

***Bipalponephtys cornuta* (Berkeley & Berkeley, 1945)**

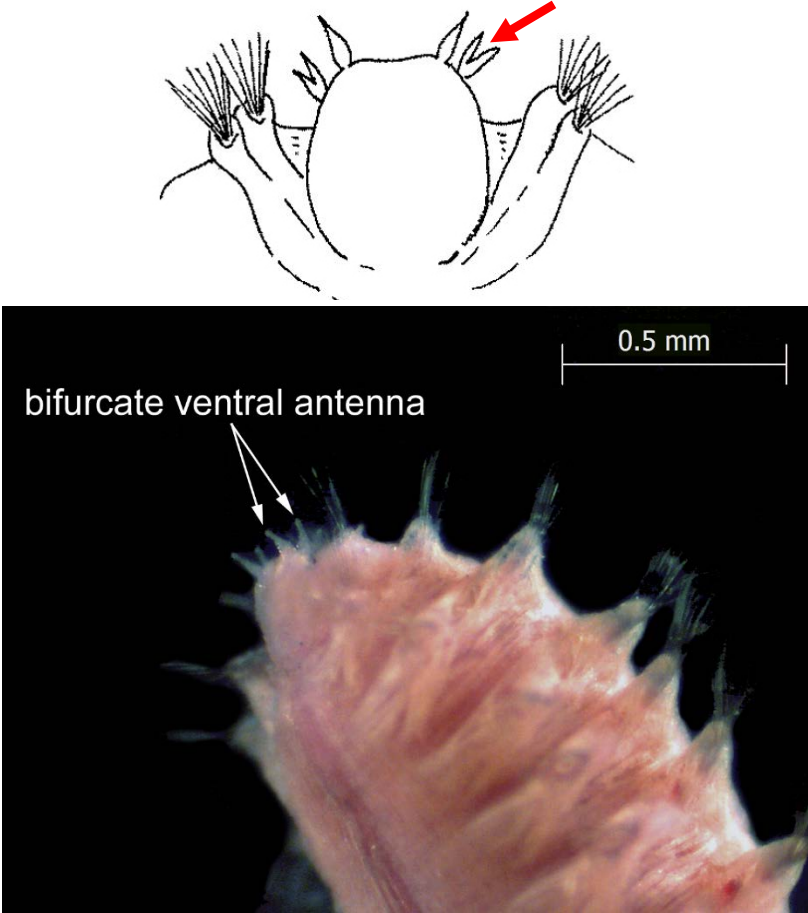
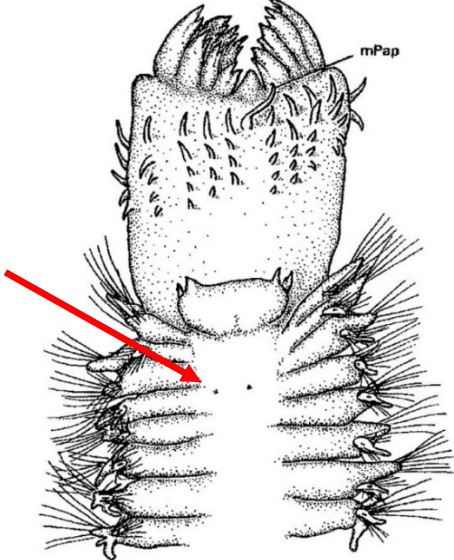
| Nomenclature |  |
|--------------|--|
| Phylum       | Annelida   |
| Class        | Polychaeta   |
| Order        | Aciculata  |
| Family       | Nephtyidae   |
| Synonyms     | <i>Nephtys cornuta</i> Berkeley & Berkeley, 1945<br><i>Nephtys cornuta franciscana</i> Clark & Jones, 1955<br><i>Nephtys neotena</i> : Ohwada 1985 |

