

Cranial osteology of the pampathere *Holmesina floridanus* (Xenarthra: Cingulata; Blancan NALMA), including a description of an isolated petrosal bone (#19901)

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Cranial osteology of the pampathere *Holmesina floridanus* (Xenarthra: Cingulata; Blancan NALMA), including a description of an isolated petrosal bone

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The present study entails descriptions of several well-preserved skulls from the pampathere species *Holmesina floridanus*, recovered from Pliocene localities in central Florida and housed in the collections of the Florida Museum of Natural History. Bone by bone descriptions have allowed detailed reconstructions of cranial morphology. Cranial foramina are described and illustrated in detail, and their contents inferred. The first ever description of an isolated pampathere petrosal is also included. Cranial osteology of *H. floridanus* is compared to that of Pleistocene species of *Holmesina* from both North and South America (*H. septentrionalis*, *H. occidentalis*), as well as to the other well-known pampathere genera, to closely related taxa among glyptodonts (*Propalaeohoplophorus*), and to extinct and extant armadillos (*Proeutatus*, *Euphractus*). This study identifies a suite of apomorphic cranial features that serve to diagnose a progressive series of more inclusive monophyletic groups, including the species *Holmesina floridanus*, the genus *Holmesina*, pampatheres, pampatheres plus glyptodonts, and a clade formed by pampatheres, glyptodonts, and *Proeutatus*. The study highlights the need for further anatomical investigations of pampathere cranial anatomy, especially those using modern scanning technology, and for analyses of pampathere phylogenetic relationships.

1 **Cranial osteology of the pampathere *Holmesina floridanus* (Xenarthra: Cingulata; Blacan**
2 **NALMA), including a description of an isolated petrosal bone**

3

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13 Key Words: Xenarthra, Cingulata, pampathere, *Holmesina*, cranial osteology, auditory region

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16 Abstract - The present study entails descriptions of several well-preserved skulls from the
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24 among glyptodonts (*Propalaeohoplophorus*), and to extinct and extant armadillos (*Proeutatus*,
25 *Euphractus*). This study identifies a suite of apomorphic cranial features that serve to diagnose a
26 progressive series of more inclusive monophyletic groups, including the species *Holmesina*
27 *floridanus*, the genus *Holmesina*, pampatheres, pampatheres plus glyptodonts, and a clade
28 formed by pampatheres, glyptodonts, and *Proeutatus*. The study highlights the need for further
29 anatomical investigations of pampathere cranial anatomy, especially those using modern
30 scanning technology, and for analyses of pampathere phylogenetic relationships.

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INTRODUCTION

34 Living armadillos, the only mammals to bear a carapace of dermal bony armor, are the most
35 diverse of the extant groups of Xenarthra, numbering at least 21 of the 31 currently recognized
36 xenarthran species (Aguiar and Fonseca 2008- although armadillo taxonomy is currently in flux;
37 e.g., see Abba et al. 2015; Feijó and Cordeiro-Estrela 2016). However, the diversity of extinct
38 armored xenarthrans, i.e., the Cingulata, far surpasses its extant representatives, not only in
39 taxonomic diversity, but in terms of body size, locomotory diversity, and dietary diversity, even
40 including a “horned” taxon *Peltephilus* (Fericola et al. 2008; Gaudin and Croft 2015; Croft
41 2016). Regarding diet, it is particularly noteworthy that there are omnivorous extant armadillos,
42 but no herbivores (McDonough and Loughry 2008; Gaudin and Croft 2015), whereas the fossil
43 cingulates include two herbivorous clades, pampatheres and glyptodonts. Both are comprised of
44 large bodied taxa with complex dentitions (lobate teeth composed of multiple dental tissues of
45 differing hardness; Kalthoff 2011). The former numbers only a few genera, whereas the latter
46 encompasses at least 65 genera (McKenna and Bell 1997). Both are understudied, particularly
47 given their conspicuous nature, often bizarre anatomies, and their abundance and ecological
48 importance in late Cenozoic faunas of South and North America.

49 Pampatheres are a particularly poorly studied group. The oldest undoubted pampathere does
50 not appear until the middle Miocene (Gaudin and Croft 2015; with the possible exception of a
51 very poorly preserved taxon from the late Eocene of Patagonia, *Machlydotherium*, De Iuliis and
52 Edmund 2002). The group’s basic taxonomy has long been unsettled. McKenna and Bell (1997)
53 recognize only 4 valid pampathere genera, though several new taxa have since been added
54 (Edmund and Theodor 1997; Góis et al. 2015). One of their genera, *Pampatherium*, includes as a

55 junior synonym at least one genus that is widely recognized as a separate, valid taxon,
56 *Holmesina*; however, which of the species described in the literature belong in *Holmesina* and
57 which in *Pampatherium* has been uncertain (Edmund 1987; De Iuliis et al. 2000). In addition,
58 McKenna and Bell (1997) recognize the taxon name *Plaina* as a junior synonym of the genus
59 *Kraglievichia*, whereas subsequently, De Iuliis and Edmund (2002) synonymize *Plaina* with
60 McKenna and Bell's genus *Vassallia*. Part of the taxonomic difficulties lie with the paucity of
61 fossil material. The majority of preserved pampathere remains consist of isolated osteoderms,
62 which are often unreliable for taxonomic purposes (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002).

63 The nature of the pampathere record has also hindered an understanding of their basic
64 skeletal anatomy. Most of the described postcranial skeletal remains are based on very
65 incomplete material, have received only cursory descriptions, and are poorly illustrated, if at all,
66 by unlabeled photographs showing only one or two views (Castellanos 1937; James 1957;
67 Robertson 1976; Cartelle and Bohórquez 1985; Edmund 1985; Edmund and Theodor 1997; Góis
68 et al. 2015). Despite the fact that several complete skeletal reconstructions have been published
69 (James 1957; Edmund 1985), the postcranial osteology of pampatheres remains scarcely known.

70 For the skull, mandible, and dentition, the situation is somewhat better. A fair number of
71 complete, or nearly complete skulls and mandibles are known from a variety of taxa, including
72 *Kraglievichia* (Castellanos 1937), *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), *Pampatherium*
73 (Bordas 1939; De Iuliis et al. 2000), and various species of *Holmesina* (Simpson 1930; James
74 1957; Cartelle and Bohórquez 1985; Edmund 1985; Vizcaíno et al. 1998), though several other
75 genera remain incompletely known (e.g., *Scirrotherium*, Edmund and Theodor 1997;
76 *Tonnictus*, Góis et al. 2015). More detailed examinations of cranial anatomy have been
77 published, including several studies of the ear region (in *Pampatherium*, Bordas 1939; Guth

78 1961; and in *Vassallia*, Patterson et al. 1989) and a recently published study on brain anatomy
79 based on a digital endocast (Tambusso and Fariña 2015). However, many of these cranial
80 descriptions are fairly cursory, and virtually all are illustrated with unlabeled photographs that
81 leave out many details. Even the ear region studies fail to address or adequately illustrate the
82 detailed anatomy of the petrosal bone, as is common among more modern treatments of
83 mammalian auditory region osteology. To date, there remains no study of the cranial osteology
84 of pampatheres that clearly illustrates suture patterns and provides a bone by bone description of
85 the anatomy, including the cranial foramina and their likely contents.

86 Fossil pampatheres have been known from the state of Florida, in the extreme southeast of
87 North America, for more than a century (Simpson 1930). Two species in the genus *Holmesina*
88 are currently recognized: a late Pliocene-early Pleistocene (Blancan NALMA) form, *H.*
89 *floridanus*; and, a middle to late Pleistocene taxon (Irvingtonian and Rancholabrean NALMA),
90 *H. septentrionalis* (Hulbert and Webb 2001). Both are known from extensive material, but the
91 older material is particularly complete, abundant, and well-preserved (see, e.g., the skull
92 illustrated in Hulbert and Webb 2001, fig. 10.7, currently on exhibit at the Florida Museum of
93 Natural History), though it remains mostly undescribed. Multiple individuals, including both
94 adults and subadults, are derived largely from two sites: Haile 7G in Alachua County, Florida;
95 and Inglis 1C in Citrus County, Florida. The goal of the present study is to describe the cranial
96 osteology of *Holmesina floridanus*, based on this material. Because of the preservation quality,
97 these fossils will allow us to conduct a thorough, bone by bone analysis of the skull, and to
98 provide a fairly comprehensive view of the cranial foramina and their reconstructed contents.
99 There is even an isolated petrosal among this material, which will allow us to describe the bony
100 anatomy of the auditory region in unprecedented detail. These descriptions are accompanied by

101 a carefully executed series of drawings, including both drawings of the best preserved fossils
102 themselves, as well as reconstructions of the anatomy as we believe it would have appeared in
103 life. The present study will provide the most detailed glimpse yet into the cranial anatomy of
104 pampatheres, and should serve as an important basis for future studies of the paleontology,
105 systematics, and evolution of this enigmatic group of cingulate xenarthrans.

106

107

MATERIALS AND METHODS

108 Our goal was to base our description on the best preserved specimens of *Holmesina floridanus*
109 available. Unfortunately for our purposes, the best preserved skull, UF 121742 (one of the best
110 preserved fossil skulls we have ever seen!), is currently on exhibit at the Florida Museum of
111 Natural History. Although the museum staff was kind enough to allow our examination of this
112 specimen for an afternoon, it was not possible for us to borrow the skull for more careful study.
113 Therefore, the descriptions below are based largely on three other specimens, UF 191448, UF
114 224450, and UF 248500, which were also in excellent condition and were available for loan. UF
115 191448 is an almost perfectly complete adult skull, with only minor damage in the orbital wall
116 and nasopharyngeal roof; but, as an adult, most of the sutures are closed, and the specimen
117 retains only four of eighteen teeth (left M3-5, and right M8). UF 224450 is an isolated but nearly
118 perfectly preserved left mandible, however it retains only three of nine teeth (m2 and m6-7). UF
119 248500 is a subadult specimen with some significant damage to the middle portions of the skull,
120 including parts of the skull roof, orbital wall, nasopharynx and left basicranium; but, it retains
121 many if not most of its sutures, all its dentition is intact, and those portions of the skull that are
122 present are very well preserved. In addition, it has a complete, isolated left petrosal that we were
123 able to examine in three dimensions.

124 In order to examine interspecific variation, including ontogenetic variation, the three
125 specimens that form the primary basis for this description were compared to the other skulls and
126 mandibles of *H. floridanus* in the collections of the Florida Museum of Natural History. Most of
127 these, with the exception of the aforementioned display specimen, are not fully prepared, several
128 are incompletely preserved, and at least one represents a subadult likely even younger than UF
129 248500. These specimens include the following: UF 121742 [exhibit skull], UF 223813 [skull
130 only], 248000 [partial mandible], 275496 [juvenile skull], 275497 [skull & mandible], 275498
131 [skull & mandible]; 278000 [partial skull & mandible]; 285000 [skull & mandible], 293000
132 [skull & mandible]. None of the *H. floridanus* material examined preserved any trace of the
133 ectotympanic bone or the auditory ossicles, or showed any trace of an entotympanic (an element
134 commonly present in other xenarthrans and likely a synapomorphy of Xenarthra; Patterson et al.
135 1992; Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and McDonald 2008), though, as noted above, some specimens are
136 not yet fully prepared.

137 In order to assess generic level variation within *Holmesina*, the *H. floridanus* material
138 described above was compared to two specimens of the North American Pleistocene species *H.*
139 *septentrionalis* (UF 889 [partial skull only] and UF 234224 [cast skull only]) and one specimen
140 of the South American Pleistocene species *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881 [skull], ROM 4955
141 [mandible]), as well as any literature available on these taxa. Likewise, in order to gain a
142 comparative perspective on pampathere cranial anatomy, our material was compared to one
143 specimen of *Vassallia maxima* (FMNH P14424), as well as the available literature on this and
144 other pampathere skulls. Finally, in order to place this anatomy in a broader context among
145 cingulates, *H. floridanus* was compared to specimens of the basal glyptodont
146 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007, 15291; FMNH 13205; glyptodonts are the putative

147 sister taxon to pampatheres; Gaudin and Wible 2006; Billet et al. 2011), the extinct eutatine
148 armadillo *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197, P13199; *Proeutatus* is the putative sister taxon to
149 pampatheres and glyptodonts; Gaudin and Wible 2006; Billet et al. 2011), and the extant
150 euphractine armadillo *Euphractus* (CM 6339; UTCM 1481, 1486, 1491, 1500; one of the living
151 armadillos that is most closely related to pampatheres; Gaudin and Wible 2006; Billet et al.
152 2011).

153 Descriptions of the dorsal surface of the petrosal are only available for a small number of
154 cingulate taxa. Therefore, we will be comparing the anatomy of the dorsal surface of our isolated
155 petrosal in *Holmesina floridanus* to the detailed description of *Dasypus novemcinctus* by Wible
156 (2010), to a bisected skull of *Euphractus sexcinctus* (UTCM 1486), and to the Field Museum
157 specimen of *Vassallia maxima*, FMNH P14424, in which the braincase has been bisected
158 (though its endocranial anatomy was never described; the cut is visible in De Iuliis and Edmund,
159 2002, figure 2). Because these are the only two cingulates for which we have information on the
160 lateral surfaces of isolated petrosals, we shall restrict our comparisons of this surface to these two
161 taxa, *H. floridanus* and *Dasypus novemcinctus* (Wible, 2010).

162 Anatomical terminology, wherever possible, follows that of Wible and Gaudin (2004)
163 and Wible (2010). Stereophotographs of UF 248500 were prepared with the assistance of Dr.
164 Stelios Chatzimanolis (Univ. of Tennessee at Chattanooga) in accordance with the procedure
165 outlined in Gaudin (2011).

166 **Institutional Abbreviations:** CM, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA,
167 USA; FMNH, Field Museum, Chicago, IL, USA; UF, Florida Museum of Natural History,
168 University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA; UTCM, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
169 Museum of Natural History, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN, USA;

170 YPM-PU, Princeton University Collection, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale
171 University, New Haven, CT, USA.

172 **Other abbreviations:** c.n., cranial nerve; GSL, greatest skull length; M1-9, upper
173 molariform teeth; m1-9, lower molariform teeth; MML, maximum mandibular length; NALMA,
174 North American Land Mammal Age; SALMA, South American Land Mammal Age.

175

176 RESULTS (DESCRIPTIVE ANATOMY)

177 Nasal

178 The nasals in *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 191448, 248500) consist of two long,
179 transversely convex bones that cover most of the visible surface of the snout in dorsal view
180 (Figures 1, 2). The outline of the bones is somewhat variable, with the bones accounting for
181 anywhere between 32-43% of the skull's total length, and the width to length ratio varying from
182 0.32-0.49 (Table 1, 2). The extant six-banded armadillo (*Euphractus sexcinctus*, UTCM 1491)
183 falls into the same range for both values, whereas the nasals of the extinct eutatine armadillo
184 *Proeutatus oenophorus* (FMNH P13197) are of similar length but narrower. The congeneric
185 pampathere *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224) has longer but narrower nasals, the pampathere
186 *Vassalia maxima* (FMNH P14424) has longer nasals of comparable width, and the early
187 glyptodont *Propalaeohoplophorus australis* (YPM-PU 15007) has nasals that are both shorter
188 and wider (Table 1). A nasal bone greater than or equal to thirty-five percent of the skull length
189 is a synapomorphy of *Proeutatus*, glyptodonts, and pampatheres (Gaudin and Wible 2006). In
190 lateral view, the nasals of *H. floridanus* slope gently anteroventrally as in other pampatheres
191 (Castellanos 1937; Bordas 1939; James 1957; Cartelle and Bohórquez 1985; Edmund 1985;
192 Edmund and Theodor 1997; Vizcaíno et al. 1998; De Iuliis et al. 2000; De Iuliis and Edmund

193 2002), as well as in *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott 1903-4), and the extant *E. sexcinctus* (CM
194 6399, UTCM 1486, 1491). This condition is exaggerated in *Proeutatus oenophorus* (FMNH
195 P13197; Scott 1903-4), where the posterior half of the nasal bones curve upwards steeply
196 towards the frontal bone.

197 In dorsal view, the anterior margin of the nasal bones in *H. floridanus* is convex, which is
198 a synapomorphy of Cingulata (Gaudin and Wible 2006; Gaudin and McDonald 2008). UF
199 284500 has distinct lateral sutures running the length of the nasals, whereas the sutures with the
200 maxilla and premaxilla are largely fused in UF 191448. Nasal width is uniform from the anterior
201 tip to the maxillo-premaxillary suture, where it then gently narrows posteriorly as it approaches
202 the frontal bone. There appears to be two major fronto-nasal suture patterns that occur in *H.*
203 *floridanus*. One of the patterns occurs in UF 191448, as a roughly straight though highly
204 irregular suture (Figure 1). The other pattern, observed in multiple specimens (UF 223813,
205 275496, 275497, 275498; 285000) is a shallow V-shaped suture with the apex directed
206 anteriorly. The nasals of UF 248500 are fractured posteriorly, and the bone is clearly incomplete
207 in places, making it hard to discern the course of its fronto-nasal suture. In *H. septentrionalis*
208 (UF 889), the overall shape of the nasal is similar to that of *H. floridanus*. However, the fronto-
209 nasal suture varies in form and may differ substantially from that of *H. floridanus*. In UF 889 it
210 forms a distorted W-shape, due to a large median peak with a posteriorly directed apex.
211 Conversely, in UF 234224 it is roughly straight, but irregular, as in *H. floridanus* (UF 191448).
212 The fronto-nasal suture in *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881) forms a very shallow, anteriorly concave
213 jagged “U.” In *Vassallia* the suture is a shallow V-shape, reminiscent of some *H. floridanus*
214 specimens, except that the apex in *Vassallia* is directed posteriorly. It is clear from our survey
215 that the shape of the fronto-nasal suture varies widely among pampatheres, though in our

216 reconstruction of *H. floridanus* we have chosen to illustrate a condition like that in UF 191448
217 (Figure 2).

218 The suture is unknown in *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott 1903-4; Vizcaino et al. 1998).
219 Like some *Holmesina*, the fronto-nasal suture of *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) forms a V-shape,
220 with the apex pointing anteriorly. In *Euphractus* it is roughly straight near the lateral edges of the
221 nasal bones, but as it approaches the median suture it too forms an anteriorly-directed V-shape,
222 albeit a smaller one than that of *Proeutatus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004).

223

224 **Premaxilla**

225 In lateral view, the premaxilla has a broad rectangular facial process, with its
226 dorsoventral height slightly exceeding its anteroposterior length (Figures 3, 4). The maxillo-
227 premaxillary suture of the facial process in *H. floridanus* (UF 248500) forms a single posteriorly
228 convex curve. The premaxillary sutures are harder to distinguish in UF 191448, but they appear
229 similar. The dorsal suture between the premaxilla and nasal is relatively short in *Holmesina* (7-
230 10% of GSL in *H. floridanus*; Table 1, 2 - though not listed in the table, the value for *H.*
231 *occidentalis* [ROM 3881] is about 7% of GSL) relative to the extant *Euphractus* (15% of GSL,
232 UTCM 1491), though not as short as in glyptodonts (4% of GSL, *Propalaeohoplophorus* YPM-
233 PU 15291; Table 1). *Proeutatus* (11% of GSL, FMNH P13197) is similar in this regard to
234 *Holmesina*.

235 The free anterior edge of the facial process is vertical but irregularly shaped. The dorsal
236 portion of this edge has a deep and narrow notch in UF 248500 (Figure 3B, C) and UF 121742,
237 which slopes anteroventrally into a large triangular prong. In both UF 191448 (Figure 3A) and
238 UF 285000 the anterior edge ~~in~~ is marked by a shallower, more rounded notch, ending in a small

239 bump on its ventral margin. *H. septentrionalis* and *Vassallia maxima* (Edmund 1985; De Iuliis
240 and Edmund 2002) also have notches that are deep and narrow, as in UF 191448, whereas *H.*
241 *occidentalis* (ROM 3881) has a shallower C-shaped notch more like UF 248500.
242 *Propalaeohoplophorus* has a very shallow C-shaped notch on the anterior edge of its very tall
243 and narrow premaxillary facial process (Scott 1903-4). In *Euphractus*, the anterior margin of the
244 premaxilla is variable in shape – it may be a relatively straight edge sloping posteroventrally
245 (Wible and Gaudin 2004), it may be marked by a wide, shallow, C-shaped notch (e.g., UTCM
246 1500), or the entire edge may form ~~form~~ a single shallow concavity (e.g., UTCM 1486, 1491).
247 The anterior edge of the premaxilla in *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) slopes posteroventrally in
248 lateral view, as in *Euphractus*, and it lacks the notch that is present in pampatheres, glyptodonts,
249 and some *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004).

250 The external nares of *H. floridanus* are widest transversely near the nasopremaxillary
251 suture. From there the premaxilla slopes steeply inward ventromedially. In anterior view UF
252 248500 appears to have irregularly rounded, upside-down triangular shaped nasal opening. The
253 nares in UF 191448 have a more rounded, inverted pentagonal cross-section, much like that of *H.*
254 *septentrionalis* (UF 234224). The nasal opening is more ovate and dorsoventrally compressed in
255 both *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) and *Euphractus* (CM 6399; UTCM 1486, 1491).

256 In ventral view, the premaxilla of *H. floridanus* forms a rounded M-shaped palatal suture
257 with the maxilla (Figures 5, 6), similar to that of *H. septentrionalis* (UF 889). The maxillo-
258 premaxillary suture exhibits a high degree of variability in other species.

259 In *H. floridanus*, the anteroventral tip of the premaxilla extends forward in the midline as
260 a rounded prong in UF 191448, though this prong is strongly reduced in UF 248500. *H.*
261 *septentrionalis* (Edmund 1985) has a similar, though transversely broader, U-shaped

262 anteroventral prong, and a prong very like that of UF 191448 is also present in *Vassallia* (De
263 Iuliis and Edmund 2002). *Propalaeohoplophorus* differs in that the anteroventral edge of the
264 premaxilla forms extensions that project forward to form a distorted M-shape, with long
265 anterolateral edges and a short V-shaped median notch. The premaxillae of *Proeutatus* and
266 *Euphractus* lack anteroventral extensions (Scott, 1903-4; Wible and Gaudin 2004).

267 The palatal process of the premaxilla in *H. floridanus* is incised by a deep groove that
268 emerges from the front of the incisive foramina (Figures 5, 6). **The incisive foramen** transmits
269 the nasopalatine duct, which connects the oral and nasal cavities with the vomeronasal organ. It
270 also transmits the nasopalatine nerve, artery and vein (Wible and Gaudin 2004). The incisive
271 foramina themselves are deeply recessed posterodorsally, with separate left and right openings
272 that empty into a single midline fossa. This appears to be a general feature of pampatheres, but it
273 is an unusual morphology among cingulates. Other cingulates, such as *Proeutatus* (FMNH
274 P13197) and *Euphractus* (CM 6399; UTCM 1481, 1486), have a common fossa that houses the
275 two separate incisive foramina, and all cingulates (except perhaps glyptodonts; see Gillette and
276 Ray 1981, fig. 11c) have close set incisive foramina. However, in no other cingulates are they as
277 deeply recessed, and no other cingulates possess the deep anterior groove found in pampatheres.
278 As in all other cingulates, aside from *Peltephilus* (Gaudin and Wible 2006), the incisive foramina
279 in *H. floridanus* are completely encompassed by the premaxilla.

280 The premaxilla retains a single tooth near its posterior border with the maxilla. The right
281 maxillary-premaxillary suture runs into the mesial portion of the socket of the second tooth. The
282 premaxilla encompasses the labial half of the second tooth socket, but forms only the front of the
283 socket on the lingual side. The presence of premaxillary teeth is a synapomorphy of euphractine
284 armadillos, glyptodonts, and pampatheres (**Node C; Gaudin and Wible 2006**), though it is lost

285 secondarily in glyptodonts. The premaxillary tooth of *H. floridanus* is angled anteriorly and
286 slightly medially. It has beveled wear facets on the occlusal surface. The surface area of the
287 mesial facet is greater than that of the distal facet in most specimens, though the distal is larger in
288 UF 293000 and highly reduced in UF 121742 and 275496, and the two facets lie at a 110 degree
289 angle to one another. The overall outline of the occlusal surface is ovate, with its mesiodistal
290 length exceeding its transverse width (Table 1). The left premaxillary tooth in UF 248500
291 possesses a small lenticular island of osteodentine in the center, whereas the right tooth has a
292 narrow linear island of osteodentine. Presence of an elevated core of osteodentine is a
293 synapomorphy of *Proeutatus*, glyptodonts, and pampatheres (Node 7; Gaudin and Wible 2006),
294 as is the presence of beveled wear facets only in the anterior portion of the tooth row. In both *H.*
295 *occidentalis* (ROM 3881), and *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) the premaxillary tooth has an ovate
296 occlusal surface, similar to *H. floridanus*. In *Vassallia* and *H. septentrionalis* the premaxillary
297 teeth are missing, (Edmund 1985; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), but it can be ascertained from the
298 shape of the tooth alveoli in these animals that they too had ovate occlusal surfaces, making this
299 a shared trait among cingulate taxa that possess premaxillary teeth. In *Euphractus* (CM 6399;
300 UTCM 1486, 1491) the premaxillary tooth is mostly flat at its tip, with a small discolored island
301 in the center, likely formed from orthodentine (Ferigolo 1985; Kalthoff 2011).

302

303 **Maxilla**

304 The facial process of the maxilla contacts the nasal dorsally, the premaxilla anteriorly,
305 and the frontal and lacrimal posteriorly (Figures 3-6). The large zygomatic process of the maxilla
306 contacts the jugal posteriorly. The facial process is marked by a ridge that runs anteroposteriorly
307 just below the nasomaxillary suture. In *Holmesina*, this ridge begins as an indistinct, broad

308 elevation above M2/M3 (=second and third molariform teeth; note all teeth in pampatheres and
309 glyptodonts are molariform) that becomes a more pronounced, low ridge above M4, and finally
310 forms a sharply defined ridge over M6. The ridge then curves posteroventrally to become
311 confluent with the maxilla/jugal suture and a large rounded ridge that marks the anterior
312 termination of the jugal and outlines the distinct **antorbital fossa** (Wible and Gaudin 2004; =
313 buccinator fossa from Gaudin 2004). The antorbital fossa is particularly large and deep
314 posteriorly behind the infraorbital foramen, as well as on the anterior surface of the zygomatic
315 process of the maxilla. This fossa accommodates the nasiolabialis muscles (Smith and Redford
316 1990; Vizacaino et al. 1998; Wible and Gaudin 2004). In dorsal view, the maxilla forms a small
317 portion of the roof of the snout as it touches the nasal bone (Figures 1, 2). It also comprises the
318 majority of the lateral walls of the snout, which taper anteriorly in both lateral and dorsal views
319 (Figures 1-4). **A nearly identical lateral maxillary ridge is present in the other *Holmesina* species**
320 (*H. occidentalis*, *H. septentrionalis*). The ridge in *Vassallia*, though present, is less distinct (De
321 *Iuliis* and Edmund 2002) than it is in *Holmesina. Euphractus* (CM 6399; UTCM 1486, 1491)
322 **also has a distinct maxillary ridge that begins over M3 and marks the dorsal edge of a strong**
323 **antorbital fossa (Wible and Gaudin, 2004).** The antorbital fossa is less well marked in
324 *Proeutatus*, and is absent in *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott, 1903-4; Gaudin and Wible 2006).

