

## **ULNARIA CF. SPATHULIFERA FROM BURNT CEDAR BEACH, LAKE TAHOE, NEVADA**

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We investigated populations of *Ulnaria* species from epilithic samples from Burnt Cedar Beach located along the north shore of Lake Tahoe in Incline Village, Nevada. A dominant species of *Ulnaria* had spatulate ends, similar to *Ulnaria ulna* var. *spathulifera* (Grunow) Aboal in Aboal et al. 2003 (basionym: *Synedra spathulifera* Grunow in Van Heurck 1881). However, the apical expansions of our specimens were more pronounced than those found in references. According to Van Heurck 1881, *Synedra spathulifera* was observed in Van Heurck slide 25. We attempted to obtain micrographs from the material associated with Van Heurck No. 25 from the Meise Botanic Garden, but the label on the Van Heurck material states the taxon *Synedra splendens* var. *subspathulata* Grunow. We do not know if this was a mistake in labeling. Additionally, we compared our specimens to references for other long araphid taxa with similarly spatulate apices found in the Pantocsek Diatom Collection at the Hungarian Natural History Museum, including *Synedra balatonis* Pantocsek 1902, *Synedra balatonis* var. *staurophora* Pantocsek 1902, and *Synedra rostrata* Pantocsek 1902. We studied the morphological variation within the Burnt Cedar Beach populations. The extent of apical expansion was not associated with seasonality (spring versus summer). We also investigated potentially inconsistent attribution of the names *Ulnaria ulna* var. *spathulifera* and *Synedra ulna* var. *spathulifera* in large bioassessment surveys.