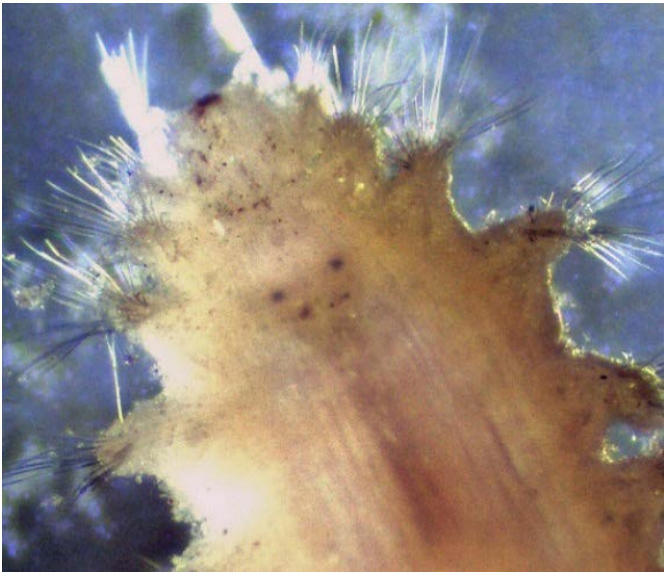
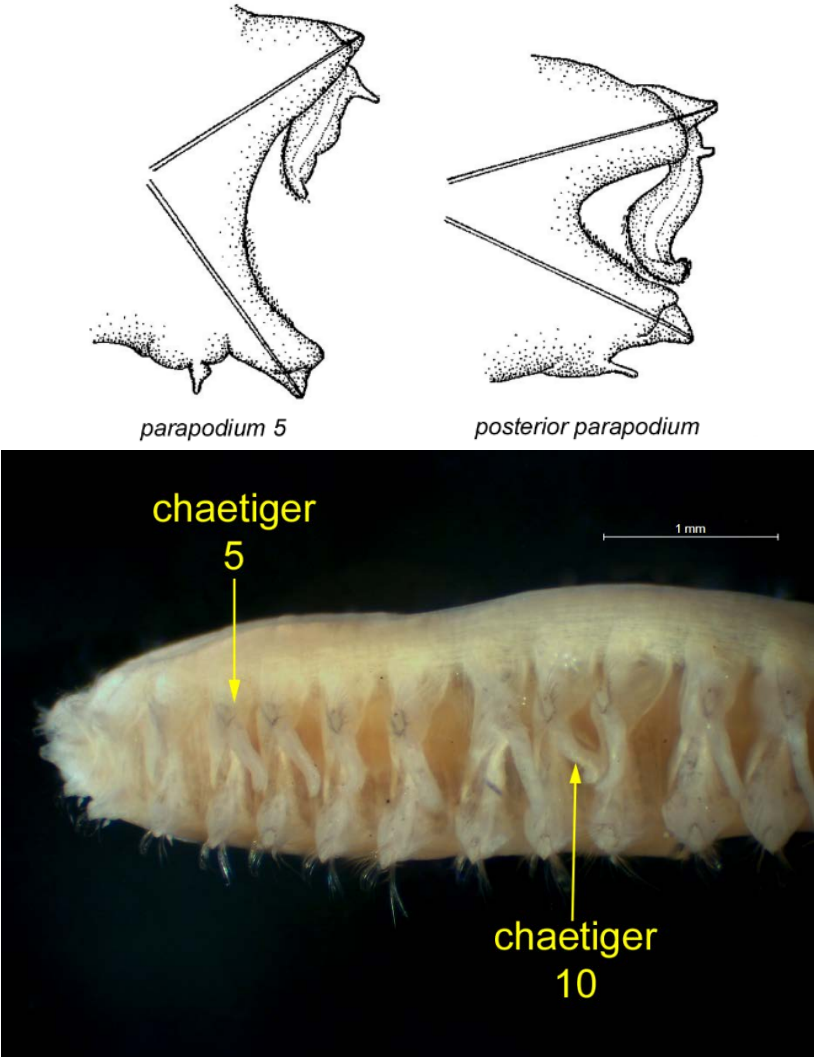


| Distribution            |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Type Locality           | Washington, Friday Harbor ( <i>N. cornuta</i> ); San Francisco Bay ( <i>N. cornuta franciscana</i> ); holotype: USNM 26466. Maine, Damariscotta River ( <i>N. neotena</i> ); holotype: USNM 47165, paratypes: USNM 47166. (Hilbig 1994) |
| Geographic Distribution | Eastern Canada to Maine; Alaska to Southern California (Hilbig 1994)  |
| Habitat                 | Subtidal to 440 m (Hilbig 1994)   |

