Louisiana Pigtoe
Pleurobema riddellii

Rarity Rank:  S1S2/G1G2

Identification:
- Inflated with a fairly round shape.
- Solid shell with a greenish-brown color on the outside.
- Bluish-white interior with an iridescent posterior.
- Length up to 2.6 inches.

Taxonomic comments: This species appears to be synonomous with Quadrula (Fusconaia) friersoni.

Habitat: Streams and moderate size rivers on substrates of mud, sand, or gravel.

Food habits: Mussels are filter feeders that continuously pump water through their siphons. Their diet is composed of the plankton and detritus that they are able to extract during this process.

Reproduction: Most freshwater mussels have a parasitic stage in which the glochidia (larvae) attach to the gills or fins of certain types of fish. The host fish for this species is unknown.

Threats:
- Loss of habitat as a result of siltation, and impoundments.
- The addition of pollutants to streams and rivers may also contribute to the decline of this species.

Beneficial Management Practices:
- Prevent erosion and siltation
- Prevent vehicular traffic across streams

U. S. Range: LA, TX

References: