the invasive golden mussel *Limnoperna fortunei*. Hydrobiologia. (2022). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-022-04988-5

Dunker, W. 1857. Mytilacea nova collectione Cumingianae. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London.* 24 (1856): 358-366. [published 8 May 1857]. https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/12860918 [accessed 30 October 2024].

Fusaro, A., A. Davidson, K. Alame, M. Gappy, E. Baker, G. Nunez, J. Larson, W. Conard, P. Alsip, C. Shelly, and Cayla Morningstar, 2024, *Limnoperna fortunei*: U.S. Geological Survey, Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database, Gainesville, FL, and NOAA Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information System, Ann Arbor, MI, https://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/greatlakes/FactSheet.aspx?Species_ID=3653 Revision Date: 10/30/2024, [Accessed 30 October 2024].

Interagency Ecological Program of California. 2024. SIEP Stakeholders News 29 October 2024. https://iep.ca.gov/Public-Engagement/Stakeholders/News/invasive-golden-mussel-found-near-stockton [accessed 30 October 2024].

MolluscaBase. 2024. http://molluscabase.org/index.php [accessed 30 October 2024].

United State Fish and Wildlife Service. 2021. Golden Mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) Ecological risk and screening summary. https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Ecological-Risk-Screening-Summary-Golden_Mussel.pdf [accessed 30 October 2024].

Submitted By: Arthur E. Bogan and John L. Harris

Proposal Date: 6 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-07

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support the petition to add the Golden Mussel, *Limnoperna fortunei* (Dunker, 1857) [Modiolidae] to the list of invasive freshwater mussels of Canada, Mexico, and the United States.
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☐ I do not support the petition to add the Golden Mussel, *Limnoperna fortunei* (Dunker, 1857) [Modiolidae] to the list of invasive freshwater mussels of Canada, Mexico, and the United States.
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In the event of rejection, subcommittee members should provide a detailed summary of their consensus opinion.

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Change of the introduced *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) to *Sinanodonta pacifica* (Heude, 1878) on the FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada (Non-indigenous Invasive Freshwater Bivalve Species), and a common name is proposed for *Sinanodonta pacifica*.

Background: *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) represents an invasive species from China that has been introduced worldwide with carp aquaculture. It was recently recognized that two separate species, *Sinanodonta woodiana* "temperate invasive lineage," and *S. pacifica* "tropical invasive lineage, were *being* introduced in aquaculture and imported as a food source. The problems with phylogeny, taxonomy, distribution, life cycle, ecology, introduction pathways, ecological impacts, economic impacts, management options and knowledge gaps were recently reviewed (Douda et al. 2024).

Supplemental Information: *Sinanodonta woodiana* was first reported from New Jersey, United States of America (Bogan et al. 2011a, 2011b). Williams et al. (2017) and FMCS (2019, 2021, 2023) listed the freshwater mussels of the United States and Canada which included the introduced *Sinanodonta woodiana* with the common name Chinese Pondmussel. Douda et al. (2024) produced a phylogeny of *Sinanodonta* using 553 cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1 (CO1) sequences and recovered eleven clades defined as molecular operational taxonomic units (MOTUs). *Sinanodonta woodiana* was split into three taxa: the "temperate invasive lineage" was identified as *S. woodiana,* the "tropical invasive lineage" was identified as *Sinanodonta pacifica,* with an additional lineage recognized as *Sinanodonta* sp. from the Yangtze River basin. The species reported as introduced into New Jersey by Bogan et al. (2011a, 2011b) was reidentified from *S. woodiana* to *S. pacifica* by Douda et al. (2024). *Sinanodonta pacifica* lacks an English common name, and we propose Pacific Pondmussel. It is widely introduced from China to Taiwan, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Costa Rica, and the United States, and is the "tropical invasive lineage."

Recommendations:

Change *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) to *Sinanodonta pacifica* (Heude, 1878) in the FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada (Non-indigenous Invasive Freshwater Bivalve Species).

Establish the common name for *Sinanodonta pacifica* "Pacific Pondmussel".

Literature Cited:

Bogan, A.E., J. Bowers-Altman and M.E. Raley. 2011a. The first confirmed record of the Chinese Pond Mussel (*Sinanodonta woodiana*) in the United States. *The Nautilus* 125(1):41-43.

Bogan, A.E., J. Bowers-Altman and M.E. Raley. 2011b. A new threat to conservation of North American freshwater mussels: Chinese Pond Mussel (*Sinanodonta woodiana*) in the United States. *Tentacle*.19:39-40.