325 The palatine process of the maxilla is broadly concave anteroposteriorly from M1 to M7.
326 The palate, including both maxillary and palatine contributions, is convex from M7 to the
327 posterior edge of the palate, but concave transversely along its whole length. Both the
328 longitudinal and transverse concavities are especially deep anteriorly, near the junction of the
329 maxilla and premaxilla. The hard palate is marked by numerous foramina (Figures 5, 6), as in
330 other xenarthrans (Gaudin and Wible 2006). This is due to the fact that the major palatine

331 arteries, veins, and nerves that travel within the palatal process of the maxilla (Wible and
332 Gaudin, 2004), rather than on its ventral surface, as in other mammals (e.g., *Canis*, Evans and
333 Christiansen 1979; *Homo*, Clemente 1985). These nerve and vessels finally emerge ventrally
334 from their canal in the maxilla near the front of the palate, through the anterior palatal foramina.
335 Anterior palatal foramina are typically located near M4 (e.g., in UF 248500) in *H. floridanus*, but
336 they exhibit some variation in their position in different specimens. For example, in UF 191448,
337 both are near the distal half of M3, but on the left side of UF 121742, they are as far back as the
338 mesial half of M5. The anterior palatal foramina occupy similar, somewhat varying positions in
339 *H. occidentalis*, *H. septentrionalis*, and *Vassallia*, showing only slightly greater variation than
340 that found in *H. floridanus* itself - one specimen of *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224) had the
341 foramina situated a little further forward, at the mesial edge of M3 or between M2 and M3. In all
342 of these species, the foramina open anteriorly into distinct grooves that travel forward, ending
343 just short of the maxillo-premaxillary suture. This anterior palatal foramina and grooves are also
344 present in glyptodonts (Gaudin 2004) and *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197). The characteristic is
345 convergent on similar features shared by pilosans (Gaudin 2004; Wible and Gaudin 2004; De
346 Iuliis et al. 2011).

347 The median suture of the maxilla is slightly raised from the distal edge of M5 posteriorly
348 to the junction with the palatine in *H. floridanus* (Figures 5, 6). This trait is also present in
349 *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881), *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), *Propalaeohoplophorus*
350 (Scott 1903-4), *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), and *Euphractus* (CM 6399). In *H. floridanus*, the
351 apex of the U-shaped maxillary/palatine suture reaches as far anteriorly as the middle of M8. The
352 suture travels posteriorly just medial to the tooth alveoli of M8 and M9, and then curves laterally
353 behind this last tooth in front of the pterygoid process. A U-shaped maxillo-palatine suture with

354 rounded anterolateral corners is a derived feature of *Proeutatus* and living euphractines (Node 6,
355 Gaudin and Wible 2006), but this condition also occurs in *H. floridanus* and *H. occidentalis*
356 (ROM 3881). The maxilla/palatine suture is unknown in *H. septentrionalis* and
357 *Propalaeohoplophorus*, whereas in *Vassallia*, the suture is M-shaped (De Iuliis and Edmund
358 2002; Gaudin and Wible 2006).

359 The zygomatic process of the maxilla is sizeable, and forms most of the anterior wall of
360 the orbit in pampatheres (Gaudin and Wible 2006). In ventral view, the zygomatic process is
361 triangular with a broad base and narrow apex extending laterally at a right angle to the main
362 body of the maxilla (Figures 5, 6). The ovate infraorbital foramen in *H. floridanus* is situated
363 above M6, and opens anteriorly into a short groove. The maxillary foramen lies above the
364 posterior half of M7 (UF 121742, 248500; 285000) or the anterior half of M8 (UF 191448). It is
365 triangular in shape, and serves as the posterior entrance to a long infraorbital canal that perforates
366 the base of the zygomatic process. This canal is riddled with many smaller foramina along its
367 medial wall, as occurs in *Euphractus* (Gaudin and Wible 2004). In *H. occidentalis*, *H.*
368 *septentrionalis* and *Vassallia*, the infraorbital canal also extends from M8-M6 (ROM 3881; UF
369 234224; Edmund 1985; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002); thus, this appears to be a characteristic of
370 pampatheres in general. In contrast, *Propalaeohoplophorus* has a more dorsally situated
371 infraorbital canal than that of pampatheres. The canal is relatively short, its entire length located
372 above M6-M5 (Scott 1903-4). *Proeutatus* also has a short, dorsally positioned infraorbital canal
373 that begins above M7 and exits above M5/M6, and lies above the antorbital fossa. In *Euphractus*
374 (CM 6399), the canal is intermediate in length between that of *Proeutatus* and *Holmesina*,
375 beginning over the posterior half of M7 and exiting over the anterior half of M6.

376 Sutures are fused or poorly marked in the orbit of UF 191448, and large portions of the
377 orbital process of the maxilla are missing or heavily fractured in UF 248500, though the sutures
378 are more clearly visible in the latter specimen. That said, the orbital process of the maxilla
379 appears to comprise the anteroventral part of the medial wall of the orbit (Figure 7) as in most
380 cingulates, with the exception of dasypodine armadillos (Gaudin and Wible 2006). The orbital
381 exposure of the maxilla borders the lacrimal, anterodorsally, the frontal posterodorsally, and the
382 alisphenoid, pterygoid (or palatine; see description of palatine below), and orbitosphenoid
383 posteriorly. Atypical of other mammals and even other cingulates, pampatheres and glyptodonts
384 possess a sphenopalatine foramen that is housed in a common fossa with the sphenorbital fissure.
385 The opening of the sphenopalatine foramen is directed cranially (UF 121742). Within the orbit
386 the maxilla forms the anterior edge of the sphenopalatine foramen, whereas the alisphenoid (or
387 palatine; see description of palatine below) forms the posterior edge. In *Euphractus*, the
388 sphenopalatine foramen lies between the maxilla and palatine (Wible and Gaudin 2004).

389 The presence of nine upper teeth is the primitive condition in *Proeutatus*, euphractine
390 armadillos, and pampatheres (Node 3; Gaudin and Wible 2006), with all but the first (M2-M9)
391 housed in the maxilla. *Propalaeohoplophorus* has only eight teeth, since it is missing the
392 premaxillary tooth, as noted above. Therefore, we believe the first tooth in
393 *Propalaeohoplophorus* is homologous with M2 in pampatheres, and we will label it as such for
394 comparative purposes. UF 248500 preserves a complete dentition (Figure 5B), whereas in UF
395 191448 there are only four teeth remaining (the left M3-M5, and the right M8; Figure 5A).
396 Among other *H. floridanus*, UF 121742 also has a complete dentition, whereas at least partial
397 dentitions are visible in the incompletely prepared specimens UF 223813, 275496, 285000, and
398 293000. The upper molariforms in *H. floridanus* are relatively short and broad compared to

399 those in other pampatheres or glyptodonts (Table 1, 2). The occlusal surfaces of M2 and M3 are
400 ovate in outline. The occlusal surface of M4 is ovate in UF 191448 and almost rectangular in UF
401 293000, but reniform in UF 248500 and most other specimens, with an occlusal surface that is
402 concave lingually and convex labially. In UF 191448, M5 is reniform and concave labially, and
403 M5 is bilobate in UF 285000 and 275498, whereas in UF 248500 and the other *H. floridanus*
404 specimens, M5-M7 are trilobate on the lingual side, and bilobate on the labial side of the tooth,
405 though the middle lingual lobe is often poorly marked. This causes these teeth to retain a bilobate
406 gestalt, as is typical for pampatheres (Hoffstetter 1958; Edmund 1985; Edmund and Theodor
407 1997; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002). M8 and M9 are bilobate on both sides of the jaw. The
408 presence of reniform occlusal surfaces on the anterior teeth and bilobate occlusal surfaces on the
409 posterior teeth appears to be a characteristic of pampatheres. *H. septentrionalis* has occlusal
410 surfaces that are kidney-shaped from M2-M4, but bilobate from M5-M9, as in *H. floridanus*
411 (Edmund 1985). *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881) differs from *H. floridanus* and *H. septentrionalis*
412 in that M3-M4 are more ovate in outline, and the posterior lobes are displaced slightly laterally
413 in M6-M9, whereas in other pampatheres the lobes are linearly arranged. *Vassallia* is missing
414 most of its teeth, but the occlusal surface of the left M6 appears to be similar in shape to that of
415 *H. floridanus*, albeit with deeper lateral lobes (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002). *Scirrotherium*,
416 *Kraglievichia*, and *Pampatherium* appear to differ mainly in the size and shape of M4, with the
417 tooth smaller and more ovate in *Scirrotherium* (Edmund and Theodor 1997), and relatively larger
418 than *Holmesina* and bilobate in shape in the latter two genera (Simpson 1930; De Iuliis et al.
419 2000). In *Propalaeohoplophorus*, the anterior teeth are reniform, or weakly lobate in the case of
420 M4, reminiscent of the condition in pampatheres. However the posterior teeth are distinct in
421 outline, with M5-M6 irregularly shaped, weakly bilobate labially and trilobate lingually, whereas

422 M7-M9 are strongly trilobate on both sides. This trilobate pattern is a defining feature of
423 glyptodonts (Hoffstetter 1958; Gillette and Ray 1981). *Proeutatus* possesses anterior teeth with
424 ovate cross-sections as in *Euphractus*, whereas the back teeth are shaped like tear drops with the
425 apex pointing anteriorly and lingually (Scott 1903-4). *Euphractus* has ovate or circular occlusal
426 surfaces on all its teeth, as in other armadillos (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible
427 2006).

428 In UF 248500, M2 possesses an oval island of osteodentine in the center of the tooth,
429 which becomes narrow and linear in M3-M4 and M9. M5 through M8 have a line of
430 osteodentine that is either Y-shaped or triangular at either end (Figure 5B). This osteodentine
431 pattern was consistently present among the other *H. floridanus* specimens that were examined
432 and appears in other pampatheres as well. In *Propalaeohoplophorus*, each lobe of the
433 molariforms has a branched central ridge of osteodentine, as in other glyptodonts (Scott 1903-4;
434 Gillette and Ray 1981; Ferigolo 1985; Kalthoff 2011). In *Proeutatus* the posterior teeth also
435 possess an osteodentine core like glyptodonts and pampatheres, but this core forms a loop rather
436 than a linear or branched structure (FMNH P13197; Scott 1903-4). In *Euphractus* (CM 6399;
437 UTCM 1486, 1491), as in other armadillos, there is no osteodentine in the teeth. There is only an
438 ovate region of modified dentine in the center of each tooth (Ferigolo, 1985; Gaudin and Wible
439 2006; Kalthoff, 2011).

440 M2 and M3 both have beveled crowns, with a mesial facet that is much larger than the
441 distal facet. The angle between the mesial and distal facets on M2 is more acute than that of M1,
442 whereas in M3 the two facets form nearly a right angle. M4 and all of the remaining teeth have
443 but one flat occlusal surface. The long axis of the tooth crowns in UF 248500 are all angled
444 anteroventrally in lateral view (Figures 5, 6). Additionally, M2 and M3 are lingually oriented in

445 anterior view, M5-M7 are vertical, and M8-M9 are tilted labially. The corresponding occlusal
446 surfaces form a gently rolling planar surface that faces slightly ventrolaterally in the posterior
447 teeth, and faces progressively more ventromedially near the front of the toothrow. This is similar
448 to the condition occurring in glyptodonts, where the upper teeth slant lingually anteriorly and
449 labially posteriorly (Gaudin 2004). The posterior molariforms take on a stairstep appearance in
450 lateral view, with the occlusal surfaces slanting posteroventrally (Figures 5, 6). In both
451 *Holmesina* and *Vassallia*, the anterior left and right tooththrows bend inward to form a nearly
452 closed dentition (Figures 3, 4). This is also the case in *Kraglievichia* and (to a lesser extent)
453 *Pampatherium* (Simpson 1930; Bordas 1939; De Iuliis et al. 2000), and likely represents a
454 derived trait of pampatheres. This feature is unusual among cingulates, but it is also present in
455 *Macroeuphractus* (Vizcaíno and De Iuliis 2003). This differs from the condition that occurs in
456 the extinct “horned” armadillo *Peltephilus*, where the dentition is fully closed anteriorly (Gaudin
457 and Wible 2006).

458

459 **Palatine**

460 The palatine bone consists in part of a large horizontal process that forms the back of the
461 hard palate, with the left and right bones separated medially by a raised suture (Figures 3, 4).
462 This elongated median ridge is a synapomorphy among euphractine armadillos, *Eutatus*,
463 *Proeutatus*, glyptodonts, and pampatheres (Node A, Gaudin and Wible 2006). However, the
464 median palatine ridge in both *Euphractus* and *Proeutatus* is more sharply defined than that of *H.*
465 *floridanus*. As noted above, the anterior apex of the maxillo-palatine suture in *H. floridanus* (UF
466 248500) lies opposite the midpoint of M8. The ventral surface of the horizontal process has a
467 few small perforations that appear to accommodate branches of the major palatine arteries, veins,

468 and nerves. The posterior-most region of the palatal surface may have one or two minor palatine
469 foramina of varying size (size and number vary both bilaterally and among specimens), and the
470 posterior margin in some specimens is marked (on one side or both right and left) by a deep
471 notch that presumably served the same purpose, accommodating the minor palatine nerves and
472 vessels that service the soft palate (Wible and Gaudin 2004). The minor palatine foramen in UF
473 248500 opens into a caudal palatine foramen that is situated in the floor of the sphenopalatine
474 canal, just medial and anterior to the aperture of the sphenopalatine foramen.

475 The posterior edge of the palatine, which forms the anteroventral margin of the choanae,
476 takes on a narrow U-shape. This configuration is a synapomorphy of glyptodonts and
477 pampatheres (Gaudin and Wible 2006). Moreover, the palatine extends only a short distance
478 beyond the tooththrow posteriorly, which is a synapomorphy among *Tolypeutes*, euphractine
479 armadillos, *Eutatus*, *Proeutatus*, glyptodonts, and pampatheres (Node 5, Gaudin and Wible
480 2006).

481 In several *H. floridanus* specimens examined, there was a transverse crack present behind
482 M9 but anterior to the minor palatine foramina. Although it is more or less symmetrical on the
483 right and left sides in UF 248500 (Figure 5B), and a similar crack is present in roughly the same
484 place in a couple of other specimens (UF 223813, 275496 [juvenile]), we have ultimately
485 decided that it is just a crack in the palatine, and not a suture. The posterolateral corner of the
486 palatine's horizontal process curves ventrally to form a large triangular flange. This flange
487 covers the robust pterygoid process on its anterior, ventral, medial surface. In *H. floridanus* (UF
488 248500) this flange forms distinct sutures laterally and posteriorly with the pterygoid bone.

489 In lateral view, there is typically no exposure of the palatine in the orbit (UF 191448, UF
490 121742; Figure 7). In the juvenile specimen, UF 248500, there is a narrow portion of the

491 palatine's perpendicular process visible as a vertical splint lying between the maxilla anteriorly,
492 and the alisphenoid and pterygoid posteriorly. As noted above, this may be a temporary
493 condition, and the alisphenoid may have grown over it to cover the maxilla later in life. The
494 dorsal edge of the palatine bone is broken in UF 248500, and the orbital sutures are fused in UF
495 191448. Thus the connections with the orbitosphenoid are unclear, though there is clearly no
496 contact with the squamosal. The lack of an orbital palatine exposure is likely an autapomorphy of
497 *Holmesina*, since an exposure is present in *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), glyptodonts
498 (*Guth* 1961) and *Proeutatus* and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). The vertical process of
499 the palatine forms the anterolateral wall of the nasopharynx, contacting the presphenoid,
500 basisphenoid, and probably the vomer dorsally, although sutural fusion in UF 191448 and UF
501 121742 and damage to UF 248500 make it difficult to determine the posterior extent of this part
502 of the palatine.

503

504 **Pterygoid**

505 The pterygoid in cingulates is generally a small bone that forms the posteroventral
506 margin of the orbit's medial wall, extending posteroventrally into a short pterygoid process or
507 hamulus. It typically forms a somewhat larger portion of the posterolateral wall of the
508 nasopharynx (Wible and Gaudin 2004). Although the sutures in this region of the skull are
509 difficult to interpret in the various specimens of *H. floridanus*, it would appear the pterygoid
510 bone occupies a similar position in this taxon. Its small, rectangular lateral surface contacts the
511 alisphenoid dorsally and the maxilla (and perhaps the palatine) anteriorly (Figures 3, 4, 7). There
512 is no contact between the pterygoid and squamosal bones, which is designated a derived feature
513 of Cingulata by Gaudin and Wible (2006), though it is likely a primitive feature of eutherian

514 mammals (Novacek 1986; Wible et al. 2004; Wible et al. 2009). Therefore, among xenarthrans,
515 the presence of a pterygoid/squamosal contact should be considered a derived feature of pilosans
516 instead.

517 The pterygoid of *H. floridanus* forms a blunt, triangular, and quite rugose pterygoid
518 process. This kind of blunt, rough, thickened pterygoid process is a synapomorphy of
519 glyptodonts and pampatheres (Gaudin and Wible 2006). In *H. floridanus*, *H. occidentalis* (ROM
520 3881; Vizcaíno et al. 1998) and *Vassallia* (FMNH P 14424; the relevant area in *H.*
521 *septentrionalis* is not preserved in the specimens we examined), the lateral surface of the
522 pterygoid is covered with a variable number of rugose ridges, typically around six, which are
523 slanted in a generally anterodorsal to posteroventral orientation. These ridges are also present in
524 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott 1903-4) although the pterygoid is much more dorsoventrally
525 elongate in this genus. These ridges serve as an attachment point for the robust medial pterygoid
526 muscle in these herbivorous cingulates. There are similar ridges on the lateral surface of the
527 pterygoid of some sloths, although they are less densely packed and organized somewhat
528 differently (Gaudin 2004, 2011). The pterygoid process is positioned lateral to the toothrow in
529 ventral view (Figures 5, 6), which is also a synapomorphy of pampatheres and glyptodonts
530 (Gaudin and Wible, 2006).

531 In ventral view, the pterygoid of UF 248500 forms an L-shaped exposure that contributes
532 to the posterolateral corner of the hard palate, with a narrow portion comprising the pterygoid
533 process/lateral exposure of the pterygoid extending anteroposteriorly, and a narrow transverse
534 portion that extends medially (Figure 5B). A similar morphology is probably present in UF
535 121742, though the sutures are not always clear, whereas in some specimens (e.g., UF 191448,
536 UF 223813, UF 275496) there is no evidence of a suture between the pterygoid process and

537 palatine, though we suspect that this is the result of fusion. A palatal exposure of the pterygoid is
538 an unusual feature among cingulates (and among placental mammals in general; O'Leary et al.,
539 2013), but is a synapomorphy of the dasypodine armadillos *Dasypus* and *Stegotherium* (Gaudin
540 and Wible, 2006). At least the pterygoid process contribution to the palate may be more
541 widespread among pampatheres and glyptodonts. Though it is not mentioned in De Iuliis and
542 Edmund (2002), such a contribution is visible in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), and Guth illustrates
543 a similar morphology in *Glyptodon* (Guth 1961, fig. 123).

544 The dorsal portion of the pterygoid in UF 248500, which normally forms much of the
545 posterolateral wall of the nasopharynx in cingulates (Wible and Gaudin 2004), is strongly
546 reduced, extending dorsally as a triangular wedge only a short distance. In UF 121742, the
547 dorsal and medial exposure of the pterygoid appears larger, but still does not reach the roof of the
548 nasopharynx. Because of suture closure, it is unclear whether the area dorsal to the pterygoid in
549 the latter specimen is formed by palatine extending posterodorsally, or basisphenoid extending
550 ventrally.

551 We have observed several unusual morphologies associated with the pterygoid region in
552 individual specimens of *H. floridanus*. UF 121742 possesses two pterygoid processes - a large,
553 more laterally situated process that is clearly homologous to the pterygoid process of the other *H.*
554 *floridanus* specimens and other cingulates, and a smaller, more medially situated process
555 extending posteriorly from the back margin of the hard palate. The presence of two pterygoid
556 processes or crests, an entopterygoid process/crest and an ectopterygoid process/crest, is a
557 feature that is widely observed among primitive eutherians [e.g., *Zalambdalestes* (Wible et al.,
558 2004); *Leptacris* (Novacek, 1986)] and many extant placental mammals [e.g., *Atelerix* (UTCM
559 727, 1553; Frost et al., 1991); *Tupaia* (UTCM 1980; Wible 2011); *Elephantulus* (UTCM 1482,

560 1512)]. The ectopterygoid process/crest is typically formed mostly by the alisphenoid, so for
561 those taxa with a single pterygoid process or hamulus formed by the pterygoid, it is generally
562 homologized with the entopterygoid process/crest, as has been done for the armadillo
563 *Euphractus* by Wible and Gaudin (2004). If the lateral pterygoid process of UF 121742 is
564 indeed the entopterygoid process, as seems almost certain, then the more medial process
565 represents a neomorph. We suspect this process represents an attachment point for enlarged
566 pharyngeal or masticatory muscles. If the muscular anatomy of *Canis* (Evans and Christiansen,
567 1979) can be used as a model, the pterygopharygeus seems a likely candidate.

568 In UF 191448, there is an unusual, vertical mass of cancellous pneumatized bone that lies
569 at the junction between the medial wall of the orbit and the lateral wall of the choanae. This mass
570 may be part of the pterygoid, due to its position in the skull, and the fact that it has a small
571 palatal exposure along the posterior margin of the palate that appears to match the medial,
572 transverse portion of the pterygoid palatal exposure in UF 248500 and other *H. floridanus*
573 specimens. On the other hand, this mass appears to be completely surrounded by sutures
574 (including the palatal exposure), which would suggest that it too is a neomorphic feature.
575 Pneumatization of the pterygoid is rare among cingulates. However, it is commonplace among
576 pilosans, where inflated, often bullate pterygoids are known among myrmecophagid anteaters,
577 *Megalocnus*, *Myiodon*, some nothrotheriid sloths, the three-toed sloth *Bradypus torquatus*, and
578 the two-toed sloth genus *Choloepus* (Stock 1925; Guth 1961; Patterson et al. 1992; Gaudin 2004;
579 De Iuliis et al. 2011). This separate pneumatized mass of bone is only present in UF 191448, but
580 other *H. floridanus* specimens did display pneumatized bone around the posteromedial edge of
581 the choanae. This mass of bone in UF 191448 forms a discrete suture with the palatine and

582 basisphenoid anteriorly and dorsally, the palatine anteriorly and ventrally, and the pterygoid and
583 alisphenoid bones laterally.

584
585 **Lacrimal**

586 The lacrimal is shaped roughly like a parallelogram, with its long axis tilted
587 anterodorsally (Figures 3, 4). It contacts the maxilla anteriorly and posteroventrally, the frontal
588 posterodorsally, and the jugal ventrally. The lacrimal consists of a facial and orbital process; the
589 boundary between these two processes is not particularly distinct. In Wible and Gaudin (2004),
590 the low ridge that runs from the postorbital process of the frontal ventrally onto the jugal, the
591 antorbital ridge, was used as a rough boundary between the facial and orbital processes. The
592 antorbital ridge exhibits some variation in its development among *H. floridanus* specimens. The
593 position of the lacrimal foramen also varies among pampatheres. In the majority of pampathere
594 specimens examined in this study, the lacrimal foramen is located on the antorbital ridge, that is,
595 on the boundary between the facial and orbital processes, as it is in *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13199)
596 and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). In *H. septentrionalis* (UF 889, 243224) and *Vassallia*
597 (P 14424), however, the lacrimal foramen is located anterior to the antorbital ridge; therefore, it
598 is clearly situated on the facial process. This is apparently also the condition in primitive
599 glyptodonts (Scott 1903-4). In *Euphractus*, *Proeutatus*, and most of the pampatheres and
600 glyptodonts examined, the lacrimal foramen is relatively small. However, in *H. septentrionalis*
601 (UF 889) the lacrimal foramen is situated within a much larger, circular depression. A similar,
602 but more dorsoventrally ovate depression appears to be present in *H. septentrionalis* (UF
603 243224), as well as in *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007), although in this specimen the
604 depression opens posteriorly. Just dorsal to the lacrimal foramen is a rugose area, the lacrimal
605 tubercle. In UF 191448, the tubercle is small, and continuous with a crest that extends ventrally

606 onto the zygoma anterior to the lacrimal foramen (Wible and Gaudin 2004). The lacrimal
607 tubercle is much larger in UF 248500, and contacts not only this anterior crest, but the antorbital
608 ridge as well. A lacrimal tubercle is present in all cingulates, with the exception of *Dasypus* and
609 *Stegotherium* (Gaudin and Wible 2006), and is distinct from the rest of the lacrimal surface,
610 which is generally smooth.

611 The facial process of the lacrimal bone in *H. floridanus* (UF 191448, et al.), and other
612 pampatheres (*H. occidentalis*; *Vassallia*), is typically triangular in shape (Figures 3, 4). The
613 shape is more variable in *H. septentrionalis*. In UF 889, it is triangular as in other pampatheres,
614 but the anterodorsal apex of the triangle is elongated with a rounded tip, whereas in UF 234224
615 the facial process is more ovate than triangular, elongated dorsoventrally. *Euphractus* has a
616 quadrangular facial process (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible 2006). According to
617 Gaudin and Wible (2006), a quadrangular facial process is a synapomorphy of the clade
618 including *Eutatus*, euphractine armadillos, *Proeutatus*, glyptodonts, and pampatheres (Node B),
619 although the latter revert to the triangular shape characteristic of dasypodine and tolypeutine
620 armadillos.

621 The orbital process of the lacrimal bone in *H. floridanus* is also triangular, but it is
622 somewhat smaller than the facial process. The lacrimal contributes to a small portion of the
623 anterior orbital wall, where it contacts the jugal anterolaterally, and the frontal posteriorly. There
624 is also a small lacrimal contact with the maxilla posteroventrally, on the orbital side of the jugal
625 in *H. floridanus* (UF 191448, 248500), as in *Euphractus* (UTCM 1486, 1491; Wible and Gaudin
626 2004). This trait, the presence of lacrimal contact with the orbital process of the maxilla, is a
627 synapomorphy of *Tolypeutes*, *Eutatus*, euphractine armadillos, *Proeutatus*, pampatheres, and
628 glyptodonts (Node 4, Gaudin and Wible 2006). The lacrimal fenestra, which perforates the lower

629 edge of the orbital process of the lacrimal, serves as the site of origin for the inferior oblique
630 muscle, and is present at the intersection of the lacrimal, frontal, and maxilla in *H. floridanus*
631 (Gaudin and Wible 2006; Wible and Gaudin 2004). This condition is primitive, and occurs in all
632 cingulates with the exception of *Dasypus*, *Stegotherium*, *Zaedyus*, and *Chlamyphorus* (Gaudin
633 and Wible 2006).

634

635 **Jugal**

636 The jugal forms the anterior portion of the zygomatic arch. In *H. floridanus* (UF 248500,
637 UF 191448) the dorsal edge of the jugal is U-shaped, whereas the ventral edge is irregular
638 (Figures 3, 4). The jugal can be divided into two processes, facial and zygomatic. Roughly half
639 of the anterior root of the zygoma is comprised of the transversely broad facial process of the
640 jugal bone, which contacts the lacrimal dorsally, the maxilla anteriorly, ventrally, and medially.
641 The zygomatic process is oriented almost perpendicular to the facial process, and is strongly
642 compressed mediolaterally and deep dorsoventrally. It has a dorsoventrally convex surface
643 laterally, and is concave medially. In lateral view it broadens posteriorly toward its posterior
644 contact with the squamosal, near the middle of the zygomatic arch. The jugal-squamosal suture
645 in UF 248500 is asymmetrically concave posteriorly, with the anterodorsally oriented ventral
646 portion more elongate than posterodorsally sloped dorsal portion (Figure 3B, C). In UF 191448,
647 the junction between these dorsal and ventral portions is more angular (Figure 3A). In UF
648 248500, the posterodorsal edge of the zygomatic process is extended into a sharp, triangular
649 postorbital process. In UF 191448, the postorbital process is more rounded, and formed jointly
650 by the jugal and squamosal. The jugal/squamosal contact in *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881) and
651 *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002) shows a similar pattern, though in the latter the

652 postorbital process is carried largely by the squamosal rather than the jugal. In contrast to the
653 pampathere condition, in both *Propalaeohoplophorus* and *Proeutatus* (Scott 1903-4) there is a
654 substantial posterior extension of the jugal underneath the zygomatic process of the squamosal,
655 so that much of the jugal/squamosal suture is horizontal, as in euphractine armadillos (Wetzel
656 1985; Wible and Gaudin 2004). The postorbital process on the zygomatic arch is also less well
657 developed in *Euphractus* (but not *Chaetophractus* or *Zaedyus*; Wetzel 1985; Wible and Gaudin
658 2004), *Proeutatus* (FMNH 13197; Scott 1903-4), and some specimens of *Propalaeohoplophorus*
659 (e.g., FMNH P13205; *P. australis*, Scott 1903-4 plate 23; but not YPM-PU 15007 or *P. minor*,
660 Scott 1903-4 plate 27).

