

***Mya truncata* (Gaper Clam)****Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)****Class:** *Bivalvia* (Marine And Freshwater Molluscs)**Order:** *Myoida* (Saltwater Clams)**Family:** *Myidae* (Softshell Clams)**General comments:** none**No Species Conservation Range Maps Available for Gaper Clam****SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:****Risk of Extirpation:** NA**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:** NA**Recent Significant Declines:**

Gaper Clam is currently undergoing steep population declines, which has already led to, or if unchecked is likely to lead to, local extinction and/or range contraction.

Notes:

recent decline - Trott 2004; climate change - Talmage & Goblin 2010; Clements & Hunt 2014; Historical - Gilbert 1977;  
understudied - questionable identification

**Regional Endemic:** NA**High Regional Conservation Priority:** NA**High Climate Change Vulnerability:**

*Mya truncata* is highly vulnerable to climate change.

**Understudied rare taxa:**

Recently documented or poorly surveyed rare species for which risk of extirpation is potentially high (e.g. few known occurrences) but insufficient data exist to conclusively assess distribution and status. \*criteria only qualifies for Priority 3 level SGCN\*

Notes:

recent decline - Trott 2004; climate change - Talmage & Goblin 2010; Clements & Hunt 2014; Historical - Gilbert 1977;  
understudied - questionable identification

**Historical:**

Species currently listed as state (SH) or global (GH) historical (by MDIFW or NatureServe) that have some reasonable probability of rediscovery with further survey effort.

**State Rank:** NA, **Global Rank:** NA, **Rounded Global Rank:** NA, **MDIFW Historical:** Yes**MDIFW Historical Notes:**

recent decline - Trott 2004; climate change - Talmage & Goblin 2010; Clements & Hunt 2014; Historical - Gilbert 1977;  
understudied - questionable identification

**Culturally Significant:** NA**Professional Discretion:**

Current criteria ranked *Mya truncata* as SGCN priority 2, however, species should be SGCN priority 3 based on professional discretion.

Justification:

questionable identification

**Habitats Assigned to Gaper Clam:**

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No Stressors Currently Assigned to Gaper Clam or other Priority 3 SGCN.

**Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Gaper Clam:**

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Gaper Clam or other Priority 3 SGCN.

**Conservation Actions Associated with the Bivalves Guild:**

<b>Conservation Action</b>	<b>Category:</b> Policy	<b>Biological Priority:</b> critical	<b>Type:</b> on-going
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Through education and collaboration, reduce the use of antifouling agents and biocides that negatively affect SGCN, and investigate alternative biofouling agents.

**Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action**

Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture

**Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:**

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

**Habitat Based Conservation Actions:**

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

*The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.*