Wavy-rayed Lampmussel *(Lampsilis fasciola)*

Freshwater Mussel Species of Concern
State Rank: S4 (apparently secure) **Global Rank: G5** (secure)

Identification

The overall length of the wavy-rayed lampmussel (*Lampsilis fasciola*) is usually less than 3 inches. The shells are short and rounded. The periostracum that covers the outer shell is light yellow to yellowish green in color, and marked with numerous wavy green rays (Bogan 1993; Strayer and Jirka 1997).

Photo source: PNHP

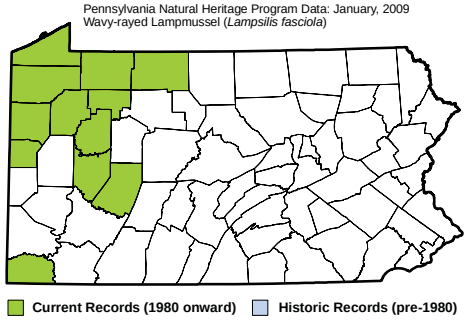
Habitat

The wavy-rayed lampmussel lives in the riffles of medium to large sized rivers and creeks in water that is clear (NatureServe 2008).

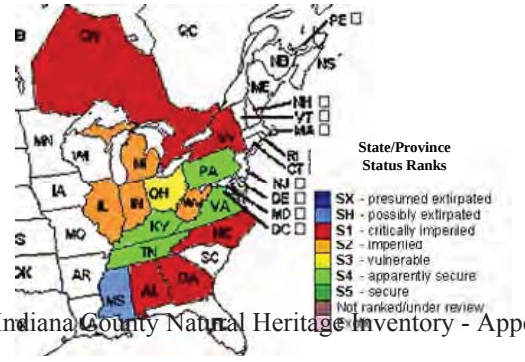
Host Fish

A host for this mussel is the smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieui*) (Zale and Neves 1982, Strayer and Jirka 1997; Cummings and Watters 2009). The wavy-rayed lampmussel has adapted part of its internal tissue to look like a small prey fish, probably a darter. This "lure" is used to attract its host fish, the smallmouth bass.

Photo source: Tamara Smith, PNHP



North American State/Province Conservation Status
Map by NatureServe 2008



Status

The wavy-rayed lampmussel is found in the Great Lakes and Ohio-Mississippi drainages from Ontario, Canada south to Mississippi and eastward (NatureServe 2008). In Pennsylvania the *Lampsilis fasciola* is found in the Ohio and Lake Erie drainage basins (PNHP 2008). The Pennsylvania Biological Survey (PABS)

has given *Lampsilis fasciola* a Condition Undetermined (CU) designation indicating that there is insufficient data to assign it to another class or category.
This species has no current legal status (N) in Pennsylvania but is under review for future listing. More studies are needed in order to determine the status of this species in the state (PNHP 2008). Threats to native freshwater mussels include dams and stream channel alteration, development, pollution and siltation due to improper agriculture and timbering practices, and invasive species such as the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) (Lydeard et al. 2004).

References

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