661 The facial process extends ventrally and slightly laterally into a prominent ventral (or
662 descending) process of the zygomatic arch. This ventral process is in fact an anteromedial to
663 posterolaterally extended, cresecent-shaped complex, comprised of a variable number of strong
664 rugose bumps or transverse ridges. In UF 248500, there are only two bumps/ridges (Figure 3B),
665 with the more anterior being formed in part by the jugal and in part by the maxilla. In other
666 specimens, there may be as many as four (e.g., UF 275498, 285000 on L only). In some
667 specimens, this ventral zygomatic process (or complex of processes) appears worn, although it is
668 unclear if this is reflective of the age of the specimen (they do seem less “worn” in juvenile
669 specimens) or due to some sort of post-mortem abrasion.

670 *Holmesina occidentalis* and *Vassallia* have ventral zygomatic processes quite similar to
671 those in *H. floridanus*, with three bumps or ridges that are heavily worn in the *Vassallia*
672 specimen [FMNH P14424; De Iuliis and Edmund (2002), who also report a similar morphology
673 in *Pampatherium*; Vizcaíno et al. (1998: p. 297-298) note that the ventral process is “narrower
674 and less rugose” in *H. occidentalis* than in *Vassallia*]. The ventral zygomatic process of

675 pampatheres is comparable in position to the small boss present in *Euphractus* (Wible and
676 Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible 2006) and *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197; Gaudin and Wible
677 2006), but is much larger in size. *Propalaeohoplophorus* and other glyptodonts possess a
678 gigantic descending process (Hoffstetter 1958; Gaudin and Wible 2006) that forms a greatly
679 elongated, anteroposteriorly compressed plate of bone, but unlike *Holmesina*, this process is
680 primarily formed by the maxilla (YPM-PU 15007; Gillette and Ray 1981), the jugal forming
681 only a small portion of the dorsolateral margin. This descending process is greatly enlarged in
682 order to accommodate the bulky masseter muscle in glyptodonts (Gillette and Ray 1981), and
683 this is likely the case in pampatheres, though the masseter would have been enlarged to a lesser
684 degree.

685

686 **Frontal**

687 The frontal bone in *H. floridanus* forms slightly less than a third of the total skull length,
688 including the anterior half of the braincase. It is shaped roughly like a pentagon in dorsal view,
689 broadening dramatically in its anterior reaches (Figures 1, 2). This is due to the presence of
690 enlarged sinuses beneath the frontal bone, a feature present in many other cingulates (Gaudin and
691 Wible 2006). The frontal bone contacts the nasal, maxilla, and lacrimal bones anteriorly and the
692 parietal posteriorly on the skull roof. It dips ventrally and laterally into the orbit to form a
693 sizeable portion of the medial orbital wall (Figures 3, 4, 7). The orbital portion of the frontal
694 likely contacts the maxilla, orbitosphenoid and alisphenoid ventrally, and the squamosal
695 posteroventrally, creating a triangular exposure in lateral view that is similar to that of
696 *Euphractus* (UTCM 1491; Wible and Gaudin 2006). The fronto-parietal suture is a very irregular
697 and jagged line that travels slightly anterodorsally across the top of the braincase from a position

698 even with the anterior edge of the glenoid fossa, as in *Proeuphractus*, *Proeutatus*, other
699 pampatheres, and glyptodonts (Node E; Gaudin and Wible 2006). This differs from *Euphractus*
700 in which the most lateral part of fronto-parietal suture lies posterior to the anterior edge of the
701 glenoid fossa (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible 2006).

702 The frontal bone in *H. floridanus* has very distinct temporal lines curving posteromedially
703 from the large, blunt postorbital processes (Figures 1, 2). The posterior half of the fused
704 interfrontal suture is elevated by a prominent midline crest in UF 248500, that extends unbroken
705 between the temporal lines back along the midline of the parietal, all the way to the nuchal crest.
706 A ridge of similar extent is present in UF 191448, but it is much more weakly developed. Wible
707 and Gaudin (2004) describe a weakly developed crest in a similar position in *Euphractus*, where
708 it serves as a site of origin for the orbito-auricularis muscle. The crest is also present in *H.*
709 *occidentalis* and *Proeutatus* (FMNH P1319; Scott 1903-4). It is present on the frontal only in *H.*
710 *septentrionalis* (UF 889) and *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), being replaced posteriorly by a true
711 sagittal crest. It is missing entirely in *Propalaeohoplophorus*, where again there is a strong
712 sagittal crest (FMNH P13205; YPM-PU 15007; Scott 1903-4). It is likely that the presence of a
713 strong ridge in this position is related to the presence of large pinnae for the ears.

714 As is typical of euphractine armadillos, *Proeutatus*, pampatheres and glyptodonts, there
715 are numerous small foramina in UF 191448 that coalesce around the midline of the frontal
716 dorsally, just anterior to the frontal-parietal suture, in a depression between the temporal lines
717 and behind the frontal sinuses (Node C, Gaudin and Wible 2006). These foramina are less
718 evident in UF 248500. In lateral view, within the temporal fossa, there are also foramina along
719 the posterolateral region of the frontal bone in eutateine armadillos, euphractine armadillos,

720 *Proeutatus*, *Vassallia* and glyptodonts (Node A; Gaudin and Wible 2006). These appear to be
721 absent in *H. floridanus*, though they are present in *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881).

722 In addition to these foramina, the frontal is marked by two other types of foramina within
723 the orbit (Figure 7). UF 191448 has a pair of asymmetrical foramina for the frontal diploic vein
724 (sensu Wible and Gaudin 2004; =supraorbital foramina of Gaudin 2004 and others). On the left,
725 there is a single opening situated ventral and posterior to the broad, low, rugose area that marks
726 the postorbital process. On the right, there are two foramina, one mirroring the opening on the
727 left, the other, smaller opening situated further anterior and dorsal, virtually on the process itself.
728 The left side of UF 248500 is damaged in the region of the postorbital process, but the right side
729 has a single foramen like that described for UF 191448. In UF 121742, the foramen is more
730 anteriorly situated, lying in front of a strong infratemporal crest that extends posteroventrally
731 from the postorbital process, a crest that is only weakly developed in UF 191448. The
732 morphology of UF 121742 is also found in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 889, UF 234224) and
733 *Vassallia* (UF P14424). The foramen for the frontal diploic vein also occurs in a similar position
734 in glyptodonts (Gaudin 2004), whereas in *Proeutatus* it is situated more posteriorly (FMNH
735 P13197).

736 The ventral portion of the orbital wing in UF 121742 is marked by a ventrally directed
737 foramen that lies between the infratemporal crest and a rounded ridge that marks the dorsal
738 margin of the optic foramen. Given the position of this opening, anterodorsal to the optic
739 foramen, and its orientation, we identify it as the ethmoid foramen (sensu Wible and Gaudin
740 2004). Other cingulates may have as many as three ethmoid foramina (Gaudin and Wible 2006).
741 Although sutures are not unambiguous in this area, the opening appears to be contained entirely
742 within the frontal, in contrast to some cingulates in which there is orbitosphenoid participation in

743 the rim (Gaudin and Wible 2006). In UF 248500, there appears to be a second ethmoid foramen,
744 just dorsal to the first and separated from it by the infratemporal crest.

745

746 **Parietal**

747 The parietal bone is roughly rectangular and forms the posterior half of the braincase
748 (Figures 1-4). It contacts the frontal anteriorly, the squamosal ventrolaterally, and the
749 supraoccipital posteriorly. As in most cingulates, with the exception of *Peltephilus*, there is no
750 contact between the parietal and the alisphenoid bones (Figure 7) due to an extensive contact
751 between the frontal and squamosal bones (Node 2; Gaudin and Wible 2006; see also Novacek
752 and Wyss 1986; Rose and Emry 1993; Gaudin et al. 1996). Although the parietal tends to be
753 relatively flat transversely in eutatine and euphractine armadillos and in glyptodonts (Gaudin and
754 Wible 2006), in *H. floridanus* and other pampatheres (Cartelle and Bohórquez 1985; De Iuliis et
755 al. 2000; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002) it is strongly convex transversely, giving the braincase a
756 much more tubular appearance. The parietals are marked by strong temporal lines, which
757 approach one another, but do not unite to form a midline sagittal crest. As noted above in the
758 description of the frontal, the parietals do carry a midline crest for the extrinsic ear muscles
759 between the temporal lines. This morphology, which also characterizes *H. occidentalis* (ROM
760 3881), is very reminiscent of the pattern in *Proeutatus* (FMNH 13197; Scott 1903-4) and some
761 specimens of *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). A true sagittal crest is present on the
762 parietals in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 889), *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), and
763 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott 1903-4) and other glyptodonts (Gillette and Ray, 1981), as noted
764 above. Both the temporal lines and the midline crest unite posteriorly with a robust nuchal crest.
765 The nuchal crest is of uniform thickness along the posterior edge of the skull, as is characteristic

766 of *Tolypeutes*, eutatine armadillos, euphractine armadillos, *Proeutatus*, pampatheres, and
767 glyptodonts (Node 5; Gaudin and Wible 2006). It is strongly convex posteriorly, overhanging the
768 dorsal portion of the occiput.

769 Within the temporal fossa in *H. floridanus*, the parietal surface is heavily pitted with a
770 large but variable number of foramina (12-16 in UF 191448 and 248500), especially in the
771 ventrolateral half of the bone. The more dorsally located foramina open into distinct grooves,
772 traveling at various angles, through which the rami temporales emerge. The presence of so many
773 temporal foramina (greater than 5) is a synapomorphy of *Priodontes*, *Tolypeutes*, eutatine
774 armadillos, euphractine armadillos, *Proeutatus*, pampatheres, and glyptodonts (Node 3; Gaudin
775 and Wible 2006).

776

777 **Squamosal**

778 The squamosal consists of two broad regions, the squamous part and the zygomatic
779 process (Figures 1-7). The squamous part comprises a roughly rectangular, vertical exposure in
780 the lateral wall of the braincase, contacting the frontal anteriorly, the alisphenoid and petrosal
781 ventrally, and the parietal dorsally. It also has a lappet that wraps around the nuchal crest to
782 form a small, triangular exposure on the occiput, contacting the occipital exposure of the mastoid
783 petrosal ventrally, and the supraoccipital dorsally. *Euphractus* has a very similar occipital
784 exposure of the squamosal (Wible and Gaudin 2004), and according to Gaudin and Wible
785 (2006), this feature is a synapomorphy of euphractine armadillos, pampatheres and glyptodonts
786 (Node C of Gaudin and Wible 2006). The anterior portions of the squamosal/ parietal suture and
787 the dorsal portions of the squamosal/frontal suture form a slightly raised ridge, as they do in
788 some *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004) and in *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002) and

789 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007). Like the parietal, the squamous region's posterior
790 and dorsal surface is marked by a variable number (5-12 in UF 191448 and UF 248500) of
791 foramina for the rami temporales. This is a common feature in cingulates. The squamous part of
792 the squamosal is crossed horizontally by a crest that connects dorsal edge of the zygomatic
793 process to the nuchal crest, marking the lower limit of the temporal fossa (Figures 3, 4). This is
794 also a feature in *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881) and *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), as well as
795 *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007; Scott 1903-4),
796 whereas in *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002) the ventral end of the nuchal crest passes
797 lateral to the crest extending posteriorly from the dorsal edge of the zygoma, so that the two
798 approach but do not contact. The latter is similar to the condition in *Euphractus* (Wible and
799 Gaudin 2004).

800 The region of the squamosal immediately ventral to the lower ridge of the temporal fossa
801 is strongly convex anteroposteriorly, forming a porus acousticus that would have accommodated
802 the external auditory meatus. The posterior wall of the porus is formed by a flat, roughly ovate
803 ventral projection that abuts the anterior base of the petrosal's paroccipital process (=mastoid
804 process of Patterson et al. 1989; Gaudin 1995). This projection is the **posttympanic** process of the
805 squamosal (Figure 7). In UF 191448, it has a somewhat thickened ventral edge that may have
806 participated in the facet for the posterior crus of the ectotympanic. The lower anterior wall of the
807 porus is formed by a freestanding ridge, the postglenoid process (Figure 8). As in *Euphractus*
808 (Wible and Gaudin 2004) and a few other eutherians (e.g., *Zalambdalestes*, Wible et al. 2004),
809 the postglenoid process lies posterior to the postglenoid foramen in *H. floridanus*. The
810 postglenoid process and posttympanic process approach one another medially at roughly a 60°-
811 75° angle in ventral view (it is more acute in UF 248500 than in UF 191448), with the porus

812 narrowing accordingly (Figures 6, 8). The morphology of this region of the skull in *Vassallia*
813 (FMNH P14424) is very similar to that of *H. floridanus*. *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU
814 15007) is also similar, though the porus is narrower, with a much more acute angle ($< 20^\circ$)
815 between the postglenoid and posttympanic process, and the former is much larger than it is in *H.*
816 *floridanus*. *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) has a very odd morphology in this region of the skull.
817 The glenoid is situated so far posteriorly that it approaches the ventral end of the nuchal crest.
818 As a consequence, the porus acousticus is reduced to a narrow vertical groove, and the process
819 identified as the posttympanic process by Patterson et al. (1989) is actually two processes, the
820 posttympanic process and the immediately adjacent postglenoid process (the two distinct tips of
821 these processes are visible in the lateral view of the skull in Patterson et al. 1989, fig. 13A). In
822 *H. floridanus* 191448, there is a bilateral foramen just lateral and dorsal to the anterior end of the
823 postglenoid process. This is likely homologous to the suprameatal foramen found in some
824 *Euphractus* specimens (Wible and Gaudin 2004). Like *Euphractus*, the presence of this foramen
825 may be variable in *Holmesina*, because it is absent in UF 248500 and UF 121742.

826 Anterior and medial to the postglenoid process is a small, circular depression that
827 represents the squamosal contribution to the epitympanic recess, accommodating the
828 mallear/incudal articulation. The squamosal forms roughly 2/3 of this depression, the remainder
829 formed by the lateral reaches of the petrosal. In *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007), the
830 epitympanic recess is ovate rather than circular, elongated along a posterolateral to anteromedial
831 axis.

832 Anterior and medial to the epitympanic recess is a massive process that extends as a
833 broad ridge laterally and ventrally, forming the anterolateral wall to the tympanic cavity. This is
834 the entoglenoid process, which extends across the squamosal/alisphenoid suture and onto the

835 alisphenoid behind the foramen ovale (Figure 8). The posterior surface of this process is marked
836 by a circular depression that almost certainly represents the facet for the anterior crus of the
837 ectotympanic. At its posterior, dorsal and medial extremity, the entoglenoid process abuts the
838 small anteroventral process of the tegmen tympani on the petrosal (=processus crista facialis of
839 Patterson et al. 1989; Gaudin 1995; Wible and Gaudin 2004), which may have a small
840 contribution to the ectotympanic facet. A similar entoglenoid process is present in *Vassallia*
841 (FMNH P14424), *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007), and *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197).
842 In the latter two, it appears to be somewhat inflated.

843 In ventral view, the root of the zygomatic process is triangular, extending (and
844 narrowing) laterally, as it does in all pampatheres and glyptodonts (Node 8, Gaudin and Wible
845 2006). Its dorsal surface is deeply concave transversely to house the temporalis muscles. On its
846 ventral surface, it carries the glenoid articulation for the mandible. Just beyond the lateral edge
847 of the glenoid, the process curves anteriorly in a graceful arc. In lateral view, it deepens
848 considerably in a dorsoventral plane as it approaches its anterior contact with the jugal, with
849 which it forms the zygomatic arch. As noted above, it may or may not contribute to the
850 postorbital process on the zygoma. *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott 1903-4), *Proeutatus* (Scott
851 1903-4), and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004) and other euphractine armadillos (Wetzel
852 1985) all lack the anterior broadening of the zygomatic process seen in pampatheres (Cartelle
853 and Bohórquez 1985; De Iuliis et al. 2000; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002). Like the zygomatic
854 portions of the jugal, the zygomatic region of the squamosal is convex laterally and concave
855 medially.

856 The glenoid articular surface on the ventral side of the zygomatic root is convex in both
857 transverse and anteroposterior planes, as it is in most eutatine and euphractine armadillos and in

858 glyptodonts and other pampatheres (Node B, Gaudin and Wible 2004; Vizcaíno et al. 1998). Its
859 shape is somewhat more unusual however, forming a rounded triangle, narrowing laterally, with
860 its transverse width much greater than its anteroposterior length (Tables 1, 2). Glyptodonts show
861 similar transverse extension of the glenoid, though the shape of the facet is generally more
862 rectangular and even narrower anteroposteriorly (Scott 1903-4; Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible
863 2006), whereas in eutatine and euphractine armadillos the glenoid is more U-shaped, and as long
864 or longer in the anteroposterior as opposed to the transverse dimension (Gaudin and Wible
865 2006). As in other cingulates, there is a postglenoid foramen in *H. floridanus*. Like other
866 pampatheres and glyptodonts, this foramen is clearly visible in ventral view (Figures 6, 8),
867 because the external auditory meatus is positioned well behind the glenoid, exposing the
868 postglenoid fossa in which the foramen is situated (Gaudin and Wible 2006). In euphractine and
869 eutatine armadillos this area tends to be obscured by the nearby ectotympanic.

870

871 **Petrosal**

872 The petrosal bone is preserved in situ in UF 191448 and on the right side of UF 248500
873 (Figures 6, 8), whereas a nearly complete, isolated left petrosal is available in the latter specimen
874 (Figure 9). This will allow us to describe in detail not only the ventral exposure of the bone, but
875 also its dorsal and lateral surfaces. The petrosal, which houses the inner ear, is bordered by the
876 squamosal laterally, the exoccipital posteromedially, the supraoccipital dorsally, and the
877 basioccipital and basisphenoid medially. It is comprised of two primary regions, the pars
878 canalicularis housing the semicircular canals and vestibular apparatus, and the pars cochlearis
879 housing the cochlea (MacIntyre 1972). In ventral and lateral view, these are represented most
880 notably by the mastoid region and promontorium, respectively.

881 The promontorium of *H. floridanus* is globose, and lacks any clear grooves for arteries or
882 nerves, as is typical for cingulates (Guth 1961; Bugge 1979; Patterson et al. 1989; Wible and
883 Gaudin 2004; Wible 2010). At its anterior pole, it is marked by a distinctive, elongate triangular
884 process, the rostral tympanic process of the petrosal (Figures 6, 8, 9). Wible (2010) describes a
885 small blunt rostral tympanic process that is present to a varying degree in some *Dasyopus*
886 *novemcinctus*, but no such process is present in *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). In
887 *Vassallia*, *Propalaeohoplophorus* and other glyptodonts, and *Proeutatus* (Guth 1961; Patterson
888 et al. 1989), the entire promontorium is elongated anteromedially, giving the promontorium a
889 teardrop shape in ventral view. It seems likely that the anteromedial elongation of the
890 promontorium in the pampathere/glyptodont/*Proeutatus* clade is homologous to the rostral
891 tympanic process in *Holmesina*, with the process in *Holmesina* being substantially reduced in
892 length and breadth. The anterolateral surface of the promontorium in UF 248500 is marked by a
893 large, slightly raised circular boss of unclear function. This feature is also present in UF 223813,
894 but is less clear in UF 191448, and is not at all evident in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424).

895 Extensive shelving surrounds the promontorium of *H. floridanus* in ventral view. This
896 includes not only the lateral facial sulcus and crista parotica typical of mammalian petrosals
897 (MacIntyre 1972; Wible et al. 2009), but also an extensive epitympanic wing anteriorly and a
898 medial flange medially (Figure 9A-D). The epitympanic wing is separated by a sizable gap from
899 the underlying rostral tympanic process. In its anterolateral corner, it carries a fossa, particularly
900 well developed in UF 191448 (also UF 223813, 275496), which likely served as the site of origin
901 for the tensor tympani muscle. A small epitympanic wing is present in *Dasyopus* (Wible 2010),
902 but is much better developed in *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). An epitympanic wing is
903 also present in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), though it is somewhat less extensive anteriorly. Like

904 *Holmesina*, there is a depression between it and the anteromedial extension of the promontorium.
905 The epitympanic wing is evidently absent in *Proeutatus* (Patterson et al. 1989) and
906 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007; FMNH P13205). The tensor tympani muscle appears
907 to originate on the epitympanic wing in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424) as in *Holmesina*, whereas in
908 *Dasypus* (Wible 2010) and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004) it attaches to the tegmen
909 tympani, and it likely originated on the anterolateral surface of the promontorium in *Proeutatus*
910 (Patterson et al. 1989) and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007; FMNH P13205).

911 The medial flange of the petrosal in *H. floridanus* is quite extensive both transversely and
912 anteroposteriorly (especially in juvenile specimen UF 275496) when compared to that of
913 *Dasypus* (Wible 2010). In contrast to the latter, it extends as far forward as the epitympanic
914 wing, creating a squared off anterior edge for the petrosal, and it is covered by a variety of pits
915 and low ridges. The most prominent of these is a pit that is situated at roughly the midpoint of
916 the medial flange, which serves as a point of attachment for the basioccipital (Figure 9A-D). In
917 *Dasypus*, a patent basicochlear fissure is maintained into adulthood, so that there is no medial
918 connection between the petrosal and the floor of the basicranium (Wible 2010). Immediately
919 behind this basioccipital facet is a prominent foramen, the cochlear canaliculus (for the
920 perilymphatic duct –see Clemente 1985; Evans and Christiansen 1979; Wible 2010). The medial
921 flange in *H. floridanus* also differs from that of *Dasypus* in that it extends posteriorly beyond the
922 cochlear canaliculus, reaching the region termed the “triangular shelf” in *Dasypus* (Wible 2010),
923 that is, the roof of the post-promontorial sinus. In so doing it forms a shallow jugular notch, i.e.,
924 the anteromedial edge to the jugular foramen. The medial flange of the petrosal is difficult to
925 observe in *Vassallia*, *Propalaeohoplophorus*, *Proeutatus*, and even the extant *Euphractus*,
926 because of the lack of preserved, isolated petrosals in these taxa. However, it is clear the latter

927 has an extensive contact between petrosal and basicranium, whereas only a small
928 basioccipital/petrosal contact is present in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424) and *Proeutatus* (FMNH
929 P13197), as in *Holmesina*.

930 *Holmesina floridanus* has three prominent foramina in the ventral exposure of the pars
931 cochlearis. The most anterior of these is the laterally directed primary facial foramen, which is
932 hidden in ventral view by a low ridge at the base of the promontorium, and in lateral view by the
933 anteroventral process of the tegmen tympani. In some *Dasyopus* (as in most therians – Wible
934 1990, 2003), the space immediately lateral to the primary facial foramen, the cavum
935 supracochleare, has a bony floor, creating a discrete hiatus Fallopii and secondary facial foramen
936 anterior and posterior to the cavum, respectively (Wible 2010). This floor is not present in any
937 *Holmesina floridanus* specimen, nor is it known to occur in *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004),
938 *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), or any glyptodont (e.g.,
939 *Propalaeohoplophorus*, YPM-PU 15007, FMNH P13205; see also Patterson et al. 1989).

940 The second foramen in the ventral pars cochlearis is a larger, laterally directed opening
941 posterior to the primary facial foramen, the fenestra vestibuli, which accommodates the footplate
942 of the stapes (Figure 9A-F). As in *Dasyopus* and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Wible
943 2010), the opening of the fenestra vestibuli is somewhat recessed, and surrounded by a narrow
944 rim of bone. The opening is rounder in *H. floridanus* than in the extant forms, with a stapedial
945 ratio (sensu Segall, 1970; Length/width) of ~1.4, whereas it is 1.9 in *Dasyopus* and 1.9-2.0 in
946 *Euphractus*. *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (FMNH P13205) also
947 resemble the living taxa in this regard, with ratios of 2.4 and 1.8 respectively.

948 The third opening in the pars cochlearis' ventral surface is a posteriorly directed foramen
949 separated from the rim of the fenestra vestibuli by a broad bar of bone, the crista interfenestralis,

950 This opening is generally called the fenestra cochleae (we follow Patterson et al. 1992; Gaudin
951 1995; Wible and Gaudin 2004 in using this widely recognized term), although, as Wible (2010)
952 points out, the latter is actually a separate hole recessed within the cochlear fossula, and this
953 more superficial, posteriorly facing foramen is actually the aperture of the cochlear fossula. The
954 “fenestra cochleae” of *H. floridanus* is unusual in several respects. First, it is very wide and low,
955 with a ratio of width to depth equal to approximately 3.4. In *Dasyypus* (Wible 2010) and
956 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (FMNH P13205), the ratio is closer to 2, whereas in *Euphractus* (UTCM
957 1491) and *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197, P13199) the ratio is between 1.0—1.2. Although we
958 could not obtain measurements for *Vassallia*, it appears similar in dimensions to *Holmesina*. The
959 fenestra cochleae is also unusual in *Holmesina* in that it is shielded in ventral view by a
960 prominent ridge, and, in UF 191448, it is divided by a ventral process into two separate
961 openings. Neither feature is known to occur in other cingulates.

962 The crista interfenestralis, between the fenestrae vestibuli and cochleae, also exhibits
963 unusual characteristics in *H. floridanus*. For one, it is quite broad, its maximum width clearly
964 exceeding the maximum diameters of either of the openings flanking it. This is a feature that
965 also occurs in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), but not in extant armadillos (Wible and Gaudin 2004;
966 Wible 2010), *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197, 13199), or *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007,
967 FMNH P13205). In addition, the crista is connected laterally by a bony bridge to the base of the
968 tympanohyal, the bridge forming a partial floor to the facial sulcus. This bridge is broken in
969 most specimens of *H. floridanus*, as it is in the isolated left petrosal of UF 248500 (Figure 9A,
970 B), but is intact on the right side of that specimen (Figure 8), as well as in UF 275496. This
971 appears to be a unique apomorphy of *Holmesina*, although there are low ridges on the crista

972 interfenestralis of *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), and low tubera in *Euphractus* (UTCM 1491) and
973 *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197).

974 There is a narrow elongate groove that runs lateral to the promontorium along its entire
975 length (Figure 9 C, D). Anterior to the primary facial foramen, this groove accommodates the
976 greater petrosal nerve. The portion posterior to the primary facial foramen is the facial sulcus for
977 the facial nerve (c.n. VII). The sulci are bordered laterally by a well-developed, sharp edge crista
978 parotica. The latter forms a rounded, U-shaped ventral extension immediately opposite the
979 primary facial foramen. This extension is somewhat rugose and broadened mediolaterally
980 relative to the rest of the crista, and likely represents the anteroventral process of the tegmen
981 tympani (Figure 9 C-F). The anteroventral process, which is termed the processus crista facialis
982 by Patterson et al. (1989) and others (e.g., Gaudin, 1995; Wible and Gaudin 2004), is much
983 better developed in extant armadillos, where it typically forms a mediolaterally expanded, cup-
984 shaped depression (Patterson et al. 1989; Wible and Gaudin 2004; Wible 2010). It may also
985 contact the squamosal, malleus, ectotympanic, entotympanic or alisphenoid bones in living
986 armadillos (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Wible 2010), whereas in *H. floridanus* it is much reduced,
987 and only contacts the squamosal. The anteroventral process is also small in *Vassallia* (FMNH
988 P14424), *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (FMNH P13205), lacking
989 any concavity and contacting only the squamosal.

