

Paraprionospio alata (Moore, 1923)

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Annelida
Class	Polychaeta
Order	Canalipalpata
Family	Spionidae
Common Synonyms (S)	<i>Paraprionospio pinnata</i> (Ehlers, 1901) – PN, used in Puget Sound literature until 2008
Previous Names (PN)	<i>Paraprionospio yokoyamai</i> Delgado-Blas, 2004 (S; reported from British Columbia waters)



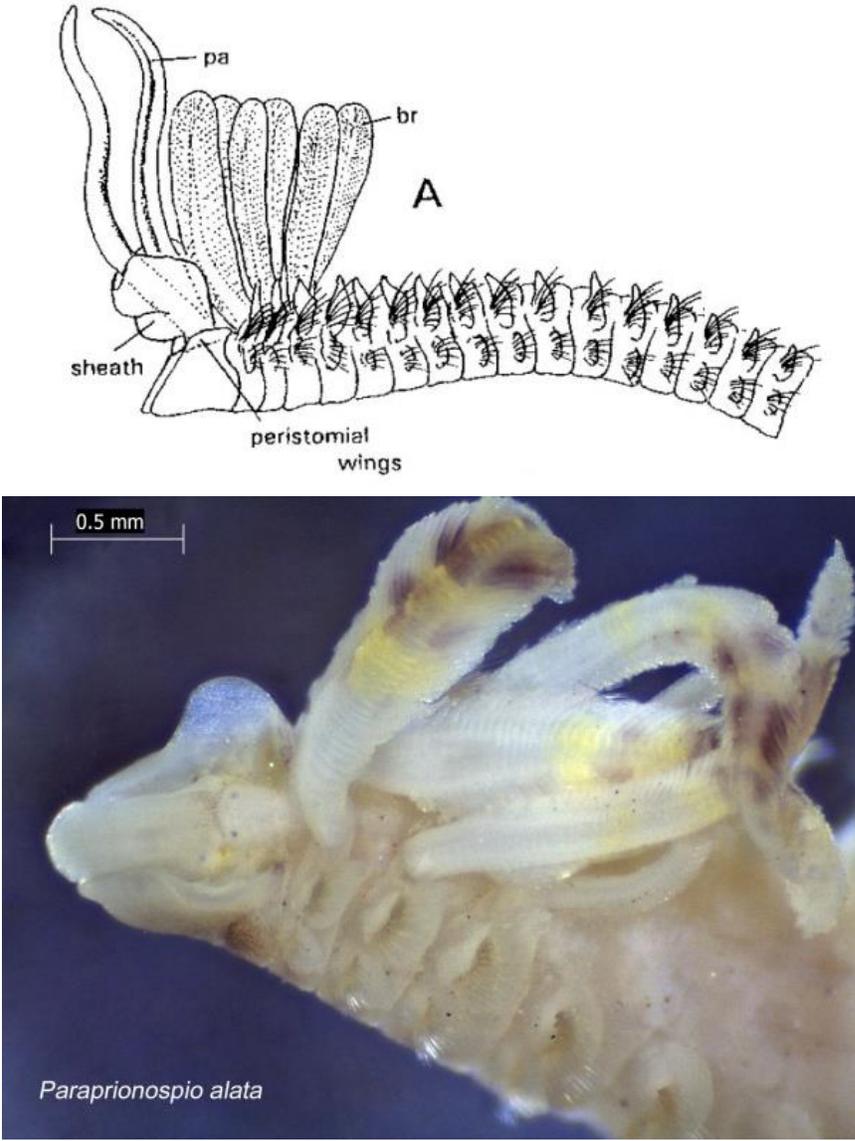
Distribution	
Type Locality	Monterey Bay, CA
Geographic Distribution	British Columbia; California; Chesapeake Bay; Gulf of Mexico
Habitat	Silty sediments; shallow subtidal to shelf depths; rare in deep water (Blake 1996)

