A Northern Range Extension of the Washington Combmussel, *Idas washingtonius* (Bernard, 1978)

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Mussels are found on a variety of surfaces from the intertidal zone to great depths in the oceans. An unusual find are deep-sea mussels collected by trawls, often found in large numbers on sunken wood and on whale bones (Bennett et al. 1994). Small mussels, *Idas washingtonius* (Bernard, 1978), to 9 mm shell length, were found on whale bones trawled from depths of 560 to 660 m, July 27, 1999, off the west coast of Vancouver Island, B.C. (**Fig. 1, 2**). This was a northern range extension and samples were deposited at the Royal BC Museum (RBCM 002-00007-001).

Classification of this mussel can be found on MolluscaBase (2020). The shell is subquadrate, having a polished periostracum with faint, irregular comarginal lines and a few radial lines on the anterior end (**Fig. 2**).

The specimen of *I. washingtonius* (Bernard, 1978), referred to by Coan et al. 2000, was the holotype (LACM 1881) taken from 2189 m, W of Cape Flattery, Washington (48.633, -126.9683). It was collected by Oregon State University (OSU BMT-9), in September of 1971.

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Fig. 1. Whalebone, with mussels attached, trawled from depths of 560 to 660 m, off Clayoquot sound, west coast of Vancouver Island, B.C. July 27, 1999. Photo provided courtesy of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Fig. 2 A-B. Washington combmussel, *Idas washingtonius* (Bernard, 1978). Sample from off the west coast of Vancouver Island, B.C. at 560 to 660 m depth, July 27, 1999. **Fig. 2A** W. Merilees collection. Image R. Harbo **Fig. 2B** RBCM 002-00007-001. Image H. Gartner

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