

Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) and sediment

Angus Tree





Protection

- Bern Convention 1979 – Appendix III
- Habitats Directive 1992 – Annexe II and V
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) – Schedule 5
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species – ‘endangered’















19 freshwater pearl mussel SACs

17 in unfavourable condition

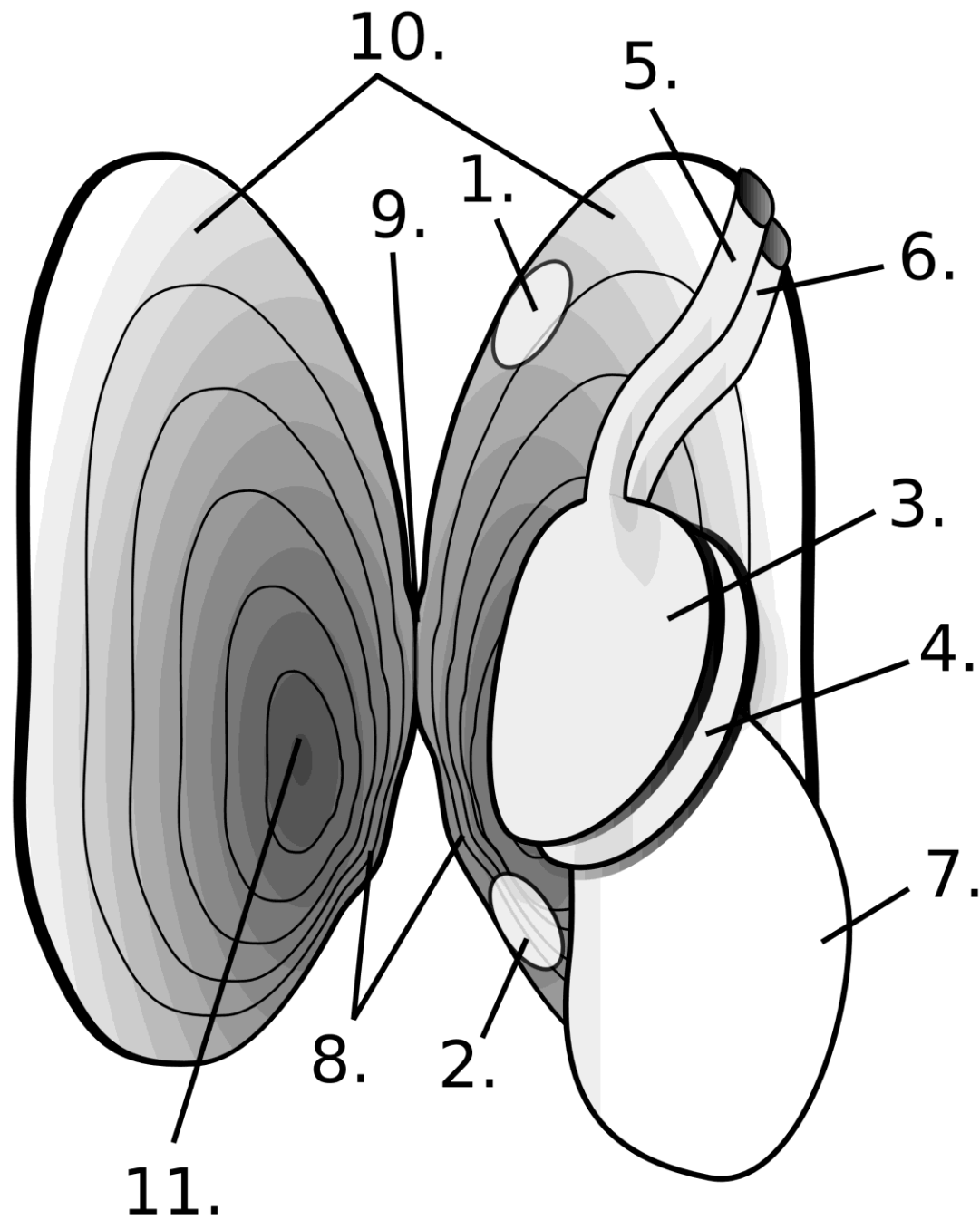
9 in unfavourable condition due to morphological alterations

- North Harris
- Ardnamurchan Burns
- Glen Beasdale
- Inverpolly
- Mingarry Burn
- River Dee
- River Moriston
- River Naver
- River South Esk





- water quality
 - clear
 - well-oxygenated
 - pH 7.5 or less
 - low conductivity
 - low nutrients
- water quantity and velocity
 - adequate to cover
 - fast enough to remove silt and maintain oxygen levels
- substrate
 - typically small sand patches stabilised by cobbles or boulders



Unattached glochidia.

Encysted glochidia on host gills.