| Description  |  |
|--|--|
| From Hilbig 1994   |  |
| <b>Size/Color:</b> A small species, 15-20 mm long, width to 1 mm excluding parapodia, segments to 35. Color in alcohol tan or brown; usually with subdermal eyes present in chaetiger 3.   |  |
| <b>Prostomium:</b> 2 pairs of antennae inserted anterolaterally; ventral pair bifid or at least with basal lateral extension. Proboscis with 16 rows of about 5 long, slender subdistal papillae and 14 bifid terminal papillae; middorsal papilla present.  |  |
| <b>Parapodia:</b> First pair directed forward (pointing laterally when proboscis is everted); subsequent pairs directed laterally. Dorsal cirri small, tapering; ventral cirri larger. Interramal cirri from chaetiger 5 or 6; straight and short through about chaetiger 10, slightly recurved thereafter.                        |  |
| <b>Chaetae:</b> Preacicular chaetae short, stiff, crossbarred at least through chaetiger 10 to 19, smooth in following chaetigers; occasionally both chaetal types occurring together or crossbarred chaetae occurring throughout. Postacicular chaetae coarsely serrated and smooth capillaries, longer than preacicular chaetae. |  |
| <b>Pygidium:</b> Small, narrow ring surrounding a terminal anus with a single long, filiform, ventral anal cirrus.   |  |

## Diagnostic Characteristics

| Diagnostic Characteristics  | Photo, Illustrations   | Photo, Illustration Credit   |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Ventral antennae bifurcate (indicated by arrows, right)</p>                            |  <p>Anterior body region (ventrolateral view); specimen from 2014 Long-term Station 49 Rep 2 (Budd Inlet, WA)</p> | <p>Modified from Blake and Ruff 2007 (as <i>N. cornuta</i>)</p> <p>Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p> |
| <p>Subdermal eyes present at the level of chaetiger 3 (indicated by red arrow, right)</p> |  <p>Anterior body region, dorsal view</p>  | <p>Hilbig 1994 (as <i>N. cornuta</i>), p. 349</p>  |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  |  <p data-bbox="431 743 1227 793">Anterior body region (dorsal view); specimen from 2014 PSEMP Long-term Station 49 Rep 2</p>  | <p data-bbox="1295 168 1425 285">Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p>   |
| <p data-bbox="201 1087 367 1360">Interramal cirri first present on chaetiger 5-6; straight and short through chaetiger 10; recurved thereafter (Hilbig 1994, as <i>N. cornuta</i>)</p> <p data-bbox="201 1407 350 1625">Note: Some Puget Sound specimens have long, straight IRC throughout most of the body</p> |  <p data-bbox="558 1226 711 1255">parapodium 5</p> <p data-bbox="889 1226 1123 1255">posterior parapodium</p> <p data-bbox="574 1297 740 1339">chaetiger 5</p> <p data-bbox="915 1730 1081 1814">chaetiger 10</p> <p data-bbox="1094 1331 1127 1348">1 mm</p> <p data-bbox="500 1877 1162 1906">Anterior body region (lateral view); voucher specimen AN2014</p> | <p data-bbox="1289 806 1429 924">Hilbig 1994 (as <i>N. cornuta</i>), p. 349</p> <p data-bbox="1295 1285 1425 1402">Marine Sediment Monitoring Team</p> |

## Related Species and Characteristic Differences

Species Name

Diagnostic Characteristics

This species is distinct and not easily confused with others due to its small size and bifurcate ventral antennae.

## Comments

*Bipalponephtys cornuta* is a common subtidal species in the northeast Pacific, often found in large numbers in a single benthic sample, whereas the larger nephtyids do not generally occur in high densities.

## Literature

Berkeley, E. and C. Berkeley. 1945. Notes on Polychaeta from the coast of western Canada. III. Further notes on Syllidae and some observations on other Polychaeta errantia. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*. 12 (Series 11): 328-330.

Berkeley, E. and C. Berkeley. 1948. Canadian Pacific Fauna 9. Annelida 9b (1). Polychaeta Errantia. *Fisheries Research Board of Canada*. 9b(1): 1-100

Blake, J.A. and R.E. Ruff. 2007. Polychaeta. In: Carlton, J.T. (Ed). *The Light and Smith Manual. Intertidal Invertebrates from Central California to Oregon*. Pp. 309-410. University of California Press, Berkeley. Pp. 309-410. (p. 358, as *N. cornuta*)

Hilbig, B. 1994. Family Nephtyidae Grube, 1850. In: Blake, J.A. and B. Hilbig (Eds). *Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and the Western Santa Barbara Channel. Volume 4. Oligochaeta and Polychaeta: Phyllodocida (Phyllodocidae to Paralacydoniidae)*. Pp. 329-362. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Santa Barbara, California. (Pp. 348-350, as *Nephtys cornuta*)

Kozloff, E.N. 1987. *Marine invertebrates of the Pacific Northwest*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA. 511 pp. (p. 134-135, as *N. cornuta* subsp. *cornuta*)

## More Information

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<http://ecologywa.blogspot.com/2017/03/eyes-under-puget-sound-voucher-sheet.html>

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