990 Just posterior to the fenestra vestibuli, the facial sulcus traverses the ventral surface of the
991 petrosal pars cochlearis, becoming confluent medially with a large, ovate depression, the
992 stapedius fossa for the stapedius muscle (Figure 9 C, D). The sulcus then turns laterally and
993 ventrally, terminating at a shallow stylomastoid notch in the isolated left petrosal of UF 248500.
994 However, on the right, the facial sulcus passes posterior to the tympanohyal, which abuts the

995 large caudal tympanic process of the petrosal posteriorly, enclosing a stylomastoid foramen for
996 the emerging facial nerve (Figure 8). An enclosed stylomastoid foramen is also present in
997 *Dasypus* (Wible 2010) and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). Patterson et al. (1989, fig.
998 15B) illustrate a very similar morphology for *Vassallia*, though our inspection of their specimen
999 (FMNH P14424) reveals the tympanohyal has subsequently broken off. An enclosed
1000 stylomastoid foramen is lacking, however, in both *Proeutatus* and *Propalaeohoplophorus*, where
1001 the tympanohyal and the paroccipital and caudal tympanic processes of the petrosal frame only
1002 $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of an opening. The tympanohyal of UF 248500 is broken through its base on the left,
1003 at the posterior terminus of the crista parotica, but on the right it is straight, elongated ventrally
1004 and expanded distally, forming a concave, ovate stylohyal fossa similar to, but much smaller and
1005 simpler than the structure of the same name so characteristic of sloths (Patterson et al., 1992;
1006 Gaudin 1995, 2004). A similar anatomy was apparently present in *Vassallia* (Patterson et al.,
1007 1989; though, as noted above, the tympanohyal in this specimen is now broken), but not in
1008 *Dasypus* (Wible 2010), *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197, P13199) or *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-
1009 PU 15007, FMNH P13205). In *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004), the circular depression
1010 that Wible and Gaudin (2004) label a stylohyal fossa has a small tympanohyal exposure in its
1011 center, but is formed largely by the ectotympanic anteriorly, and the mastoid region of the
1012 petrosal posteriorly and laterally. The tympanohyal is typically not straight in other cingulates,
1013 as it is in *Holmesina*. It curves medially and posteriorly at its distal end in *Dasypus* (Wible
1014 2010) and *Proeutatus* (Patterson et al. 1989, figure 13C), it is posteroventrally directed in
1015 *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004), and it bends laterally at its distal end in
1016 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007, FMNH P13205).

1017 Although it is not evident in the isolated petrosal (due to postmortem breakage), both the
1018 right petrosal in UF 248500 and both left and right petrosals in UF 191448 are characterized by a
1019 massive caudal tympanic process of the petrosal on the ventral pars cochlearis (Figure 8). The
1020 process is concave posteriorly in both specimens, apparently articulating posteriorly with a small
1021 elevation on the anterior edge of the exoccipital, although the petrosal is anteriorly displaced
1022 from its suture with the exoccipital in both specimens. The caudal tympanic process forms the
1023 lateral half of the posterior wall to the stapedius fossa, and lies well lateral to the fenestra
1024 cochleae. It occupies a similar position in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424) and *Dasypus* (Wible
1025 2010), though it is less massive in both taxa. In *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) and
1026 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007, FMNH P13205) it is both smaller and more medially
1027 placed. The caudal tympanic process of *H. floridanus* is separated laterally by a deep notch from
1028 the massively enlarged paroccipital process of the petrosal (=mastoid process of Patterson et al.
1029 1989; Gaudin 1995; and others). This huge paroccipital process is slightly hooked medially and
1030 angled anteriorly at its distal extremity, and extends ventral to the level of the basicranial plate
1031 (Figures 3-8). Though almost cylindrical in appearance, its transverse diameter is in fact a good
1032 deal larger than its anteroposterior diameter, and it tapers distally to a rounded tip. The great
1033 enlargement of the paroccipital process is evidently a feature of pampatheres in general, because
1034 it is present in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224; Edmund 1985), *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881),
1035 *Vassallia* (Patterson et al. 1989; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), and *Pampatherium* (Bordas 1939;
1036 Guth 1961; Paula Couto 1984). The paroccipital process of glyptodonts is massive, but not as
1037 elongated as that of pampatheres (YPM PU 15007; Patterson et al. 1989), whereas the process is
1038 much smaller, though still sizable, in *Proeutatus* (labeled as “mastoid process” in Patterson et al.
1039 1989) and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). It is also flattened in the latter two taxa,

1040 anteroposteriorly in *Euphractus* and obliquely in *Proeutatus* (in an anterolateral/posteromedial
1041 plane). The notch separating the caudal tympanic and paroccipital processes of the petrosal in *H.*
1042 *floridanus* is saddle shaped, separating the stylomastoid foramen anteriorly from the sulcus for
1043 the occipital artery posteriorly (Figure 8).

1044 The caudal tympanic process is also separated by a medial notch from a small process
1045 attached to the back of a broad shelf of bone that lies behind the promontorium. The notch is
1046 likely for the auricular branch of the vagus nerve (c.n. X) based on comparisons with *Dasypus*
1047 (Wible 2010). The broad shelf, which is trapezoidal in shape, widening anteriorly (Figure 9A-
1048 D), is the roof of the postpromontorial sinus, the structure Wible (2010) terms the “triangular
1049 shelf” in *Dasypus*. This shelf is considerably broader in *H. floridanus*, as it is in *Vassallia*
1050 (FMNH P14424) and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007, FMNH P13205). The shelf is
1051 semicircular but similar in size to that of *Dasypus* in *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), whereas in
1052 *Euphractus* (UTCM1491) it remains triangular but is larger and extends further anterolaterally
1053 than in *Dasypus*.

1054 As a final aspect visible in ventral view, we note that the area of the petrosal lateral to the
1055 crista parotica in *H. floridanus* is a concavity that forms the medial half of the epitympanic
1056 recess, which accommodates the mallear and incudal heads in mammals. The lateral half of the
1057 recess is formed by squamosal, and is bisected transversely by the postglenoid process. The
1058 petrosal portion of the recess has a small divot in the lateral portion of its posterior wall that
1059 presumably represents the fossa incudis. The fossa lies immediately above a low ridge that
1060 extends anteromedially from the base of the tympanohyal. In *Dasypus*, the lateral wall of the
1061 anterolaterally facing fossa incudis is formed by the squamosal (Wible 2010), but this does not
1062 appear to be the case in *Holmesina*, nor in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), *Propalaeohoplophorus*

1063 (FMNH P13205), or *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), where the fossa is more anteriorly oriented.
1064 *Euphractus* also lacks squamosal participation in the fossa incudis, but in this case it is due to the
1065 presence of an open epitympanic sinus above the ossicles (Wible and Gaudin 2004), as is typical
1066 for euphractine armadillos (Patterson et al. 1989; Gaudin 1995; Gaudin and Wible 2006, node 6).

1067 Because of the presence of an isolated petrosal, we are able to describe and illustrate
1068 (Figure 9G, H) details of the dorsal surface of the petrosal that have never been described before
1069 in pampatheres. The most distinctive feature visible in a dorsal view of the *H. floridanus* petrosal
1070 is a large opening in the anteroventral region of the endocranial exposure (in the pars cochlearis),
1071 the internal acoustic meatus. This opening is much deeper than that of *Dasypus* (Wible 2010),
1072 and is ventrally displaced, so that it is separated from the endocranial roof of the basicranial plate
1073 by only a thin, sharp crest. This arrangement also differs from that in both *Vassallia* and
1074 *Euphractus*, in which the meatus is equally deep but more dorsally positioned.

1075 At the bottom of the internal acoustic meatus is a series of openings that have been
1076 identified (Figure 9G, H) based on Wible's (2010) description of *Dasypus*. The openings are
1077 clustered into two groups, separated by a sharp transverse crest. In *Dasypus*, the transverse crest
1078 is broad and rounded, whereas in *Euphractus* it is broad but with a sharp medial edge. The
1079 anatomy in *Vassallia* is much like that of *Holmesina*. The two openings above (i.e., dorsal and
1080 lateral to) the transverse crest are the facial foramen for the facial nerve (c.n. VII), and posterior
1081 to that and roughly equivalent in size, the superior vestibular area. Below the transverse crest
1082 there are three openings: anteromedially, the large spiral cribriform tract, separated by a strong
1083 crest from two smaller, more posterior openings in a common fossa, a more posteromedial
1084 foramen singulare and a more anterolateral inferior vestibular area. The arrangement of these
1085 openings is very similar in *Vassallia*, whereas in *Dasypus* there is no real crest separating the

1086 spiral cribriform tract from the more posterior foramina. Moreover, the posterior foramina are
1087 clearly visible in medial view in pampatheres, whereas in *Dasypus* they face more anteriorly
1088 (foramen singulare) or ventrally (inferior vestibular area; Wible 2010; UTCM 801[isolated
1089 petrosal]). *Euphractus* also lacks the septum between the spiral cribriform tract and the two
1090 posterior foramina, which are quite small, and located in close proximity along the posterior wall
1091 of the lower opening of the internal acoustic meatus (UTCM 1486). At the medioventral edge of
1092 the petrosal's endocranial surface, slightly posterior to the internal acoustic meatus, lies the
1093 opening of the cochlear canaliculus. It occupies the same position in *Vassallia* and *Dasypus*
1094 (Wible 2010), whereas in *Euphractus*, where the ventromedial edge of the petrosal contacts the
1095 basicranial plate along its whole length, the cochlear canaliculus occupies a more dorsal,
1096 endocranial position.

1097 Anterior to the internal acoustic meatus is a distinct concavity, which may have
1098 accommodated the inferior petrosal sinus. A similar concavity is present in *Vassallia* and
1099 *Euphractus*, but is absent in *Dasypus* (Wible 2010). The region immediately dorsolateral to the
1100 meatus, the so-called prefacial commissure, is broad and swollen in both pampatheres. In
1101 *Dasypus* it is a narrow bar of bone (Wible 2010), whereas in *Euphractus* it is broad like the
1102 pampatheres, but flat rather than swollen. The prefacial commissure in *Holmesina* is surmounted
1103 by a rounded crista petrosa that at its posterodorsal end is divided into medial and lateral ridges
1104 by a vascular groove. This groove is situated too far medially to carry the postglenoid vein
1105 described by Wible (2010) in *Dasypus*, and so we suspect it carried the superior petrosal sinus.
1106 This groove is also present in *Vassallia*, though it is missing in both *Dasypus* and *Euphractus*,
1107 both of which have a much sharper crista petrosa. Indeed, in *Euphractus* (UTCM 1486), the
1108 crista petrosa is so elevated that it resembles a low ossified tentorium, like that of pangolins and

1109 carnivorans (Gaudin et al. 2016), extending a short distance dorsally between the cerebrum and
1110 cerebellum *Euphractus* also has a very large, concave cerebral surface of the petrosal, whereas
1111 in *Dasypus* (Wible 2010) and in pampatheres this surface is much smaller.

1112 The endocranial exposure of the pars canalicularis is occupied by a broad, deeply
1113 concave subarcuate fossa in all the cingulates examined in this report. It is narrower
1114 anteroposteriorly in *Euphractus* than in *Dasypus* or pampatheres. In the latter forms it takes on a
1115 rounded triangular shape, with its apex pointing ventromedially. In pampatheres and
1116 *Euphractus*, it is divided by a low, rounded, roughly transverse ridge into upper and lower
1117 concavities. The upper concavity is further divided by a low ridge into anterior and posterior
1118 concavities in *Holmesina* and *Vassallia*. The first, more horizontal ridge is almost certainly
1119 created by the lower portion of the posterior semicircular canal, whereas the second, more
1120 vertical ridge is created by the crus commune of the anterior and posterior semicircular canals.
1121 The aqueductus vestibuli, which transmits the endolymphatic duct, takes the form of a vertical
1122 slit opening into the ventromedial corner of the subarcuate fossa (Figure 9G, H). It has the same
1123 shape and position in *Vassallia*. In *Euphractus*, this opening is quite close to the exoccipital
1124 bone posteriorly, in contrast to pampatheres, and in *Dasypus* (Wible 2010) it is located outside
1125 the subarcuate fossa, in a more ventral, medial and anterior position. A small opening into the
1126 recessus angularis, like that described for *Dasypus* by Wible (2010), is present on the
1127 dorsolateral rim of the subarcuate fossa in *H. floridanus*. On the right side of the UTCM 1486
1128 specimen of *Euphractus* there is a similar opening; however, on the left side, there are three or
1129 four small vascular foramina in this area, some within and some outside the subarcuate fossa, the
1130 middle opening on the rim the largest. As noted by Wible (2010), the recessus angularis opening
1131 may or may not lie within the subarcuate fossa in *Dasypus*.

1132 We have illustrated the isolated left petrosal of *H. floridanus* (UF 248500) in lateral view
1133 (Figure 9E, F), much as Wible (2010) has done for *Dasypus*. As in *Dasypus*, there are three
1134 broad regions of the petrosal of *Holmesina* recognizable in lateral view. There is a cerebral
1135 surface, exposed in the floor of the middle cranial fossa of the endocranium. Like *Dasypus* this
1136 surface is elongated along an anteroventrolateral to posterodorsomedial axis, and is relatively
1137 narrow transversely, though it is less triangular and more ovate in *Holmesina*. The tympanic
1138 exposure includes the promontorium, with its prominent elongated rostral tympanic process and
1139 large lateral, circular boss of unknown function. The fenestra vestibuli is also visible laterally,
1140 but not the primary facial foramen, which is hidden by a distinct ventral, semicircular ventral
1141 extension, the anteroventral process of the tegmen tympani. This process is present in *Dasypus*
1142 (Wible 2010), but does not extend ventrally to the same degree. Like *Dasypus*, this tympanic
1143 exposure also includes portions of the epitympanic recess situated lateral to the crista parotica.
1144 The petrosal contribution to the fossa incudis lies at the posterior and dorsal extremity of this
1145 surface, as in *Dasypus* (Wible 2010), but is less clearly marked. The tympanohyal is prominently
1146 exposed in *Dasypus* in lateral view, but is broken off in UF 248500. The remainder of the lateral
1147 exposure in UF 248500 is comprised of a posterodorsal contact surface for the squamosal, and
1148 the broken remains of the paroccipital process. Because the latter is so much larger in
1149 *Holmesina* than in *Dasypus*, it accounts for a much larger portion of this lateral surface, despite
1150 the fact that most of the process is broken off in the illustrated specimen.

1151 The mastoid exposure of the petrosal is largely missing from the isolated petrosal, due to
1152 postmortem breakage, and so this region of the petrosal will be described based on the in situ
1153 right petrosal from UF 248500, and on UF 191448. In lateral view, the dominant feature of the
1154 mastoid exposure in *H. floridanus* is the gigantic paroccipital process (Figures 3, 4, 7), which, as

1155 noted above, has a slight medial hook and is angled anteriorly at its distal extremity, extends
1156 ventral to the level of the basicranial plate, and is slightly compressed anteroposteriorly with a
1157 rounded tip. It has a clear, sigmoid suture dorsally with the squamosal (and its posttympanic
1158 process) in both specimens, extending in a posterodorsal to anteroventral direction. The lateral
1159 edge of the paroccipital process is continuous dorsally with the nuchal crest. As previously
1160 observed, the morphology of this region is similar in all pampatheres (Bordas 1939; Guth 1961;
1161 Paula Couto 1984; Edmund 1985; Patterson et al. 1989; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), whereas
1162 the shape and size of the paroccipital process is variable in other cingulates (Patterson et al.
1163 1989; Wible and Gaudin 2004; Wible 2010).

1164 In posterior view, the mastoid region has a broad, rectangular (UF 191448) or rhomboid
1165 (UF 248500) exposure on the occiput (Figure 10). In UF 191448, the transversely elongated
1166 exposure is marked by two narrow vertical depressions. The deeper and more medial of these is
1167 the sulcus for the occipital artery, which arises as a deep notch between the paracondylar process
1168 of the exoccipital and the paroccipital process, and terminates dorsally at the posttemporal
1169 foramen (the posterior opening of the posttemporal canal for the arteria diploetica magna – see
1170 Wible and Gaudin 2004). This opening lies just below the suture between the mastoid and the
1171 occipital exposure of the squamosal. The second, more lateral and much shallower vertical
1172 depression represents the attachment surface for the digastric muscle, travelling along the inside
1173 edge of the nuchal crest. This depression does not reach the tip of the paroccipital process
1174 ventrally, but dorsally it extends beyond the mastoid, crossing the occipital surface of the
1175 squamosal onto the supraoccipital. It terminates just below a large muscular boss on the nuchal
1176 crest. The morphology of UF 248500 differs from that of UF 191448 in several respects. Most
1177 importantly, the shape of the occipital exposure is different – it is more rhomboid than

1178 rectangular, with its dorsal border sloping ventrolaterally. Additionally, the digastric fossa is
1179 shallower, and has a sigmoid shape. In *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), the digastric fossa takes
1180 on a shape similar to that in UF 248500, and the occipital artery sulcus is bowed medially. The
1181 mastoid occipital exposure is even broader mediolaterally in *Vassallia* than in *Holmesina*, taking
1182 on a “Y-shape” as indicated by De Iuliis and Edmund (2002: p. 56), with medial and lateral
1183 extensions passing dorsal to the posttemporal foramen (= “mastoid foramen” of De Iuliis and
1184 Edmund 2002). In *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007), *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), and
1185 *Euphractus* (UTCM 1491), the digastric fossa is much shorter vertically than in pampatheres,
1186 restricted to the posterior surface of the paroccipital process, and not extending dorsally onto the
1187 squamosal and supraoccipital. *Holmesina floridanus*, *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), and
1188 *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424) all have a groove for the occipital artery extending dorsally from the
1189 posttemporal foramen across the squamosal and onto the supraoccipital. This condition was also
1190 described in *Euphractus* by Wible and Gaudin (2004), and is optimized as a cingulate
1191 synapomorphy by Gaudin and Wible (2006).

1192

1193 **Ectotympanic, Entotympanic, Ear ossicles**

1194 To our knowledge, no remnant of the ectotympanic or ear ossicles has ever been
1195 recovered in any pampathere, and our specimens, well-preserved though they are, have proven
1196 no exception [Guth (1961) described partial stapes elements in several glyptodonts, but not any
1197 portion of the ectotympanic or other ossicles]. There appear to be facets for the attachment of
1198 the anterior and posterior crura of the ectotympanic preserved in UF 248500, on the
1199 ventromedial surface of the squamosal’s entoglenoid process, and on the anterior surface of the
1200 tympanohyal and the portion of the petrosal forming the anterior wall of the stylomastoid

1201 foramen, respectively. This suggests that the ectotympanic formed a loosely attached, dorsally
1202 incomplete ring. There is also no indication of the presence of an entotympanic element –
1203 indeed, none has ever been described in any pampathere or glyptodont, despite its occurrence in
1204 *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004) and many other cingulates (Patterson et al. 1989; Wible
1205 2010).

1206

1207 **Vomer**

1208 The vomer of *H. floridanus* is only partially visible in two places. It can be seen
1209 anteriorly through the external narial opening of UF 248500, as an elongate ridge extending
1210 dorsally from the roof of the maxillary palatine processes into the nasal cavity. Here it is Y-
1211 shaped in cross section, with the base in the midsagittal plane and the dorsal arms of the “Y”
1212 supporting the ossified portion of the median nasal septum. It appears to come to an abrupt
1213 anterior termination well behind the internal openings of the incisive foramina, therefore it likely
1214 did not contact the premaxilla, in contrast to *Vassallia*, *Propalaeohoplophorus* and most other
1215 cingulates (Gaudin and Wible 2006). The vomer is also visible looking posteriorly through the
1216 choanae of UF 191448, as a pair of nearly vertical alae extending along the lateral edge of the
1217 presphenoid, converging anteriorly until they meet in the midline, perhaps covering the
1218 anteriormost tip of the presphenoid ventrally. Much of the posterior and ventral reaches of these
1219 alae are broken, but they likely contacted the maxilla and perhaps the palatine ventrally along the
1220 lateral walls of the nasal passage.

1221

1222 **Presphenoid/Orbitosphenoid**

1223 There is a clear suture between the presphenoid and basisphenoid in UF 248500, and the
1224 posterior portion of the presphenoid is visible in ventral view extending a short distance posterior
1225 to the choanae, although most of the anterior presphenoid is missing (Figures 5, 6). The entire
1226 presphenoid is preserved in UF 191448, though it is fused into the surrounding elements, so that
1227 its precise boundaries are no longer evident. Nevertheless, it can be inferred from the two
1228 specimens that the presphenoid takes the form of a narrow, elongate triangle that tapers
1229 anteriorly until disappearing beneath the vomer within the nasal cavity. As noted above, the
1230 anterior presphenoid connects laterally with the vomerine alae inside the nasal cavity, and likely
1231 contacts the palatine and pterygoid posterolaterally, although UF 248500 has ventrolateral
1232 flanges of the basisphenoid that extend lateral to the posteriormost parts of the presphenoid, and
1233 could preclude contact with the pterygoid. The presphenoid has a very similar form in other
1234 cingulates. In *Vassallia*, there is a ventrolateral projection of the basisphenoid that extends
1235 forward to preclude pterygoid/presphenoid contact, as in *H. floridanus*.

1236 The lateral portions of the orbitosphenoid, i.e., the areas where it would normally be
1237 exposed at the surface along the medial orbital wall, are badly damaged in UF 248500. There is
1238 also some damage in this area in UF 191448, and the orbital sutures are all closed in this
1239 specimen, making it difficult to assess orbitosphenoid anatomy. However, two additional
1240 specimens of *H. floridanus*, UF121742 and UF 223813, provide better insight. The former is an
1241 exquisitely preserved display specimen and shows the surface exposure in the orbital wall, the
1242 latter a fragmentary specimen that preserves the endocranial portion of the orbitosphenoid
1243 (which can also be glimpsed through breaks in UF 248500). The specimens taken together show
1244 that the optic nerve is completely enclosed in a canal formed by the orbitosphenoid bone (Figure
1245 7), as is typical for placental mammals (Novacek 1993). The lateral wall of this canal forms the

1246 medial wall of a combined sphenorbital fissure (transmitting c.n. III, IV, V₁, and VI, as well
1247 various orbital blood vessels) and foramen rotundum (transmitting c.n. V₂). In nearly all
1248 cingulates, these two openings are fused.

1249 The endocranial surface of the presphenoid/orbitosphenoid is marked by a strong,
1250 continuous orbitosphenoid crest surmounting the internal apertures of the left and right optic
1251 canals, but the jugulum sphenoidale (i.e., the surface of the presphenoid/orbitosphenoid rostral to
1252 the orbitosphenoid crest - using terminology of Evans and Christiansen 1979; Wible 2008) is
1253 only weakly convex in the midline. In many cingulates, including *Euphractus*, there is a strong
1254 midline crest in this area (Gaudin and Wible 2006 – note *Euphractus* is coded as lacking this
1255 feature, but should be coded as variably present, because a sharp crest is present in UTCM 1491,
1256 and a weaker, rounded crest is present in UTCM 1500). As in *Holmesina*, the midline crest itself
1257 is only weakly developed in *Vassallia*, but the entire jugulum singulare is swollen and convex,
1258 quite unlike the condition in *Holmesina*.

1259 The surface exposure of the orbitosphenoid in the medial orbital wall is relatively small
1260 and **ovate** in UF 121742, and elongated along a posteroventral to anterodorsal axis (Figure 7). It
1261 contacts the frontal anteriorly and dorsally, the maxilla and alisphenoid ventrally, and is
1262 separated by a gap from the lateral wall of the common opening for the optic foramen and
1263 sphenorbital fissure. The orbitosphenoid forms the medial wall of this common opening. In
1264 contrast to *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004) and *Proeutatus* (Gaudin and Wible 2006: fig.
1265 6.6a), there does not appear to be contact between the palatine and orbitosphenoid, although it is
1266 possible that there is a connection at the base of the medial wall for the common fossa that holds
1267 the optic foramen/ sphenorbital fissure and sphenopalatine canal.

1268 The orbitosphenoid does not participate in the rim of either the sphenopalatine foramen
1269 or the ethmoid foramen in UF 121742. Both conditions are known to occur at least variably in
1270 euphractine armadillos (Gaudin and Wible 2006), but Gaudin and Wible (2006) code both as
1271 absent in *Vassallia*, as they are in *Holmesina*. Like *Vassallia*, *Propalaeohoplophorus*, and
1272 *Proeutatus* (Gaudin and Wible 2006 – an unambiguous synapomorphy of Node 7), the optic
1273 foramen (i.e., the lateral opening of the optic canal) is hidden in lateral view by the lateral wall of
1274 the fossa housing the combined optic foramen/sphenorbital fissure, unlike *Euphractus* and most
1275 other extant armadillos (Gaudin and Wible 2006), in which the optic foramen is visible laterally.
1276 The small opening to the pterygoid canal lies on the suture between the orbitosphenoid and
1277 alisphenoid, just anterior to the optic foramen/sphenorbital fissure common opening, and at the
1278 base of a bony bridge that connects the alisphenoid and maxilla and forms a partial lateral wall to
1279 the common fossa for the sphenopalatine canal and the optic foramen/sphenorbital fissure
1280 (Figure 7). The position of the pterygoid canal foramen is similar in *Vassallia*, *Proeutatus*, and
1281 *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible 2006), whereas in
1282 *Propalaeohoplophorus*, this foramen lies within the common fossa for the optic foramen and
1283 sphenorbital fissure (Gaudin and Wible 2006). The lateral surface of the orbitosphenoid is
1284 marked by a rounded, anterodorsally directed ridge in UF 121742. This ridge lies ventral to a
1285 groove emerging from the optic foramen; a similar ridge is formed by the frontal bone above this
1286 groove, separating it from the ethmoid foramen.

1287

1288 **Alisphenoid**

1289 The alisphenoid is apparently quite large in *H. floridanus*, with a shallow bowl-like
1290 surface contour (Figure 7). It has sutural connections dorsally with the orbitosphenoid, frontal,

1291 and squamosal, the first being the shortest, most anterior, and roughly horizontal. The middle
1292 section is positioned more dorsally, and travels posterodorsally, meeting at a point with the
1293 squamosal suture, which sweeps posteriorly and ventrally in a great semicircular curve, crossing
1294 the entoglenoid process at its posteriormost extremity, so that the alisphenoid forms roughly the
1295 anterior third of this process. The alisphenoid has a generally horizontal suture ventrally with the
1296 pterygoid, taking part in the dorsalmost lateral rugosities of this element. As noted above, it
1297 contacts either a thin sliver of palatine or the maxilla anteriorly, and forms the posterior half of
1298 the rim for the sphenopalatine foramen. There is no contact between alisphenoid and parietal, as
1299 noted above.

1300 The large foramen ovale is housed completely within the alisphenoid, as in most
1301 cingulates (Gaudin et al. 1996), though the squamosal does closely approach its dorsal margin.
1302 There is a small transverse canal foramen (for a vein from the cavernous sinus – see Wible and
1303 Gaudin 2004) anteroventral to the foramen ovale in UF 121742, and on the left side of UF
1304 191448. On the right side of UF 191448, and in UF 275496, there are two small foramina in this
1305 position, whereas the foramen appears to be absent in UF 248500. This feature is present in
1306 most cingulates (it is an ambiguous synapomorphy of Node 3 in Gaudin and Wible 2006). The
1307 alisphenoid also likely forms at least the lateralmost parts of the piriform fenestra's anterior
1308 edge, though it is difficult to be certain of the contribution because of fusion between the
1309 alisphenoid and basisphenoid posteromedially.

