PILSB Ry
Pacific Island Land Snail Biodiversity Repository


iDigBio NSF ADBC TCN Summit 2020

iDigBio Integrated Digitized Biocollections

NSF

Museum of Comparative Zoology
Harvard University

Florida Museum of Natural History

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University

Museum of Natural History
University of Michigan
Icons of Evolution: Palaearctic Island tree-snails, family Partula

Justin Gerlach
Not Knowing, Not Recording, Not Listing: Numerous Unnoticed Mollusk Extinctions

CLAIRE RÉGNIER,*‡ BENOÎT FONTAINE,† AND PHILIPPE BOUCHET*  

- Highest number of documented extinctions of any major animal group since the 1500s  
- 40% of all animal extinctions
Major threats

- Habitat destruction
- Climate change
- Impacts of invasive species
Conservation

1) Accurate and current knowledge of:
   • Systematics
   • Species distributions (native and non-native)
   • Ecological needs

2) Protect both the species and the habitats
One can learn from many sources
All knowledge is not taught in the same school
Objectives

- Taxonomic authority file
- Enhance specimen records
- Conservation resources
- Alleviate taxonomic impediment
Jim McCarthy 1944-2019

In Memoriam

Josh Copus
March 5, 1980 - November 12, 2019
Taxonomic Authority file

- In development
  - 4,178 species (w/ references to original descriptions)
Specimen records

• 76,452 records enhanced
• 513,625 entries from field notebooks and ledgers
Cool Stories

A juvenile sooty tern [noddy] on which were Succinea and Elasmias.

Y. Kondo field notebook (1949)
Cool Discoveries

New record of non-native snail, *Beckianum beckianum* (Mangaia, Cook Islands)

Tom Iliffe’s field notebooks
Welcome to PILSBRY!

PILSBRY (Pacific Island Land Snails Biodiversity Repository) is a consortium of six malacology collections across the United States. Our aim is to develop a comprehensive resource that will enable time-sensitive assessment of the systematic and conservation status of Pacific Island Land Snails, one of the most extraordinarily diverse, endangered and understudied taxon in the world. Not having been comprehensively studied for more than 100 years, Pacific Island Land Snails are under major threat from extinction and a database is needed for conservation assessments and identification of the remaining fauna.

Participants of this project include: the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel, Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan, Harvard Museum of Natural History, Florida Museum of Natural History, and the Field Museum.
A Platform for Georeferencing Natural History Collection Data

Nelson E. Rios
Yale University Peabody Museum