

**OPINION 2024 (Case 3140)*****Sceloporus occidentalis* Baird & Girard, 1852 (Reptilia, Sauria):  
rediscovered syntypes replaced by a neotype**

**Abstract.** The Commission has designated a neotype for the Pacific blue-bellied lizard *Sceloporus occidentalis* Baird & Girard, 1852 (family PHRYNOSOMATIDAE) from the west coast ranges of North America. The neotype, originally designated in 1954, is a well preserved adult specimen of known provenance and replaces two missing syntypes which have recently been rediscovered but which are immature specimens and do not distinguish *S. occidentalis* from closely related taxa.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Reptilia; Sauria; PHRYNOSOMATIDAE; *Sceloporus occidentalis*; Pacific blue-bellied lizards; western North America.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power all previous type fixations for the nominal species *Sceloporus occidentalis* Baird & Girard, 1852 are set aside and the specimen no. MVZ 59874 in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, is designated as the neotype.
- (2) The name *occidentalis* Baird & Girard, 1852, as published in the binomen *Sceloporus occidentalis* and as defined by the neotype designated in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 3140**

An application to replace the two rediscovered syntypes of the Pacific blue-bellied lizard *Sceloporus occidentalis* Baird & Girard, 1852 (family PHRYNOSOMATIDAE) from the west coast ranges of North America by a neotype was received from Edwin L. Bell (*Albright College, Reading, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*) and Hobart M. Smith and David Chiszar (*University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, U.S.A.*) on 2 September 1999. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 58: 224–226 (September 2001). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 September 2002 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 58: 226.

At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2002 the votes were as follows: 24 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, Kerzhner abstained, no votes were received from Böhme and Dupuis, Ng was on leave of absence.

**Original reference**

The following is the original reference to the name placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:  
*occidentalis*. *Sceloporus*. Baird & Girard, 1852, *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 6: 175.