1310 The alisphenoid has a prominent, rounded posterior edge that forms the terminus for the
1311 lateral wall of the nasopharynx. Just below its suture with the frontal, it is traversed by a sharp
1312 crest that originates on the anteromedial corner of the glenoid articular surface and extends
1313 anteriorly across the squamosal and alisphenoid. This is a posterior section of the infratemporal

1314 crest. It terminates anteriorly at a large boss, where it joins the anterior portion of the
1315 infratemporal crest described above in connection with the frontal bone. This boss likely serves
1316 as the site of origin for most of the extrinsic eye muscles, and would therefore be homologous
1317 with the ossified ala hypochiasmatica described by Wible and Gaudin (2004) in *Euphractus*,
1318 though it is carried by the alisphenoid rather than the orbitosphenoid. The anatomy of these
1319 crests is very similar to *H. floridanus* in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), *Vassallia* (FMNH
1320 P14424), and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007). The alisphenoid terminates anteriorly
1321 in a thin, freestanding crest that marks the lateral margin of the fossa housing the optic
1322 foramen/sphenorbital fissure and the sphenopalatine canal. As noted above, it also forms a bony
1323 bridge lateral to this fossa that connects anteriorly with the maxilla. The entoglenoid portion of
1324 the alisphenoid in UF 248500 bears a shallow groove that runs anteroventromedially towards the
1325 foramen ovale, which likely accommodated the chorda tympani nerve.

1326

1327 **Basisphenoid**

1328 The basisphenoid and basioccipital are fused in all the *H. floridanus* specimens available
1329 to us, so we cannot determine the boundary between the two with certainty. In other cingulates
1330 for which the suture is known (Gillette and Ray 1981; Patterson et al. 1989; Wible and Gaudin
1331 2004; Wible 2010), the boundary lies anterior to the basioccipital tubera, roughly at the level of
1332 the carotid foramina. We will assume a similarly positioned boundary here (Figure 6).

1333 The main body of the basisphenoid has a flat ventral surface contour and is trapezoidal in
1334 outline, tapering anteriorly. It contacts the presphenoid anteriorly and the basioccipital
1335 posteriorly. Along its lateral margins, it bears a prominent, ventrally curving flange. In UF
1336 248500, this flange has a sutural outline anteriorly, although, due to damage in this area it is

1337 unclear if the bone to which it is sutured is palatine, pterygoid, or perhaps even alisphenoid.
1338 More posteriorly, this flange, if present, is fused to the alisphenoid – there are vague indications
1339 of a basisphenoid/alisphenoid contact emerging from the piriform fenestra, crossing the
1340 anteriormost region of the entoglenoid process and extending anteriorly onto the nasopharyngeal
1341 wall in UF 121742. The ventral basisphenoid flange is visible in UF 275496 (a juvenile
1342 specimen), but is not visible in UF 191448 due to sutural fusion. The ventral flange is also
1343 present in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424). In both *Holmesina* and *Vassallia* this flange has a
1344 triangular anterior extension that reaches forward beyond the level of the
1345 presphenoid/basisphenoid suture, presumably separating the vomerine alae from the palatine
1346 and/or pterygoid. Although it is not illustrated by Wible and Gaudin (2004), at least three
1347 specimens of *Euphractus* (UTCM 1486, 1491, and 1500) examined for this study have a small
1348 ventral flange of the basisphenoid. It is much smaller than in pampatheres, restricted anteriorly
1349 and triangular in shape. It extends laterally between the nasopharyngeal exposures of the
1350 pterygoid and palatine.

1351 The posterolateral corner of the basisphenoid bears a concave, semicircular indentation
1352 for the carotid foramen (Figures 5, 6, 8). As noted in our description of the alisphenoid, these
1353 two sphenoid elements also form the anterior margin of the piriform fenestra (along with the
1354 entoglenoid process of the squamosal), though their relative contributions are unclear due to
1355 sutural fusion in this area. A short distance anterior to this indentation, a longitudinal groove
1356 forms in both UF 248500 and UF 191448. It travels anteriorly across the basisphenoid,
1357 beginning near the junction of its ventral flange and body, but shortly thereafter curving ventrally
1358 and then traveling straight for the remainder of its course across the ventral flange. This is the
1359 groove for the vidian nerve. Its anterior terminus is missing in UF 248500, but in UF 191448 it

1360 terminates at the medial opening for the pterygoid canal, located at the junction of the ventral
1361 basisphenoid flange and the perpendicular plate of the palatine. This open groove for the vidian
1362 nerve is nearly identical in form in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), and an open groove of somewhat
1363 different form is preserved in *Proeutatus*, whereas in some cingulates, like *Euphractus*, the nerve
1364 is partially enclosed by a canal, and in others, e.g., *Propalaeohoplophorus*, it is fully enclosed by
1365 a canal (Gaudin and Wible 2006).

1366 The dorsal surface of the basisphenoid is exposed in UF 223813. It is marked by a large,
1367 deep, circular hypophyseal fossa, flanked laterally by prominent grooves for the internal carotid
1368 arteries. In the roof of the internal carotid sulci are bilaterally symmetrical openings – small
1369 breaks in the basisphenoid show that these are connected to a canal within the tuberculum sellae
1370 (i.e., the eminence in front of the hypophyseal fossa), and are likely part of the cavernous sinus
1371 system, accommodating the veins that open at the transverse canal foramen anteroventral to the
1372 foramen ovale.

1373

1374 **Basioccipital**

1375 The basioccipital forms the remainder of the basicranial surface, accounting for over half
1376 its length (if we are reconstructing the position of the basisphenoid/basioccipital suture
1377 correctly). It has straight lateral margins that converge only slightly anteriorly in *H. floridanus*
1378 (Figure 6). The basioccipital is considerably shorter and wider in *H. septentrionalis* (UF
1379 234224) and *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881), with lateral margins that are more steeply inclined,
1380 whereas the proportions of the basioccipital in *Vassallia* (De Iuliis and Edmund 2002),
1381 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (Scott 1903-4), and *Proeutatus* (Patterson et al. 1989) are more like those
1382 of *H. floridanus*. The basioccipital lateral margins are largely separate from the petrosal in *H.*

1383 *floridanus*, although, as noted above, there is an articulation between the two bones, with a knob
1384 forming on the dorsal edge of the basioccipital's lateral margin, fitting into a depression in the
1385 medial flange of the petrosal and interrupting the otherwise open basicochlear commissure. At
1386 its posterior limit, the lateral margin of the basioccipital curves laterally, forming the anterior
1387 half of the notch for the jugular foramen. UF 248500 retains the suture between the exoccipital
1388 and basioccipital, showing it as a nearly horizontal contact that extends from the medial margin
1389 of the jugular foramen to the anterior portion of the ventral rim of the foramen magnum (Figure
1390 6). In *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004), this suture runs more diagonally, contacting the rim
1391 of the jugular foramen further anteriorly and the foramen magnum further posteriorly.

1392 The ventral surface of the basioccipital is convex transversely and highly irregular,
1393 marked by several prominent elevations and depressions. The anteriormost of these include two
1394 prominent lateral tubercles flanking an even taller median crest (Figure 5). These represent the
1395 basioccipital tubera and pharyngeal tubercle, respectively [based on comparison with *Canis*
1396 (Evans and Christiansen, 1979) and *Homo* (Clemente 1985)], the former serving as the site of
1397 attachment for the m. longus capitis. Behind the basioccipital tubera are large, shallow
1398 depressions, elongated along a posterolateral to anteromedial axis that accommodated the
1399 insertion of the m. rectus capitis ventralis. In *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224) and *H. occidentalis*
1400 (ROM 3881), the pharyngeal tubercle and rectus capitis fossae are less well-developed, whereas
1401 only the latter is reduced in *Vassallia* (Gaudin and Wible 2006). *Proeutatus* resembles the
1402 morphology in *H. floridanus*, but the basioccipital tubera are more elongated along an oblique
1403 axis, whereas the basioccipital surface relief is much reduced in both *Propalaeohoplophorus* and
1404 *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible 2006).

1405

1406 **Exoccipital/Supraoccipital**

1407 The occiput is a single fused plate in UF 191448, as is typical among adult mammals, but
1408 in the subadult UF 248500 the demarcations among its constituent elements are still visible,
1409 including the contact between just described basioccipital and the exoccipital elements on the
1410 skull base, as well as the junction between the exoccipitals and supraoccipital on the posterior
1411 surface of the skull.

1412 The paired exoccipitals have two primary sections: a horizontal moiety on the skull base;
1413 and a vertical portion that forms part of the occipital surface. The former joins the basioccipital
1414 at its anteroventral extremity, at a suture that passes medially from the jugular foramen. It is not
1415 clear if the suture enters the rim of the foramen magnum, or meets its opposite anterior to the rim
1416 of the foramen magnum. Damage to the medial portions of both the left and right exoccipitals of
1417 UF 248500 leaves a sizable gap in this area (Figure 5B). The posterior, vertical segment of the
1418 exoccipital shares a lateral suture with the mastoid part of the petrosal. This suture extends from
1419 the base of the paracondylar process dorsally to the base of the supraoccipital. Any connection
1420 between the occipital exposure of the squamosal and the exoccipital is precluded by a dorsal
1421 contact between the mastoid petrosal and the supraoccipital (Figure 10). The crack that we
1422 interpret as the exoccipital/supraoccipital suture in UF 248500 is not perfectly symmetrical, and
1423 so may not represent the actual suture, but it occupies almost an identical position as that of the
1424 extant armadillo *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004: fig. 5), extending ventromedially from the
1425 supraoccipital/mastoid suture to the dorsal rim of the foramen magnum. A specimen of
1426 *Propalaeohoplophorus*, YPM-PU 15007, has a nearly identical suture on the left side only.
1427 Lastly, there is an asymmetrical crack in roughly the same area of the occiput in *Vassallia*

1428 (FMNH P14424), though it is oriented at a shallower angle and so does not appear to enter the
1429 dorsal rim of the foramen magnum, which would then be formed entirely by the exoccipital.

1430 The lateral edge of the exoccipital's basicranial segment is marked by a distinct concavity
1431 that represents the jugular notch, i.e., the medial edge of the jugular foramen. As noted above,
1432 the anterior portion of the jugular notch is formed by the basioccipital. Extending more laterally
1433 than posteriorly from this notch is a sutural contact between exoccipital and mastoid. This suture
1434 is broadly open in both UF 191448 and UF 248500 (Figure 8), but this is presumably due to
1435 postmortem displacement of the petrosal. At the lateral extremity of this contact surface, the
1436 exoccipital bears a strong, free-standing ventral projection, the paracondylar process
1437 (=paroccipital process of Patterson et al. 1989; Gaudin 1995; =jugular process of Wible and
1438 Gaudin 2004). In posterior view, the paracondylar process has a convex lateral border and a
1439 concave medial border, giving it a hooked appearance, and it is separated by a distinct notch
1440 from the lateral edge of the occipital condyle (Figures 6, 8, 10). This morphology is apparently a
1441 general feature of pampatheres, because it is also present in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), *H.*
1442 *occidentalis* (ROM 3881), *H. paulacoutoi* (Cartelle and Bohórquez 1985), *Vassallia* (FMNH
1443 P14424), and *Pampatherium* (Bordas 1939; Guth 1961). In *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU
1444 15007) the paracondylar process is well developed, but more blunt, and neither hooked medially
1445 nor separated by a notch from the occipital condyle. The process is dramatically reduced by
1446 comparison in both *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) and *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). Just
1447 medial to the jugular notch is a strong fossa that houses the hypoglossal foramen at its base. In
1448 UF 248500, there are two hypoglossal foramina, each connecting to a corresponding opening just
1449 inside the foramen magnum within the cranial cavity. In UF 191448, there appears to be a single
1450 opening. This mirrors the variation noted for *Euphractus* by Wible and Gaudin (2004), whereas

1451 Gaudin and Wible (2006, char. 153) record only a single hypoglossal foramen in *Vassallia*,
1452 *Propalaeohoplophorus*, and *Proeutatus*.

1453 The hypoglossal fossa of *H. floridanus* sits at the medial edge of a second, broader and
1454 shallower fossa that lies just anterior to the occipital condyle, the ventral condyloid fossa of
1455 Wible and Gaudin (2004). Medial to these two depressions, the ventral surface of the exoccipital
1456 is transversely convex, and terminates at a strong, rounded ridge, which is the lateral edge of the
1457 foramen magnum. The transverse convexity of the exoccipital's basicranial exposure is another
1458 general feature of pampatheres, present in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), *H. occidentalis*
1459 (ROM 3881), and *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424); but not in *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU
1460 15007), *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) or *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004), where the
1461 basicranial portion of the exoccipital is flat.

1462 Prominent occipital condyles join the vertical and horizontal segments of the exoccipital
1463 (Figures 5, 6, 10). The condyles are cylindrical (=“roughly rectangular” in ventral view, char.
1464 155[1] in Gaudin and Wible 2006) in shape, an unambiguous synapomorphy of Cingulata
1465 according to Gaudin and Wible (2006). The lateral edge bears a distinct indentation that is
1466 present in all cingulates except *Peltephilus* (Gaudin and Wible 2006, node 2). The portion of the
1467 condyle anterior and ventral to this indentation extends much further laterally than the more
1468 dorsal and posterior portion. This is also a feature of in *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224), *H.*
1469 *occidentalis* (ROM 3881), and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007), whereas in *Proeutatus*
1470 (FMNH P13197) and *Euphractus* (UTCM 1486, 1491, 1500) the condyle is more symmetrical
1471 about this indentation, and in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424) the indentation itself is dramatically
1472 reduced. In ventral view, the condyle appears to be somewhat wider transversely in pampatheres
1473 and glyptodonts than in armadillos (as represented by *Proeutatus* and *Euphractus*). The

1474 measurements reflect this, with the ratio of width to length greater than or equal to 1.5 in *H.*
1475 *floridanus*, *H. septentrionalis*, *H. occidentalis*, *Vassallia*, and *Propalaeohoplophorus*, and
1476 substantially less in *Proeutatus* and *Euphractus* (Tables 1, 2).

1477 The surface of the exoccipital immediately medial to the condyles is deeply impressed by
1478 a fossa that extends anteromedially almost to the front of the foramen magnum's ventral rim.
1479 Based on comparison with other placental mammals (see *Homo*, Clemente 1985; *Canis*, Evans
1480 and Christiansen 1979; in which the condyles are much smaller and shallower) we identify this
1481 depression as the site of insertion for the alar ligaments extending forward from the dens of the
1482 axis. It is not at all clear why these ligaments would be so large in *H. floridanus*, but they appear
1483 similarly enlarged in other pampatheres, based on the presence of this fossa in *H. septentrionalis*
1484 (UF 234224), *H. occidentalis* (ROM 3881), and *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424). No such depression
1485 is described in Wible and Gaudin (2004), but we have subsequently examined specimens of
1486 *Euphractus* (UTCM 1486, 1491, 1500) in which a small, circular depression is present in this
1487 area. A similar circular depression is also observed in *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197), whereas
1488 *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007) appears to have fossa similar in size to that of
1489 pampatheres, but much shallower.

1490 The vertical portion of the exoccipital bears a strongly marked, transversely elongated
1491 depression immediately dorsal to the occipital condyle (Figure 10). This is the dorsal condyloid
1492 fossa of Wible and Gaudin (2004). Dorsal to this depression, the exoccipital is nearly flat. As
1493 noted above, the exoccipital forms nearly the entire rim of the foramen magnum, the supraoccipital
1494 only contributing a small exposure on the dorsalmost point of the opening. The rim is irregularly
1495 shaped due to a small convexity located at roughly the midpoint of its height, the nuchal tubercle.
1496 The nuchal tubercle is developed to a similar degree in *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197) or

1497 *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004), but is less prominent in *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU
1498 15007). The latter also has a broader, transversely ovate foramen magnum, in contrast to the
1499 taller, more triangular shaped foramen in *Proeutatus* and *H. floridanus*.

1500 The supraoccipital is a broad, hemispherical plate that extends from its ventral contacts
1501 with the squamosal, mastoid and exoccipital to its dorsal termination at the nuchal crest, where it
1502 is presumably fused to the parietal, as in *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004). As in both
1503 *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004) and *Proeutatus* (Scott 1903-4), the nuchal crest is
1504 posteriorly convex laterally and posteriorly concave in the midline. This shape is broadly shared
1505 among euphractine and eutatine armadillos, pampatheres, and early glyptodonts, extending all
1506 the way back to the oldest known cingulate skull, that of the Eocene taxon *Utaetus* (Barrancan
1507 SALMA; Simpson 1948; Gaudin and Croft 2015). In *H. floridanus*, there are prominent, raised
1508 tubercles just behind the most posterior point of curvature on the nuchal crest. Low, broadly
1509 rounded ridges extend ventromedially from the tubercles toward the foramen magnum. The
1510 central region of the supraoccipital between these elevations has a gently concave surface,
1511 interrupted in the midline by a very weakly developed external occipital crest (Figure 10). The
1512 supraoccipital is very similar in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424). In *H. septentrionalis* (UF 234224)
1513 and *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007), the nuchal crest is more rugose, and the external
1514 occipital crest is more prominent, the latter also the case in *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin
1515 2004). *Proeutatus* lacks the raised tubercles present in the other taxa, it has a large pair of
1516 mastoid foramina that perforate the supraoccipital, and it has a characteristic nuchal crest that is
1517 very tall to the point of being slightly recurved anteriorly in lateral view (Scott 1903-4; FMHH
1518 P13197).

1519 The overall shape of the occiput in *H. floridanus* is rather tall and narrow, almost
1520 triangular, with its maximum depth and transverse width (measured at the base of the
1521 supraoccipital) nearly equivalent (Tables 1, 2). This is also the case in *H. septentrionalis* (UF
1522 234224), whereas in *Vassallia* (FMNH P14424), *Propalaeohoplophorus* (YPM-PU 15007),
1523 *Proeutatus* (FMHH P13197), and *Euphractus* (UTCM 1491), the occiput is lower, broader and
1524 more semicircular in shape, with a width/depth ratio ≥ 1.2 .

1525

1526 **Mandible**

1527 The mandible is preserved in a number of UF *H. floridanus* specimens, including UF
1528 223813, 248500, 275497, 275498, 285000 and 293000. In all but the first two it remains
1529 incompletely prepared and attached to the skull, so that the occlusal surfaces of the teeth are not
1530 completely visible and the medial mandibular surfaces are also largely obscured. The mandible is
1531 prepared free in UF 223813 and 248500, but both are damaged to some extent. The left
1532 mandible of UF 224450 has also been prepared free. In this specimen the bone is almost
1533 perfectly preserved (Figure 11), although it only retains three of nine lower teeth (the second,
1534 sixth and seventh), along with what appears to be a pathological remnant of the fourth.
1535 Nevertheless, as the most complete available specimen, it will serve as the primary basis for the
1536 description that follows.

1537 The pampathere mandible has been described many times in the literature (e.g., Simpson
1538 1930; Castellanos 1937; James 1957; Edmund 1985; Edmund and Theodor 1997; Vizcaíno et al.
1539 1998; De Iuliis et al. 2000; De Iuliis and Edmund 2002), and, as many of these authors have
1540 noted, is broadly similar in its morphology among the various taxa. Since much has already been

1541 written about the comparative morphological differences among pampathere mandibles at the
1542 generic level, we will focus our comparisons on the species level variation within *Holmesina*.

1543 The mandible of *H. floridanus* (MML = 182-200 mm; Tables 3, 4) is smaller than that of
1544 *H. septentrionalis* [both Simpson (1930) and James (1957) report MML of 240mm] and *H.*
1545 *occidentalis* (MML > 268mm in ROM 4955; Table 3). Proportions are very similar to *H.*
1546 *occidentalis*, with a very similar relative depth of the horizontal ramus (Table 2), whereas the
1547 horizontal ramus appears slightly deeper in *H. septentrionalis* (Simpson 1930; James 1957;
1548 Edmund 1985). Like *H. occidentalis* (ROM 4955), UF 224450 has two mental foramina that
1549 open on the external surface of the horizontal ramus in the symphyseal region (ventral to m3 and
1550 m4, respectively). Unlike *H. occidentalis*, both mental foramina are associated with grooves in
1551 the surface of the mandible. The more anterior foramen empties into two closely set, parallel,
1552 anterodorsally directed grooves, and indeed the foramen itself is partially constricted into an
1553 upper and lower opening. The groove emerging from the posterior mental foramen travels
1554 posteroventrally. For *H. septentrionalis*, Simpson (1930) illustrates four foramina of varying
1555 sizes in the external surface of the mandible anterior to the level of m4, whereas James (1957)
1556 describes a single mental foramen beneath m3. It is not clear if all four of Simpson's openings
1557 are mental foramina, or if one or more are nutritive foramina that he chose to illustrate.

1558 The anteroventral edge of the symphysis in *H. floridanus* forms roughly a 27° angle with
1559 the toothrow (Figure 11C). This appears to be similar to the angle in *H. occidentalis* (ROM
1560 4955), but somewhat more acute than in *H. septentrionalis* [roughly 30° as measured in Simpson
1561 (1930, fig. 4) and Edmund (1985, fig. 6)] The posteriormost point of the symphysis extends just
1562 below the ventral edge of the horizontal ramus in medial view, as in other *Holmesina*, and the
1563 anteriormost point forms a very short triangular extension in front of m1, marked by two small

1564 foramina on its dorsal surface. The length of this short mandibular spout is a little longer than
1565 the mesiodistal diameter of the m1 alveolus (spout = 6.3mm, m1 alveolus = 6.0mm), whereas in
1566 Edmund's (1985, fig. 6) illustration of *H. septentrionalis* the spout is shorter than m1.

1567 The masseteric fossa of *H. floridanus* (UF 224450) is broad, its anterior terminus marked
1568 by a low crest that connects the anteriormost edge of the angular process with the ventralmost
1569 edge of the coronoid process (Figure 11A). This crest continues posteriorly across the lateral
1570 surface of the coronoid base. This makes the masseteric fossa of *H. floridanus* deeper than that
1571 of *Vassallia*, but shallower than that of *H. occidentalis* (Vizcaíno et al. 1998). There are distinct
1572 depressions on either side of this upper masseteric crest. The depression above the crest covers
1573 most of the lateral surface of the coronoid process, and is bounded anteriorly by the coronoid
1574 crest, i.e., the thickened anterolateral margin of the coronoid process. The coronoid crest is
1575 continuous dorsally with a distinct crest that crosses the lateral surface of the coronoid process
1576 proximal to its tip, which we are designating the lateral coronoid crest. This lateral coronoid
1577 crest is found in all euphractine and eutateine armadillos, as well as pampatheres (Gaudin and
1578 Wible 2006: char 21[1], an unambiguous synapomorphy of Node A). Because this lateral
1579 coronoid depression lies between the coronoid and lateral coronoid crests, which serve as
1580 insertion points for the temporalis musculature in *Euphractus* (Smith and Redford 1990; Wible
1581 and Gaudin 2004) and presumably in *Holmesina* as well (Vizcaíno et al. 1998), and the upper
1582 limit of the masseter, we are labeling this area the "intermuscular fossa." The intermuscular
1583 fossa is very similar in size and shape in *H. floridanus* and *H. occidentalis* (ROM 4955), ovate
1584 and elongated along an anteroventral to posterodorsal axis. In *H. septentrionalis*, it appears to be
1585 narrower anteroposteriorly and more elongated posterodorsally (Cahn 1922; Simpson 1930).

1586 There is also a weak, ovate depression below the upper masseteric crest in UF 224450, its
1587 long axis oriented in an anteroventral to posterodorsal direction, bounded posteriorly by the
1588 lateral coronoid crest. It is unclear if this area serves as part of the attachment for the masseter,
1589 although low ridges crossing its surface suggest that it does, and Smith and Redford (1990) show
1590 that the comparable area in *Euphractus* is covered by the masseter muscle.

1591 The coronoid process itself is generally triangular in *H. floridanus*, but varies rather
1592 dramatically in its proportions. The ratio of maximum height to basal anteroposterior length
1593 ranges from 0.85-1.43, easily encompassing *H. septentrionalis* [as illustrated by James (1957)
1594 and Edmund (1985), the ratio is 1.25 or 1.23, respectively] within this range. The process
1595 appears to be somewhat more tapered distally in *H. floridanus* than in *H. septentrionalis*. A
1596 complete coronoid is not preserved in the specimen of *H. occidentalis* illustrated by Vizcaíno et
1597 al. (1998), but the preserved portion is more parallel sided than tapered distally, resembling more
1598 closely the condition in *H. septentrionalis*. Although the posterior edge of the coronoid process
1599 is slightly inclined posterodorsally in both *H. floridanus* and *H. septentrionalis*, the former taxon
1600 possesses an additional small but distinct posterior hook at its distal terminus (Figure 11), a
1601 feature lacking in the latter species (James 1957; Edmund 1985). Similar to the lateral coronoid
1602 crest described above, the coronoid process of *H. floridanus* carries a thickened anterior edge on
1603 its medial face, as well (Figure 11C). This medial crest connects to a second crest near the base
1604 of the coronoid. This low crest traces a posteroventrally curved arc, terminating at a point above
1605 the space between the last molariform tooth and the mandibular foramen. Anteroposteriorly, the
1606 medial surface of the coronoid process is gently concave. The base of the coronoid covers the
1607 posterior half of m8 in lateral view, and hides m9 entirely, as in other pampatheres (De Iuliis and
1608 Edmund 2002).

1609 When viewed laterally or medially (Figure 11), the condylar process of *H. floridanus* is
1610 very short and triangular, closely resembling that of *H. septentrionalis* (Simpson 1930; James
1611 1957; Edmund 1985) and *H. occidentalis* (Vizcaíno et al. 1998). As noted above, there is a
1612 single, short condyloid crest on the lateral side of the condylar process. There are two such
1613 crests on the medial side. All are short and extend in an anteroventral direction – the lateral crest
1614 is straight, whereas the medial crests are curved in an anteriorly concave fashion. Edmund
1615 (1985) illustrates three medial condyloid crests in his specimen of *H. septentrionalis*. The
1616 condyle itself is ovate, very broad transversely, and narrow anteroposteriorly, its width two to
1617 three times its length (Tables 3, 4). Its surface is flat anteroposteriorly, but slightly concave
1618 transversely, and inclined posterodorsally in lateral view, as it is in *H. occidentalis* (ROM 4955).
1619 At its medial extremity, the condyle of *H. floridanus* hooks sharply anteriorly at nearly a right
1620 angle, forming a tall medial wall to an ovate fossa. This fossa extends nearly to the midpoint of
1621 the condyle, lying anterior to the articular surface. It likely served as the site of insertion for the
1622 lateral pterygoid muscle, since the muscle attaches to this region in the extant *Euphractus* (Wible
1623 and Gaudin 2004). The condyle in *H. floridanus* is strongly elevated, located high above the
1624 level of the toothrow, like it is in *H. septentrionalis* (Edmund 1985) and *H. occidentalis*
1625 (Vizcaíno et al. 1998). Curiously, the condyle of pampatheres is noticeably less elevated than
1626 that of *Propalaeohoplophorus*, *Proeutatus*, or *Euphractus* (Table 3).

1627 As in the other *Holmesina*, the angular process of *H. floridanus* extends only a short
1628 distance posterior to the base of the condylar process, but forms a very broad, posteroventrally
1629 convex curved structure that reaches anteriorly nearly to the midpoint of the last molariform
1630 tooth (Figure 11). It extends, at its lowest point, slightly below the ventral edge of the horizontal
1631 ramus. The outer surface, part of the very large masseteric fossa, is only slightly convex

1632 anteroposteriorly. Similarly, its inner surface is only slightly concave anteroposteriorly, nearly
1633 flat dorsoventrally, but strongly scalloped near its margin by the insertion of the medial
1634 pterygoid muscle, which attaches to this same region in *Euphractus* (Wible and Gaudin 2004)
1635 and other placental mammals (e.g., *Canis*, Evans and Christiansen 1979; *Homo*, Clemente 1985).
1636 Again, this morphology is virtually identical to that of other *Holmesina* (Simpson 1930; Edmund
1637 1985; Vizcaíno et al. 1998). The mandibular foramen lies just above the inner medial pterygoid
1638 fossa, just behind and below the level of the third molariform and positioned directly above the
1639 most ventral portion of the angular process. In Simpson's (1930) illustration of *H.*
1640 *septentrionalis*, the foramen is located somewhat more anterior and much further ventrally, but
1641 this may be due to postmortem damage. In Edmund's (1985) illustration of the same taxon, there
1642 appear to be two mandibular foramina, one in a position like that of Simpson's specimen, the
1643 other in roughly the same position as in *H. floridanus* (UF 224450).