Douda, K., A. Zieritz, B. Vodáková, M. Urbańska, I.N. Bolotov, J. Marková, A.E. Bogan, M. Lopes-Lima. 2024. Review of the globally invasive freshwater mussels in the genus *Sinanodonta* Model, 1945. *Hydrobiologia* online 30 January 2024 https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-023-05457-3

FMCS. 2019. Appendix 1. The 2019 FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. Considered and approved by the Bivalve Names Subcommittee 2019. https://molluskconservation.org/Library/Committees/Bivalves_Revised_Names_List_2019.pdf

FMCS. 2021. Appendix 1. The 2021 FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. Considered and approved by the Bivalve Names Subcommittee 2021.

FMCS. 2023.Appendix 1. The 2023 FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. Considered and approved by the Bivalve Names Subcommittee October 2023. https://molluskconservation.org/Library/Committees/Names/Appendix_1_Bivalves_Revised_Names_List_20230928_draft.pdf

Heude, P. M. 1875-1885. *Conchyliologie fluviatile de la province de Nanking [et de la Chine centrale]*. Paris: F. Savy. 72 + 8 pls, unnumbered pages of text. [(1): pls 1-8 (1875); (2): pls 9-16, (3): pls 17-24 (1877); (4): pls 25-32 (1878); (5): pls 33-40 (1879); (6): pls 41-48 (1880); (7): pls 49-56 (1881); (8): pls 57-64 (1883); (9): pls 65-72 (1885); (10): pls 1-8 (1880)].

Lea, I. 1834. Observations on the naïades; and descriptions of new species of that, and other families. *Transactions of the American Philosophical Society.* (NS) 5: 23-119, pls 1-19.

Williams, J.D., A.E. Bogan, R.S. Butler, K.S. Cummings, J.T. Garner, J.L. Harris, N.A. Johnson, G.T. Watters. 2017. A Revised list of the freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. Freshwater Mollusk Biology and Conservation 20:35-58.

Submitted By: Arthur E. Bogan and John L. Harris

Proposal Date: 27 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-08

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support the petition to change *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) to *Sinanodonta pacifica* (Heude, 1878) in the FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada (Non-indigenous Invasive Freshwater Bivalve Species).

☐ I do not support the petition to change *Sinanodonta woodiana* (Lea, 1834) to *Sinanodonta pacifica* (Heude, 1878) in the FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada (Non-indigenous Invasive Freshwater Bivalve Species).

☐ I support the petition to establish the common name for *Sinanodonta pacifica* as “Pacific Pondmussel”.

☐ I do not support the petition to establish the common name for *Sinanodonta pacifica* as “Pacific Pondmussel”.

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Addition of the Sphaeriidae of North America including Canada, Mexico, and the United States to the FMCS Bivalve list.

Background: The freshwater bivalve fauna of North America includes the family Sphaeriidae. This family was included in the AFS Common and Scientific names of aquatic invertebrates from the United States and Canada (Turgeon et al. 1988, 1998) but was not included in Williams et al. (2017) or FMCS lists (2019, 2021, 2023). The Sphaeriidae fauna of Mexico was recently summarized, and the taxonomy was updated (Bogan and Naranjo-Garcia, 2024). An updated version of the North American Sphaeriidae from Canada, Mexico and the United States has been produced (Bogan et al. nd.). This new list updates the taxonomy of the North American fauna and includes the known distribution of each species.

Supplemental Information: The Sphaeriidae fauna of Mexico was recently summarized, and the taxonomy was updated (Bogan and Naranjo-Garcia, 2024). An updated version of the North American Sphaeriidae from Canada, Mexico and the United States has been produced (Bogan et al., 2025). This new list updates the taxonomy of the North American fauna and includes the known distribution of each species. The history of the taxonomy and use of common names of these Fingernail or Pill Clams is summarized and clarified. Spanish Common Names for the species reported from Mexico are included (Bogan and Naranjo-Garcia, 2024).

Recommendations:

1. Recognize the updated list of Sphaeriidae of North America.
2. Add the list of Sphaeriidae with common names and distribution to the FMCS list of bivalves.

Literature Cited:

Bogan, A.E., A. Henderson, K.J. Roe, D.T. Zanatta, and J.L. Harris. 2025. A Provisional List of the North American Sphaeriidae: Common, Scientific Names, and distribution. Preprint for Freshwater Mollusk Biology and Conservation. https://molluskconservation.org/Library/Committees/Names/Sphaeriidae%2027aug%2024.pdf

Bogan, A.E. and E. Naranjo-Garcia. 2024. Preliminary list of the Sphaeriidae of Mexico. Ellipsaria 26(2): 27-35. 19 November 2024. Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society Newsletter.

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society [FMCS]. 2019. The 2019 FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. https://www.molluskconservation.org/Library/Committees/Bivalves_Revised_Names_List_2019.pdf [Accessed 15 March 2024].

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society [FMCS]. 2021. The 2021 FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. https://www.molluskconservation.org/Library/Committees/Names/Appendix_1_Bivalves_Revised_Names_List_20210825.pdf [Accessed 15 March 2024].

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society [FMCS]. 2023. Appendix 1. The 2023 FMCS checklist of freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. https://www.molluskconservation.org/Library/Committees/Names/Appendix_1_Bivalves_Revised_Names_List_20230928_draft.pdf [Accessed 15 March 2024].

Turgeon, D.D., A.E. Bogan, E.V. Coan, W.K. Emerson, W.G. Lyons, W.L. Pratt, C.F.E. Roper, A. Scheltema, F.G. Thompson, and J.D. Williams. 1988. Common and scientific names of aquatic invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Mollusks. American Fisheries Society Special Publication 16: vii,1-277,12 color plates.

Turgeon, D.D., J.F. Quinn, Jr., A.E. Bogan, E.V. Coan, F.G. Hochberg, W.G. Lyons, P. Mikkelsen, R.J. Neves, C.F.E. Roper, G. Rosenberg, B. Roth, A. Scheltema, M.J. Sweeney, F.G. Thompson, M. Vecchione, and J.D. Williams. 1998. Common and scientific names of aquatic invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Mollusks. American Fisheries Society Special Publication 26. Second Edition. 536 pages [Also on CD-ROM].

Williams, J.D., A.E. Bogan, R.S. Butler, K.S. Cummings, J.T. Garner, J.L. Harris, N.A. Johnson, G.T. Watters. 2017. A revised list of the freshwater mussels (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Unionida) of the United States and Canada. Freshwater Mollusk Biology and Conservation 20:35-58.

Submitted By: Arthur E. Bogan and John L. Harris

Proposal Date: 5 March 2025; revised 27 March 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-09

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support the addition of the Sphaeriidae of North America to the FMCS Bivalve list of Common and Scientific names.

☐ I do not support the addition of the Sphaeriidae of North America to the FMCS Bivalve list of Common and Scientific names.

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

Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society
Scientific and Common Names Technical Committee
Petition for Proposed Scientific or Common Name Change

Title: Common Name Change for Monkeyface Group of Bivalves

This petition proposes changing the common names of five bivalve species that currently include the term "Monkeyface," which has been identified as having potentially inappropriate racial connotations. The petition is informed by a summary of the racist origins of certain freshwater mussel common names and a survey of FMCS membership on the use of "Monkeyface" (Pfeiffer et al. 2024). It is also supported by a report detailing those survey results (Craft and Pfeiffer 2024) and is consistent with broader efforts by professional organizations to adopt more inclusive and respectful naming practices.

Background: Several early freshwater mussel common names included overtly racist language, as summarized by Pfeiffer et al. (2024). These names often combined racial slurs (e.g., “nigger,” “squaw”) with anatomical terms (e.g., “head,” “foot”). This historical pattern has raised concerns about the continued use of “Monkeyface,” which appears in the common names of five freshwater mussel species currently recognized by the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society (FMCS). Although the original intent behind the term is unclear, its historical context and usage alongside explicitly racist terms suggest it may stem from racialized caricatures rooted in the dehumanizing comparison of minorities and primates—a form of racist propaganda known as *simianization*.

To assess contemporary perspectives on this issue, FMCS members were surveyed, and the results were reported by Craft and Pfeiffer (2024). Responses were mixed. While many participants did not personally find the term offensive, two-thirds supported changing the common names of the affected species. Those in favor of change often cited the term’s potential racial connotations and expressed a desire to avoid language that could be considered offensive or exclusionary.