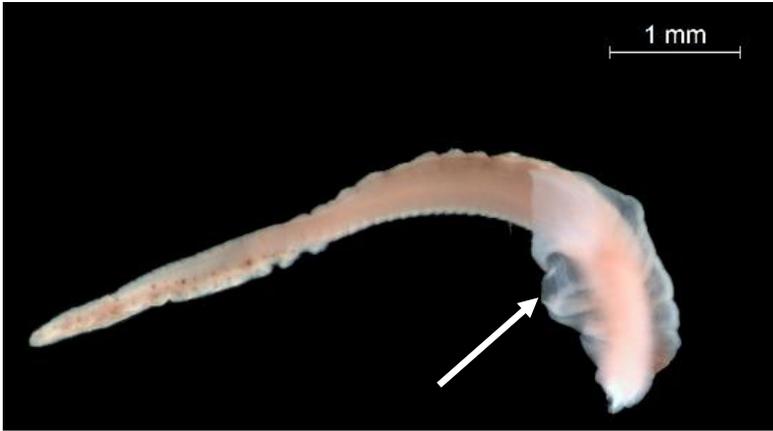
Description
From Blake 1996 (as <i>Paraprionospio pinnata</i>)
Size/Color: 65 mm, 1.5 mm wide for about 120 setigers. Brown to light tan in alcohol, with dark pigment on sides of peristomium and dark spot of pigment in notch at posterior border of peristomial wings.
Body: Widest in first 5 setigers, narrowing posteriorly. Dorsum of setigers 12-17 with transverse series of light-colored transverse glandular ridges.
Prostomium: Narrow, elongate, rounded on anterior margin. Two pairs of eyes, posterior pair closest together, anterior more widely spaced. Peristomium with a pair of high membranous wings laterally encompassing prostomium. Palps deeply grooved, basal sheath surrounding 1/3 of length.
Branchiae: Present on setigers 1-3, with platelike, bifoliate pinnules or lamellae; prominent dorsal crest connecting bases of 1 st pair.
Parapodia: Notopodial postsetal lamellae triangular anteriorly, reduced in subsequent setigers. Interparapodial pouches absent.
Setae: Bilimbate capillary noto- and neurosetae of anterior setigers in 2-3 rows. Neurosetae hooded hooks from setiger 9, alternating with thin capillaries, and single long curved sabra seta with heavy granulations. Notopodial hooded hooks appear by setigers 32-50.

Pygidium: Long, slender medial cirrus and 2 shorter lateral cirri.

Methyl Green Staining: Stain retained in anterior half of body; areas behind some anterior parapodia staining intensely. Dorsal glandular ridges differentiating with stain.

Diagnostic Characteristics

Diagnostic Characteristics	Photo, Illustrations	Photo, Illustration Credit
<p>3 pairs of pinnate branchiae starting on setiger 1; peristomium with a pair of high, membranous wings laterally encompassing prostomium</p>	 <p>Anterior body region (dorsolateral view); palps missing; specimen from 2014 PSEMP Long-term Station 49 Rep 2</p>	<p>Blake 1996, p. 117 (after Hartman 1960)</p> <p>Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p>

<p>Palp with basal sheath (palps often missing from preserved specimens)</p>	 <p><i>Palp (basal sheath indicated by arrow)</i></p>	<p>Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p>
<p>Prominent transverse ridge or membrane between branchial bases of setiger 1</p>	 <p><i>Anterior body region (dorsal view); arrow indicates transverse ridge</i></p>	<p>Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p>

<p>Related Species and Characteristic Differences</p>	
<p>Species Name</p>	<p>Diagnostic Characteristics</p>

<p>Comments</p>	
<p>Very common species in Puget Sound.</p> <p>Builds a soft tube made of fine silt particles (Photo credit: Marine Sediment Monitoring Team)</p>	

Literature

- Blake, J.A. 1996. Family Spionidae. *In* Blake, Hilbig, and Scott (editors). Taxonomic Atlas of the benthic fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and western Santa Barbara Channel. Volume 6: The Annelida part 3. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, CA. 377 pp. [p. 115 (as *Paraprionospio pinnata*)]
- Moore, J.P. 1923. The polychaetous annelids dredged by the U.S.S. Albatross off the coast of southern California in 1904. IV. Spionidae to Sabellariidae. *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*. 75: 79-259. [p. 185 (as *Prionospio alata*)]
- Yokoyama, H. 2007. A revision of the genus *Paraprionospio* Caullery (Polychaeta: Spionidae). *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*. 151: 253–284.

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/psamp/index.htm>

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<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1603214.html>

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