1644 There is more variation in lower tooth counts than upper tooth counts among crown-
1645 group cingulates (Gaudin and Wible 2006) – e.g., *Proeutatus* (Scott 1903-4) and *Euphractus*
1646 (Wible and Gaudin 2004) both have 10 lowers, and *Propalaeohoplophorus* has only eight (Scott
1647 1903-4). *Holmesina* has nine, as in other pampatheres (Simpson 1930; Edmund and Theodor
1648 1997; DeIulis and Edmund 2002), and this condition is optimized as a synapomorphy of
1649 pampatheres plus glyptodonts in Gaudin and Wible's (2006; Node 8) phylogenetic analysis.

1650 Only three teeth are preserved in UF 224450: m2, m6 and m7 (Figure 11). In addition,
1651 there appears to be a conical, unerupted m4, but this is likely a pathological condition, as
1652 indicated not only by the shape and position of the tooth itself, but by the spongy bone that
1653 occupies much of the volume of the alveolus. The shape of the remaining teeth can only be
1654 inferred from the outline of their alveoli. There are lower teeth preserved in other FLMNH *H.*

1655 *floridanus* specimens, though many can only be observed in lateral view because of preservation
1656 and degree of preparation. UF 223813 preserves all nine lower molariforms (Table 4), UF
1657 275497 preserves m1, m3-7 and m9, UF 275498 preserves m1-7, and UF 285000 preserves m2,
1658 m4-5, and m7-8. The first three lower molariforms in *H. floridanus* are ovate mesiodistally, with
1659 their long axis rotated to a slightly mesiolingual to distolabial orientation. The fourth molariform
1660 is pathological in UF 224450. The alveolus shape indicates a reniform outline, with a slight
1661 labial indentation, but there is no visible external groove on the teeth in the other *H. floridanus*
1662 specimens, where the tooth takes on almost a rectangular shape, or perhaps weakly bilobate, in
1663 contrast to the reniform m4 (with a lingual groove) of other *Holmesina* (see below). The
1664 remaining lower teeth in *H. floridanus* (m5-9) appear to be strongly bilobate in outline. The first
1665 and last of these (i.e., m5 and m9) are substantially shorter mesiodistally than the intervening
1666 three teeth in between.

1667 The tooth outlines and proportions in *H. septentrionalis* are quite similar (Simpson 1930;
1668 Edmund 1985), although both m3 and m4 are clearly reniform (concave lingually) in this
1669 species, in clear contrast to *H. floridanus*, and even m2 has a lingual groove as illustrated by
1670 Edmund (1985). *Holmesina occidentalis* (Vizcaíno et al. 1998) is even more similar to *H.*
1671 *floridanus*, lacking the reniform anterior teeth of *H. septentrionalis*, although m5 in this taxon is
1672 as large as m6-8, contrasting with its reduced length (relative to m6-8) in other *Holmesina*.
1673 Simpson (1930) notes that m4 is bilobate in both *Pamphaterium* and *Kraglievichia*, and is clearly
1674 more elongated mesiodistally than m3, both features contrasting with the condition in
1675 *Holmesina*. De Iuliis and Edmund (2002) describe and illustrate an m4 for *Vassallia* that
1676 resembles that of *Pamphaterium* and *Kraglievichia*, whereas Castellanos (1937, 1946) attributes
1677 a *Holmesina*-like morphology to this taxon. De Iuliis and Edmund (2002) suggest the

1678 discrepancy may be due to individual variation, and Edmund and Theodor (1997: p. 230) note
1679 that the shape of m4 in *Scirrotherium* varies “from reniform to elongate-elliptical.” In both
1680 *Pampatherium* and *Vassallia* (Simpson, 1930; Castellanos 1937, 1946), m5 is reniform rather
1681 than bilobate, as it is in *Holmesina*. In *Scirrotherium*, m5 is described as bilobate but illustrated
1682 as reniform (Edmund and Theodor 1997: fig.14.2). The long axis of m5-7 in *Vassallia* is
1683 obtusely V-shaped with a lingual vertex (FMNH P14424; see illustration in De Iuliis and
1684 Edmund, 2002), and is rotated so that the posterior lobe extends further labially than the anterior
1685 lobe. Simpson (1930) illustrates a similar if less well developed condition for m6, m7, and m8 in
1686 *Kraglievichia*, and m5, m6 and m8 in *Pampatherium*, whereas in *Holmesina* and *Scirrotherium*
1687 (Edmund and Theodor 1997), the long axis of the posterior molariforms is essentially straight.

1688 The lower teeth of Santacrucian glyptodonts (*Propalaeohoplophorus* and *Eucinepeltus*;
1689 Scott 1903-4) are reminiscent of those in pampatheres in some respects, with the first and second
1690 lower molariforms (likely homologous to m2 and m3 of pampatheres) ovate or slightly reniform
1691 in outline, and the third (=m4 of pampatheres) clearly reniform, but the remaining lower
1692 molariforms show the distinctive trilobate shape characteristic of glyptodonts (Hoffstetter 1958).
1693 The lower tooth outlines in *Proeutatus* (FMNH P13197; Scott 1903-4) also display some
1694 pampathere-like features. The anterior teeth (m1-3) are ovate, but m4-8 are vaguely heart shaped,
1695 with a shallow groove followed by a sharp keel on the lingual surface, with a stronger groove on
1696 the labial edge. The long axes of m4-8 are tilted somewhat posterolabially, as described above
1697 for *Vassallia*. The m9 in *Proeutatus* is weakly bilobate, like that of pampatheres, but the distal
1698 lobe is the broader of the two, whereas the mesial lobe is broader in pampatheres. The tooth
1699 outlines in *Euphractus* are like those of most other armadillos, i.e., uniformly circular or ovate in
1700 cross section (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin and Wible 2006).

1701 As was the case with the upper dentition, the preserved teeth in UF 224450 possess a
1702 raised central region of osteodentine surrounded by more typical orthodentine (Ferigolo 1985;
1703 Kalthoff 2011). In m2, the osteodentine core takes on the shape of a very narrow oval aligned
1704 with the long axis of tooth's outline. The osteodentine in m6 and m7 is mostly linear, expanding
1705 into a short "Y" at its mesial and distal ends, as was the case with the posterior upper
1706 molariforms. The same condition is present in other pampatheres (Simpson 1930; De Iuliis and
1707 Edmund 2002; Kalthoff 2011), whereas in glyptodonts the central osteodentine core bear
1708 multiple lateral branches (Scott 1903-4; Gillette and Ray 1981; Ferigolo 1985; Kalthoff 2011),
1709 and in *Proeutatus* the osteodentine core takes the form of an obliquely oriented oval (Scott 1903-
1710 4). *Euphractus* and other cingulates lack this osteodentine core, the central regions of their teeth
1711 occupied instead by a variably vascularized "modified orthodentine" (Ferigolo 1985; Gaudin and
1712 Wible 2006; Kalthoff 2011).

1713 The occlusal surface of the first three lower molariforms in *H. floridanus* is quite
1714 variable. In some instances the teeth are nearly flat, contrasting with the more beveled crowns of
1715 the anterior upper molariforms – e.g., in m1 of UF 223813 and 275497 (L only), and m2 and m3
1716 of UF 275498. Other are beveled (some only weakly, e.g., m2 of UF 224450; Figure 11), with a
1717 small, mesioventrally sloping anterior facet, usually occupying less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the occlusal
1718 surface, and the remaining distal facet sloping distoventrally. The other molariforms have single,
1719 flat occlusal surfaces, as was the case with the upper posterior teeth. These occlusal surface are
1720 not horizontal, but inclined distoventrally, giving adjacent tooth crowns a stair-step appearance,
1721 as described above for the upper dentition. These occlusal surface patterns are, as far as can be
1722 determined, nearly identical in other pampatheres. *Proeutatus* also has beveled wear on the
1723 anterior teeth and flat surfaces on the posterior teeth (flat on m8-10 in FMH P13197; see also

1724 Scott 1903-4; Gaudin and Wible, 2006). In glyptodonts, all teeth are worn flat, whereas in
1725 *Euphractus* and other armadillos, all teeth show beveled wear (Wible and Gaudin 2004; Gaudin
1726 and Wible 2006).

1727 The long axis of m2 is oriented anteriorly in lateral view in *H. floridanus*, and nearly
1728 vertical or perhaps slightly posteriorly in m6 and m7 (UF 224450). In anterior view, m2 tilts
1729 somewhat lingually, like the anteriormost upper teeth (although this may be a preservational
1730 artifact, since the anterior alveoli appear to slant labially). Like their counterparts in the upper
1731 dentition, m6 and m7 are implanted vertically, whereas the alveolus of m9 seems to clearly be
1732 inclined lingually, opposite its counterpart in the upper dentition. The latter condition is
1733 identified as a xenarthran synapomorphy by Gaudin (2004).

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1735

DISCUSSION

1736 The present study represents the most detailed and extensively illustrated description of a
1737 pampathere skull published to date. This is not to say that everything worthy of note is now
1738 known about the cranial osteology of *Holmesina floridanus*. As noted in the descriptive text
1739 above, we have yet to identify any ear ossicles, or any ecto- or entotympanic elements, in whole
1740 or in part (if the latter indeed exists in pampatheres, as it does in many other cingulates – see
1741 Patterson et al. 1989). CT-scanning of existing, but still unprepared specimens of *H. floridanus*
1742 might allow for the digital recovery of these small, often delicate and loosely attached structures
1743 that might be lost through more traditional mechanical preparation techniques, even if they exist
1744 and remain with the skull. Such scans might also yield information on endocranial osteology,
1745 e.g., on the delicate and hard-to-prepare nasal turbinate elements and paranasal sinuses, as has
1746 been done for the glyptodont *Neosclerocalyptus* (Fericola et al. 2012). Scanning would also

1747 allow for the reconstruction of soft tissues, especially the brain and associated cranial nerves and
1748 endocranial vasculature, as has recently been done (in part) for the pampathere *Pampatharium*
1749 *humboldti* (Tambusso and Fariña 2015). Producing and describing detailed CT scans of the skull
1750 in *H. floridanus* were deemed beyond the scope of the present study, but are planned for the
1751 future. In addition, there is extensive postcranial and carapace material for this species that was
1752 not considered in this investigation, but will be the subject of planned future work.

1753 It is particularly fortuitous that this description centers on *H. floridanus*, a taxon
1754 represented by such abundant and well preserved material, including at least 10 complete or
1755 nearly complete skulls from two sites of similar age in central Florida. As noted by Wible and
1756 Gaudin (2004), De Iuliis et al. (2014), and many others, all too often descriptions of fossil
1757 species are based on single (or even incomplete) specimens. Whereas this is often due to the
1758 limitations of the available material, it makes it difficult to account for intraspecific variation, to
1759 distinguish between species level distinctions and sexual dimorphism (e.g., McDonald 2006), or
1760 to assess the reliability of systematic characters based on fossil taxa. The present study, like
1761 other recent detailed analyses of xenarthran skull morphology (e.g., Wible and Gaudin 2004;
1762 Gaudin 2011; McAfee and Naples 2012; DeIuliis et al. 2014; Hautier et al. 2014; Gaudin et al.
1763 2015), has revealed substantial variation in a variety of cranial features in *H. floridanus*. These
1764 features include the number, size and /or position of a variety of cranial foramina (anterior
1765 palatal foramen, maxillary foramen, minor palatine foramina, foramen for frontal diploc vein,
1766 ethmoid foramen, transverse canal foramen, foramina for rami temporalis, suprimeatal foramen,
1767 hypoglossal foramen); the presence, size and shape of various processes (anteroventral process
1768 on premaxilla, lacrimal tubercle, ventral zygomatic process, postorbital process of jugal, orbito-
1769 auricularis crest, medial pterygoid process, circular boss on lateral wall of promontorium, medial

1770 shelf of petrosal, coronoid process of mandible) or depressions (digastric fossa, tensor tympani
1771 fossa, fossa incudis); and the shape of other cranial (proportions of nasal bone, shape of anterior
1772 margin of premaxilla, shape of naso-frontal and jugal/squamosal sutures, shape of external nares
1773 and occipital exposure of mastoid) or dental features (e.g., outline of M4 and M5, shape of wear
1774 facets on M1).

1775 Whereas the present study reveals a significant amount of intraspecific cranial variability
1776 in *H. floridanus*, it has also produced a long list of features that affirm previously hypothesized
1777 systematic relationships between this and other purportedly related taxa. Among these are
1778 features that are diagnostic of the taxon itself. The only diagnostic feature provided in the
1779 original diagnosis of the species by Robertson (1976) was the shape and orientation of the fourth
1780 upper molariform, and, as noted above, the shape of this tooth is variable among specimens of *H.*
1781 *floridanus*. Edmund (1987) distinguished this taxon based almost exclusively on size. Hulbert
1782 and Morgan (1993) conducted a more extensive analysis, looking at the taxonomic implications
1783 of size variation but also a series of qualitative postcranial and dental features for *Holmesina*
1784 specimens from Florida only, but they did not list any cranial characteristics that served to
1785 distinguish *H. floridanus* from the younger *H. septentrionalis*. The present study recognizes at
1786 least 11 distinct, meristic cranial features that may be diagnostic for *H. floridanus* (Table 5),
1787 further affirming its status as a distinct pampathere species, currently known only from the late
1788 Blancan NALMA of central Florida.

1789 The description has also revealed a large number of characteristics that appear to
1790 distinguish the genus *Holmesina* from other pampatheres. As noted in the Introduction section
1791 of the present study, *Holmesina* is not recognized as a separate genus by McKenna and Bell
1792 (1997), and other authors have suggested the genus may be invalid (James 1957; Robertson

1793 1976). Our description identifies more than a dozen potential diagnostic cranial features (Table
1794 5), strongly affirming the monophyly of this genus, which includes species from both North and
1795 South America.

1796 Perhaps the largest suite of features with systematic value are identified as potential
1797 synapomorphies of pampatheres as a group (Table 5). The pampatheres have long been
1798 recognized as a distinctive group of cingulates, with their flat-topped, bilobate posterior
1799 molariforms that are highly dissimilar to the teeth of other cingulates. However, there is less
1800 agreement on how this morphological uniqueness should be treated taxonomically, with debate
1801 centered on whether pampatheres should be placed in a subfamily Pampatheriinae, a subgroup of
1802 the extinct and extant armadillo family Dasypodidae, as was typically the case in traditional
1803 classifications (e.g., Hoffstetter 1958; Patterson et al. 1989), or considered a family in their own
1804 right, the Pampatheriidae, as they are listed in McKenna and Bell (1997) and in most recent
1805 papers (e.g., De Iuliis and Edmund 2002; Tambusso and Fariña 2015; Góis et al. 2015). It
1806 should be noted here that if pampatheres are placed in their own family, and if we accept their
1807 close relationship to glyptodonts (discussed below), both morphological (Gaudin and Wible
1808 2006; Billet et al. 2011) and molecular phylogenies (Delsuc et al. 2016; Mitchell et al. 2016)
1809 would imply that this clade evolved from within armadillos. This in turn would make the family
1810 Dasypodidae, a taxon still widely employed in the mammalogical literature (e.g., Wilson and
1811 Reeder 2005; Vaughan et al. 2015), a paraphyletic group, necessitating the recognition of
1812 multiple armadillo families within “Dasypodidae.” Gibb et al. (2016) propose dividing the
1813 Cingulata into two families, Dasypodidae and Chlamyphoridae, the latter including the
1814 glyptodonts as a subfamily. It is unclear to us why one of the long-recognized subfamilies of
1815 armadillos (and indeed the smallest subfamily in terms of generic level diversity), the

1816 Dasypodinae, is accorded family level status by Gibb et al. (2016), whereas the other three
1817 armadillo subfamilies (Euphractinae, Chlamyphorinae and Tolypeutinae) are lumped together,
1818 along with the extinct glyptodonts (Glyptodontinae), and presumably their close relatives the
1819 pampatheres (now Pamphateriinae), into a single family. It is certainly a minimalist approach to
1820 reordering family level diversity among cingulates, but to our mind it fails to adequately reflect
1821 the age, morphological disparity, and taxonomic diversity encompassed by this clade, and in
1822 particular, the Chlamyphoridae. Moreover, it appears inconsistent with the manner in which
1823 taxonomic diversity is distributed in the sister taxon to Cingulata, the Pilosa. It is particularly
1824 noteworthy that the Vermilingua, the youngest and least diverse of the three main xenarthran
1825 clades (including only four living species; McDonald et al. 2008; Gaudin and Croft 2015), is
1826 currently divided into two families. The sloths, which are also a younger radiation than the
1827 cingulates (at least as far as they are documented in the fossil record; Gaudin and Croft 2015) are
1828 currently arranged in five families (Gaudin 2004). We would therefore advocate recognition of
1829 all 4 extant subfamilies of armadillos, as well as the pampatheres and very diverse glyptodonts,
1830 respectively, as family level taxa, so that Cingulata would encompass seven families –
1831 Dasypodidae (following Gibb et al. 2016), Chlamyphoridae (following Gibb et al. 2016, but
1832 restricted to the members of the subfamily Chlamyphorinae, i.e., the living fairy armadillos),
1833 Euphractidae (for living euphractines plus their extinct kin), Tolypeutidae, Glyptodontidae, and
1834 Pamphateriidae. We suspect this is a better way to arrange cingulate diversity, however we
1835 recognize that it does not account for all the taxonomic difficulties posed by the group. For
1836 example, it would leave some extinct taxa (e.g., eutatine armadillos, and perhaps some extinct
1837 “euphractines” like *Prozaedyus* or *Macroeuphractus*; see Gaudin and Wible 2006; Billet et al.
1838 2011) with an unresolved family-level status.

1839 The second largest list of putative synapomorphies recognized in this study support the
1840 alliance of pampatheres with the other clade of cingulate herbivores, the much more diverse and
1841 specialized glyptodonts (Table 5). An alliance of these two groups of large bodied herbivores
1842 was most prominently suggested by Bryan Patterson (Patterson and Pascual 1972; Patterson et al.
1843 1989), and was confirmed by the subsequent cladistic phylogenetic studies of Engelmann (1985),
1844 Gaudin and Wible (2006), and Billet et al. (2011). The present study adds to the already
1845 extensive list of derived resemblances among these forms (Table 5). The studies by Gaudin and
1846 Wible (2006) and Billet et al. (2011) also suggest that the Miocene armadillo *Proeutatus*
1847 (Santacrucian SALMA) is the sister taxon to pampatheres plus glyptodonts. This armadillo has
1848 been hypothesized to share the herbivorous diet characteristic of pampatheres and glyptodonts
1849 (Vizcaíno et al. 2012 and references therein). Table 5 confirms that this relationship is supported
1850 by cranial features not directly related to mastication, e.g., features from the ear region.

1851 Lastly, it should be noted that the present study identified a number of cranial features
1852 which are shared by some, but not all pampathere genera (e.g., M4 is bilobate in *Pampatherium*
1853 and *Kraglievich* but not *Holmesina*; m5 is reniform in *Pampatherium* and *Vassallia* but not
1854 *Holmesina*) and some features that appear to be apomorphies of pampatheres other than
1855 *Holmesina* (e.g., postorbital process of zygomatic arch on squamosal rather than the jugal, and
1856 loss of connection between zygomatic arch and nuchal crest in *Vassallia*). Clearly, and
1857 unsurprisingly, cranial data has much to contribute to our understanding of pampathere
1858 systematics. To our knowledge, no phylogenetic analysis of pampatheres has yet been
1859 performed, but we felt that such an analysis was beyond the scope of the present study,
1860 especially given the fact that much of the critical material is available only in South American
1861 museums. Nevertheless, such a study is clearly needed in the near future if we are to better

1862 understand the evolution of this distinctive group of large cingulate herbivores, and their place in
1863 the history of Cingulata as a whole. Moreover, given their geographic distribution on both sides
1864 of the Isthmus of Panama, a better understanding of pampathere internal relationships might also
1865 yield insights into their role in the so-called Great American Biotic Interchange (GABI), the
1866 extensive exchange of taxa between North and South America that plays such a central role in
1867 the evolution of the mammalian fauna of these two continents.

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CONCLUSION

1870 The present study represents the first detailed, extensively illustrated, bone-by-bone description
1871 of pampathere cranial osteology, including reconstructions of sutural patterns and the position
1872 and content of the major cranial foramina. Due to the abundance of fossil material available for
1873 this late Pliocene – early Pleistocene species from Florida, we have been able to document
1874 extensive interspecific variation in a variety of cranial features. We have also identified a series
1875 of new cranial characteristics which appear to be diagnostic for *Holmesina floridanus*. Though
1876 the systematics of pampatheres is controversial, our study affirms the monophyly of the genus
1877 *Holmesina*, and provides additional characters that support the monophyly of pampatheres as a
1878 whole. We advocate the recognition of pampatheres as a distinct family Pampatheriidae within
1879 the large clade Cingulata. We also advocate for the recognition of their sister taxon, the
1880 glyptodonts, as a family level grouping Glyptodontidae, and for similar family level recognition
1881 for the extant cingulate clades historically assigned subfamily status, i.e, the Dasypodidae,
1882 Chlamyphoridae, Euphractidae, and Tolypeutidae. Lastly, this analysis highlights the need for
1883 further studies of pampatheres in general and *Holmesina floridanus* in particular, including

1884 phylogenetic analyses of pampathere interrelationships, studies of *H. floridanus* postcrania and
1885 carapaces, and further studies of *H. floridanus* cranial anatomy using CT-scans.

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1887

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- 2116

2117 FIGURE CAPTIONS

2118

2119 Figure 1. Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in dorsal view. A, UF 191448; B, UF 248500. Scale bar
2120 = 5 cm.

2121

2122 Figure 2. Reconstruction of the skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in dorsal view. Abbreviations: **f**,
2123 frontal; **frt**, foramina for rami temporalis; **j**, jugal; **l**, lacrimal; **lf**, lacrimal foramen; **mx**,
2124 maxilla; **n**, nasal; **nc**, nuchal crest; **p**, parietal; **pm**, premaxilla; **pop**, paroccipital process
2125 of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **popf**, postorbital process of
2126 frontal; **popj**, postorbital process of jugal; **sq**, squamosal; **zp**, zygomatic process of
2127 squamosal.

2128

2129 Figure 3. Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in lateral view. A, UF 191448 in right lateral view; B,
2130 UF 248500 in right lateral view; C, UF 248500 in left lateral view. Scale bar = 5 cm.

2131

2132 Figure 4. Reconstruction of the skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in right lateral view.

2133 Abbreviations: **as**, alisphenoid; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **dpj**, descending
2134 process of jugal; **f**, frontal; **fdv**, foramen for frontal diploic vein; **fo**, foramen ovale; **frt**,
2135 foramina for rami temporalis; **iof**, infraorbital foramen; **j**, jugal; **l**, lacrimal; **lf**, lacrimal
2136 foramen; **M1**, first upper molariform tooth; **M9**, ninth upper molariform tooth; **mx**,
2137 maxilla; **n**, nasal; **nc**, nuchal crest; **oc**, occipital; **occ**, occipital condyle; **p**, parietal; **pm**,
2138 premaxilla; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al.
2139 1989); **pt**, pterygoid; **sq**, squamosal; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal.

2140

2141 Figure 5. Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in ventral view. A, UF 191448; B, UF 248500. Scale bar
2142 = 5 cm.

2143

2144 Figure 6. Reconstruction of the skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in ventral view. Abbreviations:

2145 **apf**, anterior palatal foramen; **as**, alisphenoid; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **cf**,
2146 carotid foramen; **dpj**, descending process of jugal; **eo**, exoccipital; **fdv**, foramen for
2147 frontal diploic vein; **fm**, foramen magnum; **fo**, foramen ovale; **gf**, glenoid fossa; **hf**,
2148 hypoglossal foramen; **iof**, infraorbital foramen; **jf**, jugular foramen; **M1**, first upper
2149 molariform tooth; **M9**, ninth upper molariform tooth; **mpf**, minor palatine foramen; **mx**,
2150 maxilla; **n**, nasal; **oc**, occipital; **occ**, occipital condyle; **pal**, palatine; **pcp**, paracondylar
2151 process of exoccipital (=paroccipital process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pgf**, postglenoid
2152 foramen; **pgp**, postglenoid process; **pm**, premaxilla; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal
2153 (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **popf**, postorbital process of frontal; **popj**,
2154 postorbital process of jugal; **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **prs**, presphenoid; **pt**,
2155 pterygoid; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal; **zpm**, zygomatic process of maxilla.

2156

2157 Figure 7. Reconstruction of right orbital wall of *Holmesina floridanus* in lateral view. Cross-
2158 hatched surfaces indicate where zygomatic arch is “cut.” Abbreviations: **as**, alisphenoid;
2159 **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **cf**, carotid foramen; **cpf**, caudal palatine foramen; **ef**,
2160 ethmoid foramen; **f**, frontal; **fdv**, foramen for frontal diploic vein; **fo**, foramen ovale;
2161 **fr/sof**, fused foramen rotundum and sphenorbital fissure; **ftr**, foramina for rami
2162 temporalis; **fv**, fenestra vestibuli; **iof**, infraorbital foramen; **j**, jugal; **l**, lacrimal; **lf**,

2163 lacrimal foramen; **lfe**, lacrimal fenestra; **lopc**, lateral opening of pterygoid canal; **M9**,
 2164 ninth upper molariform tooth; **mx**, maxilla; **mxl**, maxillary foramen; **n**, nasal; **of**, optic
 2165 foramen; **os**, orbitosphenoid; **p**, parietal; **pgf**, postglenoid foramen; **pgp**, postglenoid
 2166 process; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al.
 2167 1989); **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **pt**, pterygoid; **ptp**, post-tympanic process of
 2168 squamosal; **spf**, sphenopalatine foramen; **sq**, squamosal; **tcf**, transverse canal foramen;
 2169 **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal.

2170

2171 Figure 8. Stereophotographs of right auditory region of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 248500) in
 2172 ventral view. Abbreviations: **aptt**, anteroventral process of tegmen tympani (= processus
 2173 crista facialis); **as**, alisphenoid; **bb**, bony bridge between tympanohyal and crista
 2174 interfenestralis; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **cf**, carotid foramen; **ci**, crista
 2175 interfenestralis; **cp**, crista parotica; **ctpp**, caudal tympanic process of petrosal; **eam**,
 2176 external auditory meatus; **egp**, entoglenoid process; **eo**, exoccipital; **fc**, fenestra cochleae;
 2177 **fi**, ridge immediately ventral to fossa incudis; **fm**, foramen magnum; **fo**, foramen ovale;
 2178 **fs**, facial sulcus; **gf**, glenoid fossa; **hf**, hypoglossal foramen; **jf**, jugular foramen; **occ**,
 2179 occipital condyle; **pcp**, paracondylar process of exoccipital (=paroccipital process of
 2180 Patterson et al. 1989); **pe**, petrosal; **pgf**, postglenoid foramen; **pgp**, postglenoid process;
 2181 **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pr**,
 2182 promontorium of petrosal; **sq**, squamosal; **stmf**, stylomastoid foramen; **th**, tympanohyal;
 2183 **tff**, tensor tympani fossa on epitympanic wing of petrosal; **zp**, zygomatic process of
 2184 squamosal. Scale bar = 1 cm. Photos by S. Chatzimanolis and T. Gaudin.