In contrast, FMCS members who opposed renaming generally viewed “Monkeyface” as a benign reference to a chimpanzee and assumed it had no racial implication. However, since the publication of Pfeiffer et al. (2024) and Craft and Pfeiffer (2024), additional evidence has come to light: *Quadrula metenevra*, most commonly known as “Monkeyface,” has also been referred to by the common name “Indianhead” (Cope, 1982; Busby and Horak, 1992). The coexistence of these terms further suggests that the species’ naming may have been influenced by racialized imagery, rather than an innocent resemblance to a monkey.

Because of historical and in some cases ongoing mistreatment, Societies should be proactive in creating a welcoming environment to chronically underrepresented groups. Mistreatment is reflected within some STEM organizations (McGee 2021); indicating that some Black students are, “patronized… and White students called them, ‘monkeys’”. Underrepresentation of Black people is evident in FMCS membership (Andree et al., 2021; Craft and Chong 2023) and changing the Monkeyface group of common names could be an action of respect and inclusion.

We recognize that many members of FMCS do not view the Monkeyface group of names as having any pejorative connotation and find the names useful for public engagement. However, we believe that acknowledging the problematic background of this group of names and replacing the names in light of that context is worthwhile to ensure an inclusive and welcoming environment within FMCS.

B-2025-10 Monkeyface Group Common Names

A handful of creative and descriptive alternative common names for the Monkeyface group were suggested during the 2024 survey (e.g., Knobbyface/Knobbyshell, Duckfoot, Goosefoot, Chitlinshell, Popcornshell). However, Rockshell has previously been used as a common name for at least one member of this group. Although perhaps not the most descriptive, many malacologists have described unionids with heavily sculptured shell surfaces as "rock like" and in the case of this group from the genus *Theliderma* and *Quadrula*, this seems appropriate. Changing the group of names to an alternative with previous recorded use seems like the most straightforward choice, minimizing common name synonyms for these species.

Supplemental Information:

Craft, S.R. and J.M. Pfeiffer. 2024. Survey results on the potentially problematic use of "Monkeyface" in freshwater mussel common names. *Ellipsaria* Fall 2024. 45-48. (Link).

Pfeiffer, J.M., Chong, J-P., Craft, S.R., DuBose, T., Franzen, A., Hove, M, Smith, T.A., and D.A. Woolnough. 2024. Requesting feedback on potentially problematic freshwater mollusk common names. *Ellipsaria* Spring 2024. 18-21. (Link).

Specific Recommendations:

We propose the following common name changes:

- *Quadrula couchiana*: Rio Grande Monkeyface changes to Rio Grande Rockshell
- *Theliderma intermedia*: Cumberland Monkeyface changes to Cumberland Rockshell
- *Theliderma johnsoni*: Southern Monkeyface changes to Southern Rockshell
- *Theliderma metanevra*: Monkeyface changes to Rockshell
- *Theliderma sparsa*: Appalachian Monkeyface changes to Appalachian Rockshell

Literature Cited (inclusive of citations with the *Ellipsaria* articles cited):

Andree, S.R., M. Bradley, K. Inoue, J. Pfeiffer, T. Smith, & J. Tiemann. 2021. Establishing baselines for society demographics and attitudes towards diversity, equity, and inclusion. Ellipsaria 23; Spring 2023: 4-8 (Link).

Busby, W.H. and G. Horak. 1992. Unionid mussels in Kansas: Overview of conservation efforts and harvest regulations. 15 pp. (LINK).

Coker, R. E. 1915. The Common and Scientific Names of the Fresh-water Mussels. Economic Circular, Issue 15. US Government Printing Office.

Cope, C. 1982. Kansas freshwater mussel investigation project completion report (NMFS Project 2-378-R). 126 pp.

Craft, S.R. and J-P Chong. 2023. Continued assessment of society demographics and attitudes towards diversity, equity, and inclusion. Ellipsaria Summer 2024. 32-40. (Link)

Craft, S.R. and J.M. Pfeiffer. 2024. Survey results on the potentially problematic use of "Monkeyface" in freshwater mussel common names. Ellipsaria Fall 2024. 45-48. (Link).

Lancette J. 2021. Breaking Barriers in Entomology: The Better Common Names Project. American Entomologist, 67: 10-11.

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Submitted By: Daelyn Woolnough, Sara Craft, and Dave Zanatta

Proposal Date: April 9, 2025

Petition Number: B-2025-10

Subcommittee Member:_____

☐ I support the five common names changes in the previously detailed Specific Recommendations.

☐ I do not support the five common names changes in the previously detailed Specific Recommendations.

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