2185

2186 Figure 9. Isolated left petrosal of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 248500) in A, B, ventrolateral; C, D,
 2187 ventral; E, F, lateral; and G, H, medial views. Abbreviations: **aptt**, anteroventral process
 2188 of tegmen tympani (= processus crista facialis); **av**, aqueductus vestibuli; **bof**,
 2189 basioccipital facet; **ci**, crista interfenestralis; **coc**, cochlear canaliculus; **cp**, crista parotica;
 2190 **crp**, crista petrosal; **ctpp**, caudal tympanic process of petrosal; **er**, epitympanic recess;
 2191 **ew**, epitympanic wing; **fc**, fenestra cochleae; **ff**, facial foramen; **fs**, facial sulcus; **fsi**,
 2192 foramen singulare; **fv**, fenestra vestibuli; **gps**, sulcus for greater petrosal nerve; **iam**,
 2193 internal acoustic meatus; **iva**, inferior vestibular area; **pfc**, prefacial commissure; **pop**,
 2194 paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pr**,
 2195 promontorium of petrosal; **rpp**, rostral process of petrosal; **saf**, subarcuate fossa; **sct**,
 2196 spiral cribriform tract; **sf**, stapedius fossa; **stmn**, stylomastoid notch; **sva**, superior
 2197 vestibular area; **tc**, transverse crest; **th**, tympanohyal; **ts**, triangular shelf (=roof of post-
 2198 promontorial sinus. Scale bar = 1 cm.

2199
 2200 Figure 10. Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in posterior view. A, UF 191448; B, Reconstruction.
 2201 Abbreviations: **bo**, basioccipital; **dcf**, dorsal condyloid fossa; **dgf**, digastric fossa; **eo**,
 2202 exoccipital; **eoc**, external occipital crest; **eocc**, exoccipital crest; **fm**, foramen magnum;
 2203 **nc**, nuchal crest; **oc**, occipital; **occ**, occipital condyle; **og**, groove for occipital artery; **me**,
 2204 mastoid exposure of petrosal; **pcp**, paracondylar process of exoccipital (=paroccipital
 2205 process of Patterson et al. 1989); **ptc**, posttemporal canal; **so**, supraoccipital; **sq**,
 2206 squamosal. Scale bar = 5 cm.

2207

2208 Figure 11. Left mandible of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 224450) in A, lateral; B, occlusal; and, C,
2209 medial views. Abbreviations: **ap**, angular process; **cnc**, condyloid crest; **cop**, coronoid
2210 process; **crc**, coronoid crest; **hr**, horizontal ramus of mandible; **imf**, intermuscular fossa;
2211 **lcc**, lateral coronoid crest; **m1**, first lower molariform tooth; **m6**, sixth lower molariform
2212 tooth; **m7**, seventh lower molariform tooth; **maf**, masseteric fossa; **mco**, mandibular
2213 condyle; **mf**, mental foramen; **maf**, mandibular foramen; **ms**, mandibular symphysis.
2214 Scale bar = 5 cm.
2215

Table 1 (on next page)

Tables 1. Skull measurements for *Holmesina floridanus* and related taxa.

All measurements reported in millimeters (mm); those reported to the nearest tenth of a millimeter are direct measurements, those rounded to the nearest integer are taken from literature sources or from photographs taken by TJG. Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Greatest Skull Length (GSL)

- 1 Table 1. Skull measurements for *Holmesina floridanus* and related taxa. All measurements reported in millimeters (mm); those
 2 reported to the nearest tenth of a millimeter are direct measurements, those rounded to the nearest integer are taken from literature
 3 sources or from photographs taken by TJG. Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Greatest Skull Length (GSL).
 4

Measurement Description	<i>Holmesina floridanus</i> UF 248500	<i>Holmesina floridanus</i> UF 191448	<i>Holmesina septentrio- nalis</i> UF 234224	<i>Vassalia maxima</i> FMNH P14424	<i>Propalaeo- hoplophorus australis</i> YPMPU 15007	<i>Proeutatus oenophorus</i> FMNH P13197	<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i> UTCM 1491
Greatest Skull Length (GSL)	227.6*	249.1	293.7	248.0	158.7	117.8*	119.8
Maximum nasal ln	89.9 [0.39]	107.9 [0.43]	134.0 [0.46]	117.0 [0.47]	45 ^c [0.28]	47.9 [0.41]	42.6 [0.36]
Nasal wd at midpoint	35.6	34.9	38	41	23 ^c	10.6	15.4
Ratio nasal width to length	0.40	0.32	0.28	0.35	0.51	0.22	0.36
Rostrum ln (measured from anterior orbital rim)	110.5 [0.49]	124.9 [0.50]	142 [0.48]	117.0 [0.47]	45.2 [0.28]	65* [0.30]	60.1 [0.50]
Premaxilla/nasal suture ln	19.2 [0.08]	21.1 [0.08]	-	-	6.2 ^c [0.04]	13.1 [0.11]	17.6 [0.15]
Mesiodistal ln/ max wd of upper molariforms:							
M1	7.0/ 5.5	-	10/ 6	6.8/ 4.5 ^b	n	2.9/ 1.8	4.4/ 2.3
M2	7.5/ 6.1	-	13/ 9	8.0/ 5.5 ^b	3/ 3.5 ^d	3.4/ 2.1	4.8/ 2.4
M3	9.0/ 6.7	9.9/ 6.4	15/ 8	8.5/ 6.1 ^b	5.5/ 4 ^d	4.4/ 2.7	4.8/ 3.1
M4	10.7/ 7.1	10.3/ 6.8	16/ 8	14.5/ 6.6 ^b	9/ 4 ^d	5.5/ 3.4	5.4/ 3.4
M5	15.9/ 8.3	16.7/ 8.6	18/ 10	18.5/ 8.0 ^b	11/ 4.5 ^d	5.3/ 4.7	5.7/ 3.9
M6	16.8/ 8.7	-	22/ 10	19.0/ 8.6 ^b	12/ 6 ^d	5.2/ 5.0	6.0/ 4.5
M7	15.3/ 8.1	15.0/ 7.8	23/ 11	17.5/ 8.5 ^b	12.5/ 7 ^d	4.9/ 4.6	5.6/ 4.5
M8	13.3/ 7.7	-	21/ 9 ^a	16.7/ 7.5 ^b	12.5/ 7 ^d	4.3/ 4.7	5.3/ 4.0
M9	9.8/ 5.8	-	20/ 8 ^a	13.7/ 7.0 ^b	10.5/ 7 ^d	3.2/ 3.6	4.8/ 2.9
Mean ratio of upper	1.61	-	1.99	1.92	1.75	1.28	1.56

molariform ln/wd							
Palatal ln (in midline)	143.6 [0.63]	163.0 [0.65]	-	146 [0.59]	104 ^d [0.65]	64.0 [0.54]	68.0 [0.57]
Min interpterygoid wd	16.7 [0.07]	17.8 [0.07]	-	12 [0.05]	14 [0.09]	8.1 [0.07]	8.1 [0.07]
Max zygomatic wd	121.1 [0.53]	122.9 [0.49]	-	138 ^b [0.56]	118 [0.74]	70.2 [0.60]	65.6 [0.55]
Min interorbital wd	65.6 [0.29]	76.2 [0.31]	89 [0.30]	79 ^b [0.32]	54 [0.34]	42.5 [0.36]	38.5 [0.32]
Min postorbital wd	38.7 [0.17]	44.3 [0.18]	56 [0.19]	52 ^b [0.21]	28 [0.09]	27.6 [0.23]	27.5 [0.23]
Max wd of glenoid fossa in ventral view (measured along glenoid's long axis)	23.4	23.3	-	32	31 ^e	8.4	9.8
Max anteroposterior ln of glenoid in ventral view	14.9	11.1	17	12	11 ^e	8.0	9.8
Ratio of glenoid wd to ln	1.57	2.10	-	2.7	2.82	1.05	1.00
Postglenoid skull ln	43.5 [0.19]	35.8 [0.14]	47 [0.16]	57 [0.23]	14 [0.09]	17.1 [0.15]	20.5 [0.17]
Max wd of occipital condyles in ventral view (measured along condyle's long axis)	21.7	24	24	25	61	11.4	9.6
Max anteroposterior ln of condyles in ventral view	13.0	14.2	16	15	41	9.5	7.3
Ratio of occipital condyle wd to ln	1.67	1.69	1.5	1.67	1.48	1.2	1.3
Wd of occiput (measured at base of supraoccipital)	73.7	73.5	86	97 ^b	63	52.1	45.6
Max dp of occiput in midline (including ventral edge of foramen magnum)	72.5	70.5	83	67	53	36.2	32.9
Ratio of wd to dp	1.02	1.04	1.04	1.44	1.19	1.44	1.39

6 Abbreviations: “ – “ = data unavailable; dp = dorsoventral depth; ln = anteroposterior length, Max = maximum; Min = minimum; n =
7 data not applicable; wd = transverse width.
8 *Estimated due to skull breakage; ^a Data from UF 889, multiplied by 0.96 to account for size difference between UF 889 and UF
9 234224; ^b Data from De Iuliis and Edmund (2002); ^c Data from YPMPU 15291; ^d Data from Scott (1903-4), who measured YPMPU
10 15212; ^e Data from FMNH P13205.

Table 2 (on next page)

Table 2. Skull measurements for additional specimens of *Holmesina floridanus*.

All measurements reported in millimeters (mm). Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Greatest Skull Length (GSL).

1 Table 2. Skull measurements for additional specimens of *Holmesina floridanus*. All measurements reported in millimeters (mm).

2 Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Greatest Skull Length (GSL).

3

Measurement Description	<i>Holmesina floridanus</i>					
	UF 223813	UF 275496	UF 275497	UF 275498	UF 285000	UF 293000
Greatest Skull Length (GSL)	256*	237.8	-	223*	239.5	-
Maximum nasal ln	81 [0.32]	85.4 [0.36]	69.7	70.0 [0.34]	85.1 [0.36]	88.0
Nasal wd at midpoint	34.4	35.0	33.8	34.2	37.8	35.0
Ratio nasal width to length	0.42	0.41	0.48	0.49	0.44	0.40
Rostrum ln (measured from anterior orbital rim)	122 [0.48]	111 [0.47]	106	103 [0.46]	113 [0.47]	104
Premaxilla/nasal suture ln	-	18.0 [0.08]	19.8	22.3 [0.10]	17.9 [0.07]	17.4
Mesiodistal ln/ max wd of upper molariforms:						
M1	7.1/ 5.4	6.0/ 5.7	-	6.8/ 5.5	5.9/ 5.8	6.9/ 4.3
M2	8.2/ 5.8	-	-	7.9/ 5.6	7.9/ 6.1	8.0/ 4.8
M3	9.5/ 6.1	9.7/ 6.1	-	10.4/ 6.3	9.8/ 6.1	10.2/ 5.4
M4	11.7/ 7.0	11.3/ 7.2	-	11.5/ 7.1	12.3/ 6.7	11.7/ 6.0
M5	16.0/ 9.1	15.6/ 8.7	13*	16.6/ 8.8	15.1/ 8.4	16.6/ 8.0
M6	16.8/ 8.5	16.9/ 8.9	15.7/ 7.6	18.7/ 9.0	17.2/ 8.3	17.9/ 7.9
M7	15.4/ 8.0	15.5/ 8.4	14.9/ 7.0	-	16.6/ 8.2	16.1/ 7.0
M8	13.5/ 7.5	13.7/ 7.9	-	-	14.1/ 8.0	15.7/ 6.6
M9	10.3/ 6.0	8.6/ 6.1	9.3/ 6.0	-	-	10.2/ 5.8
Mean ratio of upper molariform ln/wd	1.68	-	-	-	-	1.99
Palatal ln (in midline)	156* [0.61]	145* [0.61]	-	-	149 [0.62]	155
Min interpterygoid wd	-	-	-	-	-	-

Max zygomatic wd	-	-	-	-	-	-
Min interorbital wd	-	57 [0.24]	-	60 [0.27]	-	55
Min postorbital wd	-	-	-	42 [0.19]	-	-
Max wd of glenoid fossa in ventral view (measured along glenoid's long axis)	-	-	-	-	-	29
Max anteroposterior ln of glenoid in ventral view	12.6 [0.05]	-	13.6	14.5 [0.07]	14.3 [0.06]	12.7
Ratio of glenoid wd to ln	-	-	-	-	-	2.28
Postglenoid skull ln	46* [0.18]	44 [0.19]	-	42 [0.19]	40 [0.17]	-
Max wd of occipital condyles in ventral view (measured along condyle's long axis)	22.2	22.7	20.8	21.3	-	24.2
Max anteroposterior ln of condyles in ventral view	13.5	13.3	12.7	14.0	-	14.0
Ratio of occipital condyle wd to ln	1.64	1.71	1.64	1.52	-	1.73
Wd of occiput (measured at base of supraoccipital)	69.8	73.7	-	66.7	70.6	68
Max dp of occiput in midline (including ventral edge of foramen magnum)	-	77*	-	64.0	-	64.7
Ratio of wd to dp	-	0.96	-	1.04	-	1.05

4

5 Abbreviations: “-” = data unavailable; dp = dorsoventral depth; ln = anteroposterior length, Max = maximum; Min = minimum; wd
6 = transverse width.

7 *Estimated due to skull breakage.

Table 3 (on next page)

Table 3. Mandibular measurements for *Holmesina floridanus* and related taxa.

All measurements reported in millimeters (mm); those reported to the nearest tenth of a millimeter are direct measurements, those rounded to the nearest millimeter are taken from literature sources or from photographs taken by TJG. Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Maximum Mandibular Length (MML).

- 1 Table 3. Mandibular measurements for *Holmesina floridanus* and related taxa. All measurements reported in millimeters (mm); those
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 3 sources or from photographs taken by TJG. Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Maximum Mandibular Length (MML).
 4

Measurement Description	<i>Holmesina floridanus</i> UF 224450	<i>Holmesina occidentalis</i> ROM 4955	<i>Vassalia maxima</i> FMNH P14424 ^a	<i>Propalaeo- hoplophorus australis</i> MLP 16-15 ^b	<i>Proeutatus oenophorus</i> FMNH P13197	<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i> UTCM 1491
Maximum Mandibular Length (MML)	200.5	268*	180*	139	98.3	93.0
Max dp of horizontal ramus	40.0 [0.20]	52 [0.19]	47.5 ^a [0.26]	37 [0.27]	16.1 [0.16]	13.5 [0.15]
Max dp of ascending ramus	120.5 [0.60]	155 [0.58]	132.0 ^a [0.73]	98 [0.71]	53.8 [0.55]	49.5 [0.53]
Condyle, max wd	23.4	-	31.2 ^a	-	9.0	9.9
Condyle, max ln	7.0	-	11.0 ^a	-	4.7	5.9
Ratio of condyle wd to ln	3.34	-	2.84	-	1.91	1.68
Height of condyle above toothrow	39.3 [0.20]	84 [0.31]	60 [0.33]	59 [0.42]	37.3 [0.38]	41.7 [0.45]
Symphysis ln	59.0 [0.29]	79* [0.29]	54.0 ^a [0.30]	41 [0.29]	23.5 [0.24]	25.7 [0.28]
Coronoid process, anteroposterior ln at base	31.0	40	33	31	12.4	9.8
Coronoid process, maximum dp	42.0	-	50	31	16.2	15.5
Ratio of coronoid process dp to ln	1.35	-	1.52	1.0	1.31	1.58
Mesiodistal ln/ max wd of lower molariforms in <i>Holmesina floridanus</i>	m1: 5.8/ 5.1** m2: 7.5/ 5.6 m3: 11.7/ 7.1** m4: 14.9/ 7.7** m5: 17.3/ 9.3** m6: 16.9/ 8.6 m7: 16.2/ 8.0 m8: 16.7/ 8.5** m9: 12.3/ 7.6** [Mean ratio of lower molariform ln/wd: 1.72]					

UF 224450

5

6 Abbreviations: “ – “ = data unavailable; dp = dorsoventral depth; ln = anteroposterior length, Max = maximum; Min = minimum; n =
7 data not applicable; wd = transverse width.

8 *Estimated due to breakage; **Estimated from alveolus diameter.

9 ^a Data from De Iuliis and Edmund (2002); ^b Estimated from photograph, Vizcaíno et al. 1998, Fig. 2.

10

Table 4(on next page)

Table 4. Mandibular measurements for additional specimens of *Holmesina floridanus*.

All measurements reported in millimeters (mm). Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Maximum Mandibular Length (MML).

- 1 Table 4. Mandibular measurements for additional specimens of *Holmesina floridanus*. All measurements reported in millimeters
 2 (mm). Numbers in square brackets are scaled to Maximum Mandibular Length (MML).

3

Measurement Description	<i>Holmesina floridanus</i>				
	UF 223813	UF 275497	UF 275498	UF 285000	UF 293000
Maximum Mandibular Length (MML)	182.2	187*	191*	-	185*
Max dp of horizontal ramus	38* [0.21]	41.0 [0.22]	40.4 [0.21]	44	39.3 [0.21]
Max dp of ascending ramus	106.5 [0.58]	120.3 [0.64]	-	-	113* [0.61]
Condyle, max wd	24.0	21.4	18.3	23.0	23.8
Condyle, max ln	7.4	9.5	7.5	10.0	9.1
Ratio of condyle wd to ln	3.24	2.25	2.44	2.30	2.62
Height of condyle above toothrow	45.6 [0.25]	43.0 [0.23]	-	30.0	37.0 [0.20]
Symphysis ln	54.3 [0.30]	-	50.3 [0.26]	-	58.4 [0.32]
Coronoid process, anteroposterior ln at base	31.2	33.3	-	-	31.7
Coronoid process, maximum dp	26.6	47.7	-	-	36.0
Ratio of coronoid process dp to ln	0.85	1.43	-	-	1.14
Mesiodistal ln/ max wd of lower molariforms in <i>Holmesina floridanus</i> UF 223813	m1: 5.0/ 4.8 m2: 7.2/ 5.7 m3: 8.2/ 6.0 m4: 11.5/ 6.8 m5: 16.0/ 8.6 m6: 17.0/ 8.4 m7: 15.2/ 8.0 m8: 13.6/ 7.0 m9: 10.7/ 5.9 [Mean ratio of lower molariform ln/wd: 1.65]				

4

- 5 Abbreviations: “ – “ = data unavailable; dp = dorsoventral depth; ln = anteroposterior length, Max = maximum; Min = minimum; wd
6 = transverse width.
7 *Estimated due to breakage.
8

Table 5 (on next page)

Table 5. Listing of cranial features with potential systematic value (i.e., diagnostic features or putative synapomorphies) identified in the description from the present study.

1 Table 5. Listing of cranial features with potential systematic value (i.e., diagnostic features or putative synapomorphies) identified in
2 the description from the present study.

3

4 *Holmesina floridanus*: 1) ovate shape of M3; 2) absence of vomer/premaxilla contact within nasal cavity; 3) lacrimal foramen situated
5 on the antorbital ridge; 4) medial pterygoid exposure that fails to reach nasopharyngeal roof; 5) inflated pterygoid; 6) presence
6 of a bony bridge connecting the tympanohyal and crista interfenestralis; 7) presence of a raised circular boss on the lateral
7 surface of the promontorium; 8) elongate, narrow basioccipital; presence of well-developed rectus capitis fossae and
8 pharyngeal tubercle on basioccipital; 9) distinct grooves emerging anteriorly from mental foramina; and 10) mandibular spout
9 with anteroposterior $ln > m1$; 11) rectangular shape of m4.

10

11 Genus *Holmesina*: 1) nasals become narrower posteriorly; 2) maxillary/premaxillary suture M-shaped in ventral view; 3)
12 maxillary/palatine suture U-shaped in ventral view; 4) presence of prominent lateral maxillary ridge and deep antorbital fossa;
13 5) reniform M4 and bilobate m5; 6) lack of orbital exposure of palatine; 7) ethmoid foramen entirely within frontal, lacking
14 orbitosphenoid participation in rim; 8) no orbitosphenoid participation in rim of sphenopalatine foramen; 9) fenestra cochleae
15 very low and wide, ratio of $wd/dp > 3$; 10) triangular stylohyal fossa with distally expanded tympanohyal; 11) strong medial
16 flange of petrosal marked by pits and ridges; 12) low stapedial ratio (< 1.4); and 13) ventrally displaced internal acoustic
17 meatus.

18

19 Pamphtheres: 1) nasal $ln > 45\%$ of GSL; 2) presence of median anteroventral processes on premaxilla; 3) incisive foramina open
20 ventrally into single, deeply recessed, midline fossa; 4) infraorbital canal elongate, extending from level of M6-M8; 5)
21 reniform anterior molariforms and bilobate posterior molariforms; 6) posterior molariforms with linear, unbranched core of

22 osteodentine; 7) partially closed (anteriorly) upper toothrows; 8) teeth wear in stairstep fashion in lateral view; 9) triangular
23 facial process of lacrimal; 10) triangular glenoid fossa (apex lateral); 11) no horizontal portion of jugal/squamosal suture; 12)
24 ridged, anteroposteriorly expanded ventral zygomatic process formed by maxilla and anterior jugal [mostly the latter]; 13)
25 zygomatic process of squamosal increases in dp anteriorly; 14) reduced midline crest on endocranial exposure of
26 orbitosphenoid; 15) ventral flange of basisphenoid forms portion of the lateral wall of the nasopharynx; 16) Elongate groove
27 on petrosal for greater petrosal nerve; 17) broad crista interfenestralis of petrosal; 18) enormously enlarged paroccipital process
28 of petrosal; 19) caudal tympanic process of petrosal forms posterior wall to stapedial fossa; 20) large epitympanic wing of
29 petrosal (as in *Euphractus*), forms shelf above rostral process of promontorium; 21) Groove for auricular branch of vagus nerve
30 between caudal tympanic process and triangular shelf [= roof of postpromontorial sinus]; 22) Sharp, narrow transverse crest
31 within internal acoustic meatus; 23) low rounded ridges subdivide subarcuate fossa; 24) prefacial commissure enlarged,
32 bulbous; 25) crista petrosa rounded, divided by groove into medial and lateral parts; 26) paracondylar process of exoccipital
33 hooked medially; 27) ventral surface of exoccipital convex transversely; 28) mandibular condyle less elevated above toothrow
34 than glyptodonts, *Proeutatus*, *Euphractus*; and 29) coronoid process covers m9 and part of m8 in lateral view.

35

36 Pamphateres plus glyptodonts: 1) presence of semicircular notch in anterolateral edge of premaxilla; 2) dp of external nares \geq wd; 3)
37 teeth with essentially linear core of osteodentine; 4) anterior molariforms slanted lingually in posterior view, posterior
38 molariforms slanted labially; 5) narrow, U-shaped postpalatal margin (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 6) pterygoid processes
39 form thickened, rugose bosses (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 7) pterygoid participation in hard palate; 8) lacrimal foramen
40 positioned on facial process of lacrimal; 9) lacrimal foramen situated within distinct fossa; 10) presence of an enlarge ventral
41 zygomatic process near anterior terminus of zygomatic arch; 11) sphenopalatine foramen in common fossa with sphenorbital
42 fissure (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 12) raised ridge along squamosal/parietal suture; 13) posterior zygomatic root
43 directed laterally (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 14) postglenoid foramen visible in ventral view (also in Gaudin and Wible

44 2006); 15) broad triangular shelf [= roof of postpromontorial sinus]; 16 & 17) enlarged paroccipital process of petrosal and
45 paracondylar process of exoccipital; 18) well-developed external occipital crest; 19) anterior portion of occipital condyle
46 extends lateral to dorsal portion in ventral view; 20) nine lower molariforms present; 21) ratio between maximum depth of
47 mandibular horizontal ramus vs. MML > 0.2 (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); and 22) maximum wd of mandibular condyle \geq
48 3x its ln (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006).

49

50 Pamphateres plus glyptodonts plus *Proeutatus*: 1) nasal ln $> 35\%$ of GSL (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 2) presence of
51 osteodentine core in molariforms (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 3) beveled wear on anterior molariforms, posterior
52 molariforms worn flat (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 4) lateral portion of frontal/parietal suture even with anterior edge of
53 the glenoid; 5) optic foramen hidden in lateral view (also in Gaudin and Wible 2006); 6) dorsal edge of zygomatic process of
54 squamosal connected to nuchal crest posteriorly; 7) middle of infratemporal crest marked by large boss, the ossified ala
55 hypochiasmata; 8) open groove for vidian nerve in roof of nasopharynx; 9) large entoglenoid process of squamosal; 10) groove
56 for greater petrosal nerve uncovered by anteroventral process of tegmen tympani [=processus crista facialis]; 11) anteroventral
57 process of tegmen tympani reduced in size, only contacts squamosal; 12) tensor tympanic muscle originates on anteroventral
58 promontorium; 13) caudal tympanic process of petrosal lacks contact for ectotympanic; 13) Rostral process of petrosal
59 enlarged, promontorium elongated anteromedially; 14) presence of epitympanic recess [as opposed to a sinus]; and 15)
60 triangular shelf of petrosal with raised posterolateral corner

61

62 Abbreviations: GSL = greatest skull length; dp = dorsoventral depth; ln = anteroposterior length; M1...9 = upper molariform teeth;

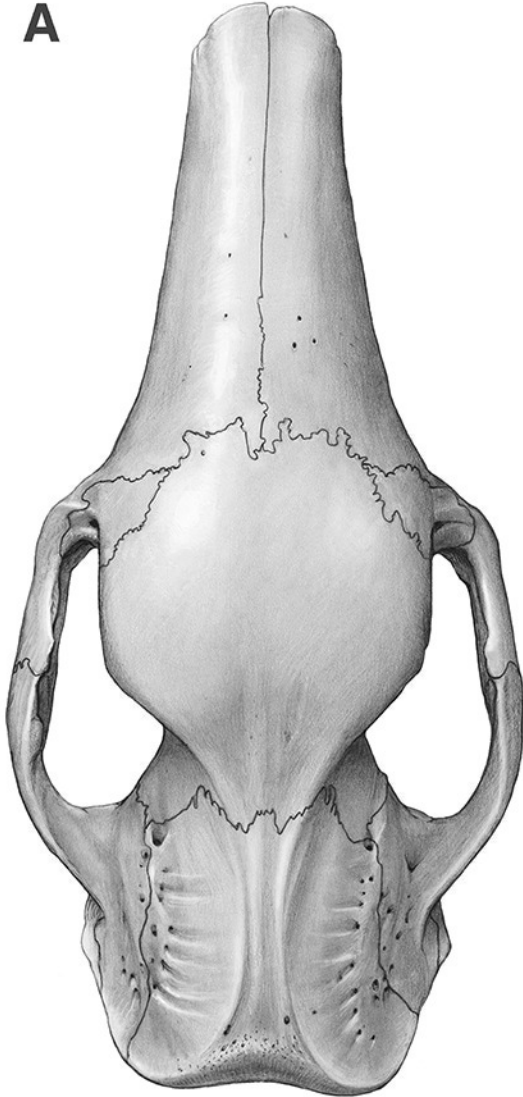
63 MML = maximum mandibular length; wd = transverse width.

Figure 1 (on next page)

Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in dorsal view

A, UF 191448; B, UF 248500. Scale bar = 5 cm.

A



B

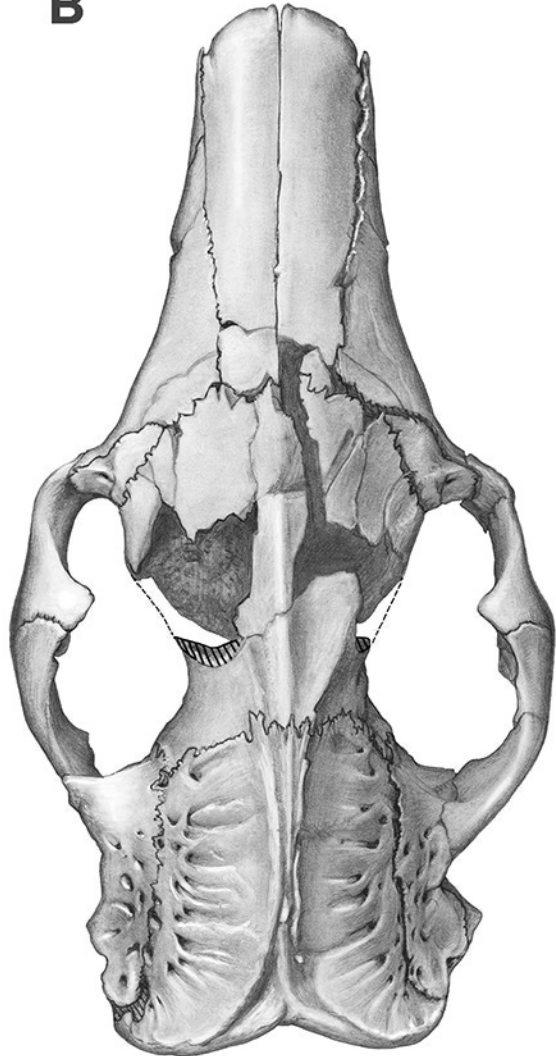


Figure 2 (on next page)

Reconstruction of the skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in dorsal view

Abbreviations: **f**, frontal; **frt**, foramina for rami temporalis; **j**, jugal; **l**, lacrimal; **lf**, lacrimal foramen; **mx**, maxilla; **n**, nasal; **nc**, nuchal crest; **p**, parietal; **pm**, premaxilla; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **popf**, postorbital process of frontal; **popj**, postorbital process of jugal; **sq**, squamosal; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal.

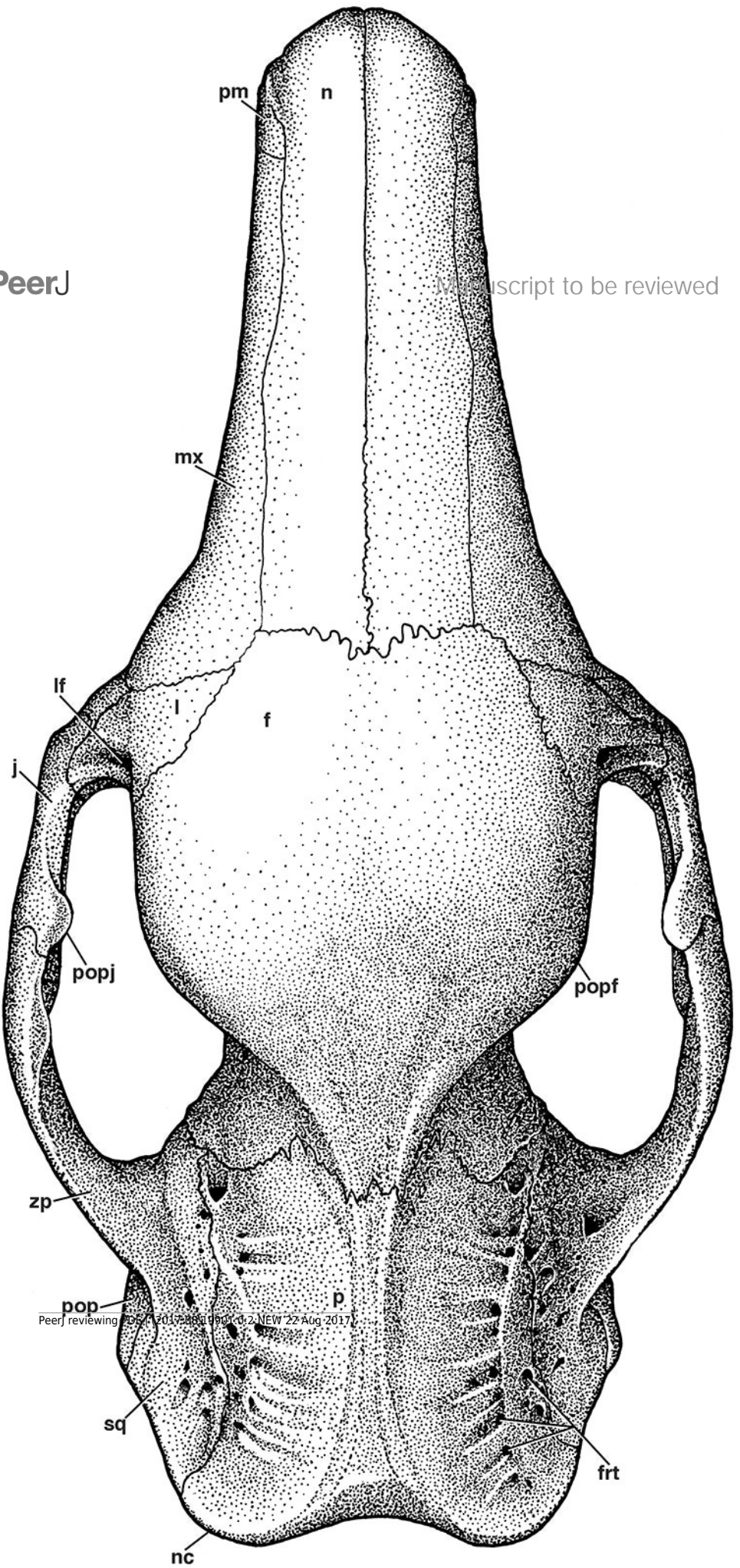
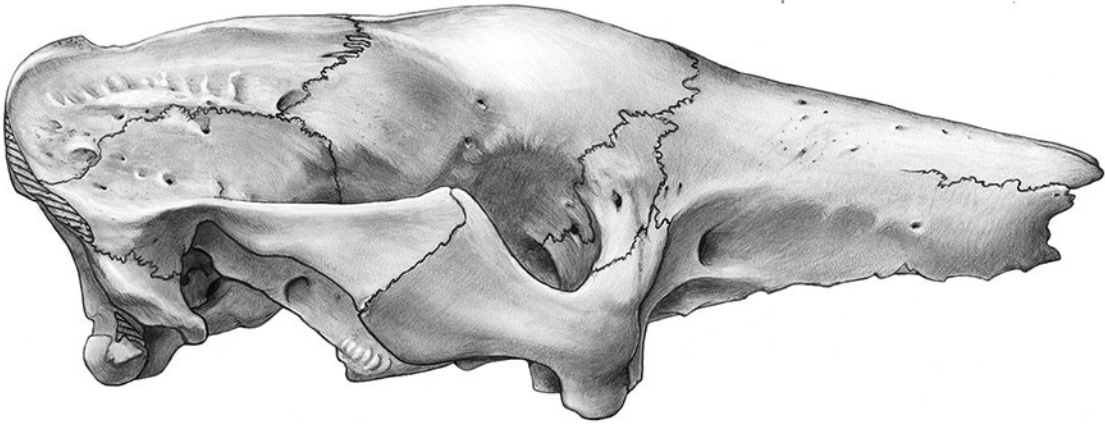


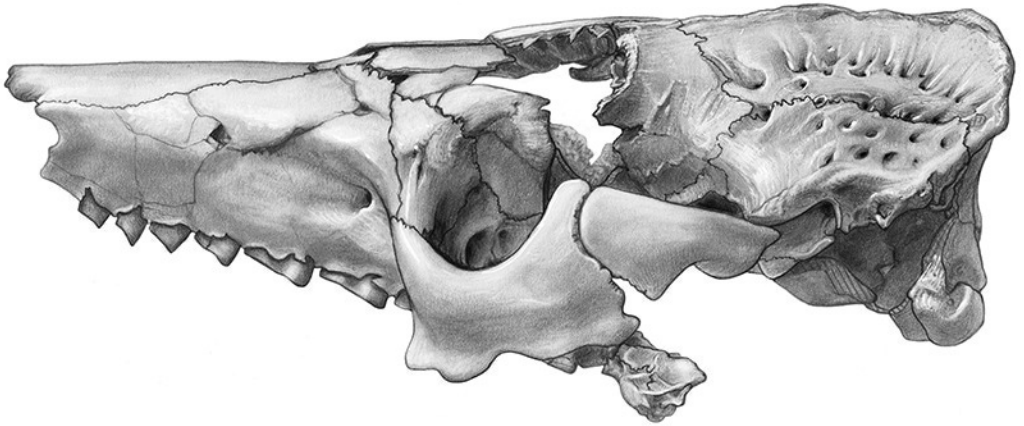
Figure 3(on next page)

Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in lateral view

A, UF 191448 in right lateral view; B, UF 248500 in right lateral view; C, UF 248500 in left lateral view. Scale bar = 5 cm.



B



C

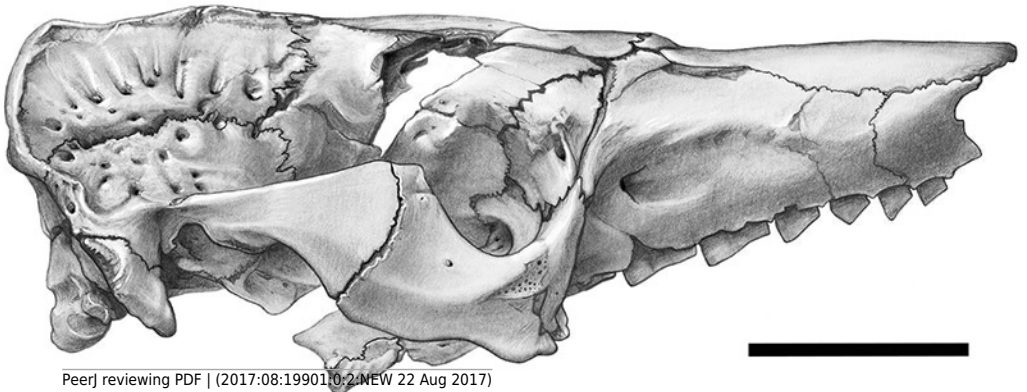


Figure 4(on next page)

Reconstruction of the skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in right lateral view

Abbreviations: **as**, alisphenoid; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **dpj**, descending process of jugal; **f**, frontal; **fdv**, foramen for frontal diploic vein; **fo**, foramen ovale; **ftr**, foramina for rami temporalis; **iof**, infraorbital foramen; **j**, jugal; **l**, lacrimal; **lf**, lacrimal foramen; **M1**, first upper molariform tooth; **M9**, ninth upper molariform tooth; **mx**, maxilla; **n**, nasal; **nc**, nuchal crest; **oc**, occipital; **occ**, occipital condyle; **p**, parietal; **pm**, premaxilla; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pt**, pterygoid; **sq**, squamosal; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal.

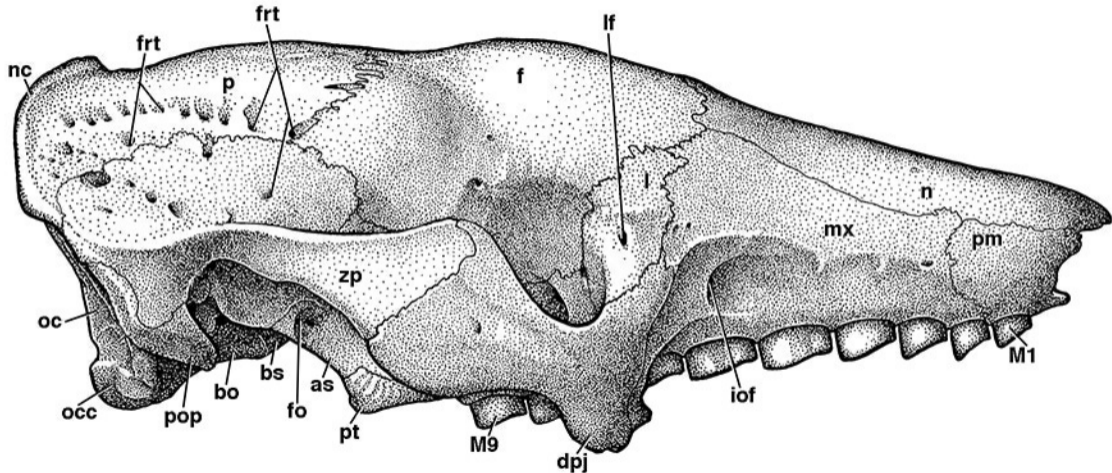


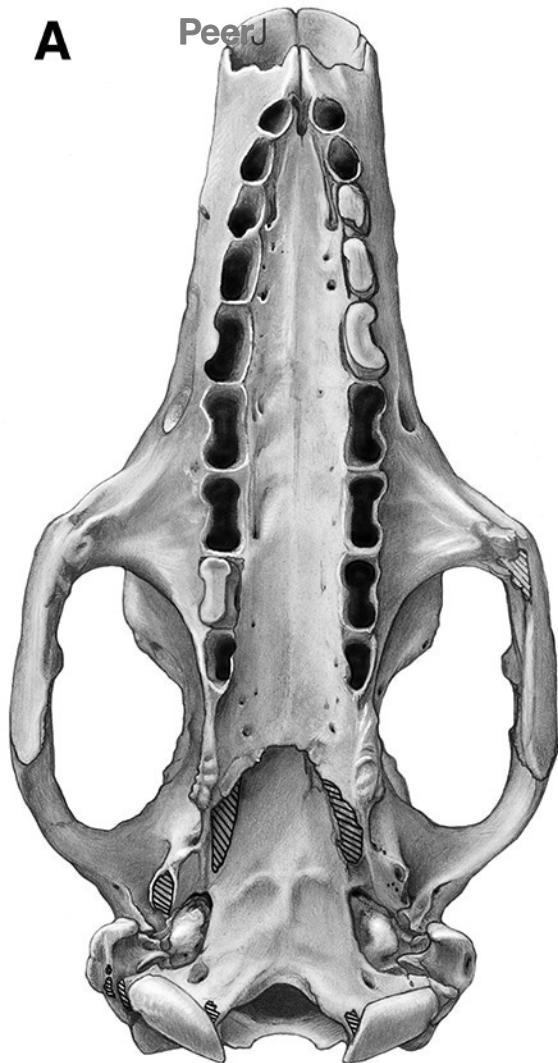
Figure 5 (on next page)

Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in ventral view

A, UF 191448; B, UF 248500. Scale bar = 5 cm.

A

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**B**

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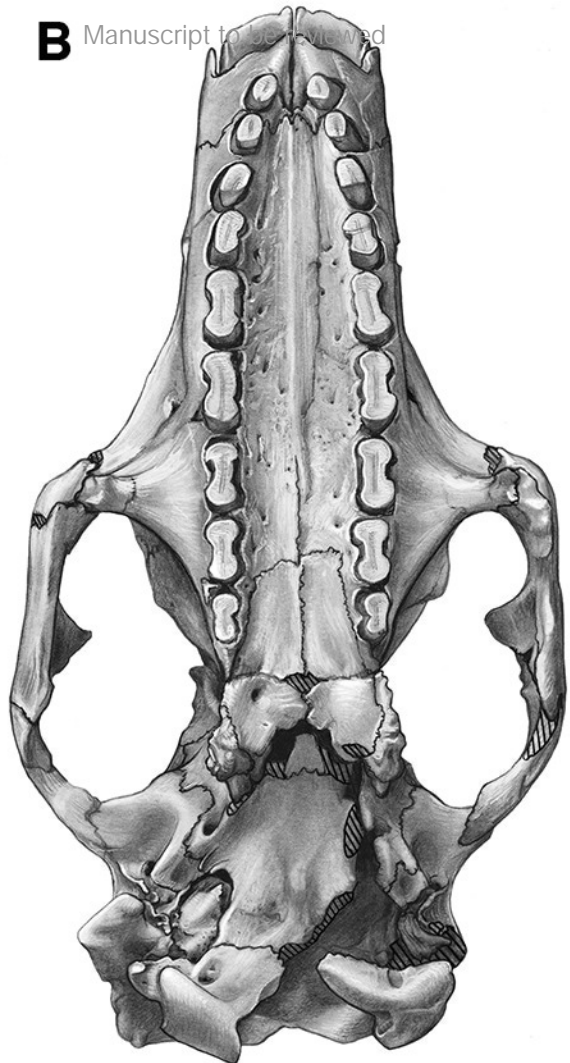


Figure 6(on next page)

Reconstruction of the skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in ventral view

Abbreviations: **apf**, anterior palatal foramen; **as**, alisphenoid; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **cf**, carotid foramen; **dpj**, descending process of jugal; **eo**, exoccipital; **fdv**, foramen for frontal diploic vein; **fm**, foramen magnum; **fo**, foramen ovale; **gf**, glenoid fossa; **hf**, hypoglossal foramen; **iof**, infraorbital foramen; **jf**, jugular foramen; **M1**, first upper molariform tooth; **M9**, ninth upper molariform tooth; **mpf**, minor palatine foramen; **mx**, maxilla; **n**, nasal; **oc**, occipital; **occ**, occipital condyle; **pal**, palatine; **pcp**, paracondylar process of exoccipital (=paroccipital process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pgf**, postglenoid foramen; **pgp**, postglenoid process; **pm**, premaxilla; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **popf**, postorbital process of frontal; **popj**, postorbital process of jugal; **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **prs**, presphenoid; **pt**, pterygoid; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal; **zpm**, zygomatic process of maxilla.

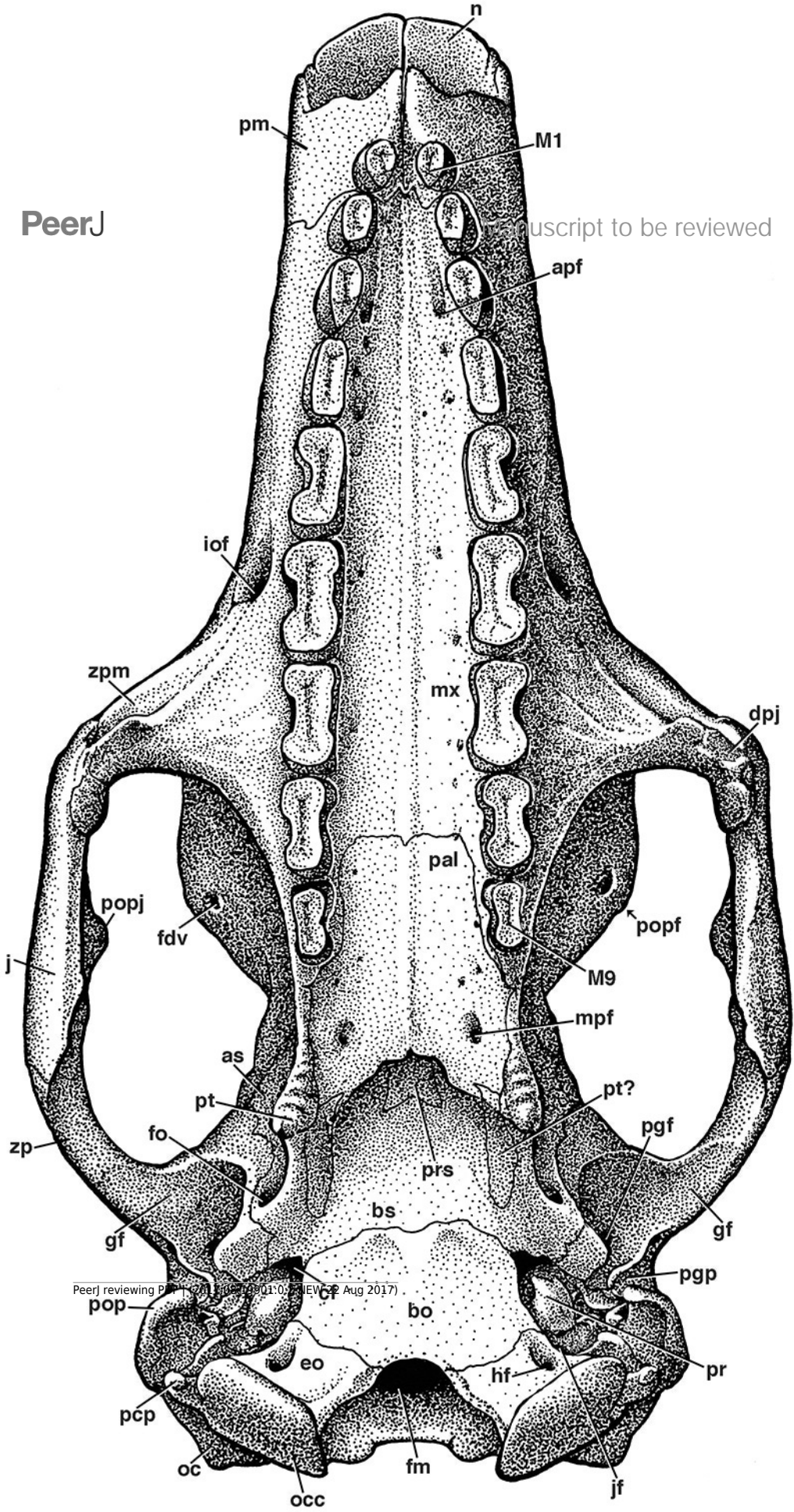


Figure 7 (on next page)

Reconstruction of right orbital wall of *Holmesina floridanus* in lateral view

Cross-hatched surfaces indicate where zygomatic arch is “cut.”. Abbreviations: **as**, alisphenoid; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **cf**, carotid foramen; **cpf**, caudal palatine foramen; **ef**, ethmoid foramen; **f**, frontal; **fdv**, foramen for frontal diploic vein; **fo**, foramen ovale; **fr/sof**, fused foramen rotundum and sphenorbital fissure; **ftr**, foramina for rami temporalis; **fv**, fenestra vestibuli; **iof**, infraorbital foramen; **j**, jugal; **l**, lacrimal; **lf**, lacrimal foramen; **lfe**, lacrimal fenestra; **lopc**, lateral opening of pterygoid canal; **M9**, ninth upper molariform tooth; **mx**, maxilla; **mxl**, maxillary foramen; **n**, nasal; **of**, optic foramen; **os**, orbitosphenoid; **p**, parietal; **pgf**, postglenoid foramen; **pgp**, postglenoid process; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **pt**, pterygoid; **ptp**, post-tympanic process of squamosal; **spf**, sphenopalatine foramen; **sq**, squamosal; **tcf**, transverse canal foramen; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal.

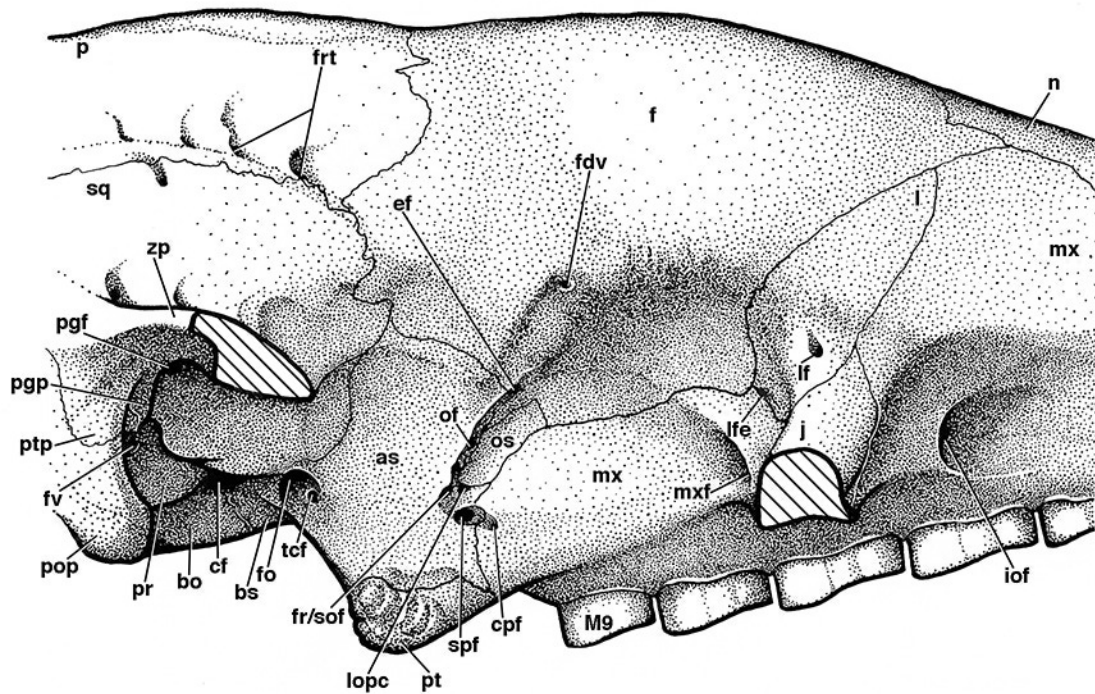


Figure 8(on next page)

Stereophotographs of right auditory region of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 248500) in ventral view

Abbreviations: **aptt**, anteroventral process of tegmen tympani (= processus crista facialis); **as**, alisphenoid; **bb**, bony bridge between tympanohyal and crista interfenestralis; **bo**, basioccipital; **bs**, basisphenoid; **cf**, carotid foramen; **ci**, crista interfenestralis; **cp**, crista parotica; **ctpp**, caudal tympanic process of petrosal; **eam**, external auditory meatus; **egp**, entoglenoid process; **eo**, exoccipital; **fc**, fenestra cochleae; **fi**, ridge immediately ventral to fossa incudis; **fm**, foramen magnum; **fo**, foramen ovale; **fs**, facial sulcus; **gf**, glenoid fossa; **hf**, hypoglossal foramen; **jf**, jugular foramen; **occ**, occipital condyle; **pcp**, paracondylar process of exoccipital (=paroccipital process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pe**, petrosal; **pgf**, postglenoid foramen; **pgp**, postglenoid process; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **sq**, squamosal; **stmf**, stylomastoid foramen; **th**, tympanohyal; **tff**, tensor tympani fossa on epitympanic wing of petrosal; **zp**, zygomatic process of squamosal. Scale bar = 1 cm.

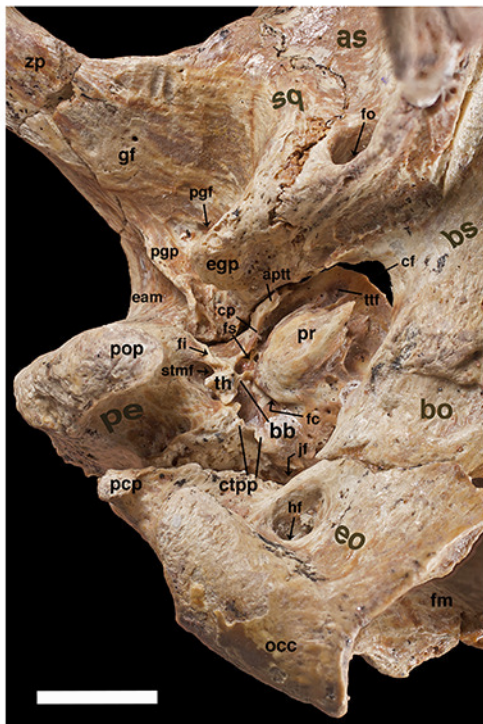


Figure 9 (on next page)

Isolated left petrosal of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 248500)

A, B, ventrolateral; C, D, ventral; E, F, lateral; and G, H, medial views. Abbreviations: **aptt**, anteroventral process of tegmen tympani (= processus crista facialis); **av**, aqueductus vestibuli; **bof**, basioccipital facet; **ci**, crista interfenestralis; **coc**, cochlear canaliculus; **cp**, crista parotica; **crp**, crista petrosal; **ctpp**, caudal tympanic process of petrosal; **er**, epitympanic recess; **ew**, epitympanic wing; **fc**, fenestra cochleae; **ff**, facial foramen; **fs**, facial sulcus; **fsi**, foramen singulare; **fv**, fenestra vestibuli; **gps**, sulcus for greater petrosal nerve; **iam**, internal acoustic meatus; **iva**, inferior vestibular area; **pfc**, prefacial commissure; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **rpp**, rostral process of petrosal; **saf**, subarcuate fossa; **sct**, spiral cribriform tract; **sf**, stapedius fossa; **stmn**, stylomastoid notch; **sva**, superior vestibular area; **tc**, transverse crest; **th**, tympanohyal; **ts**, triangular shelf (=roof of post-promontorial sinus. Scale bar = 1 cm.

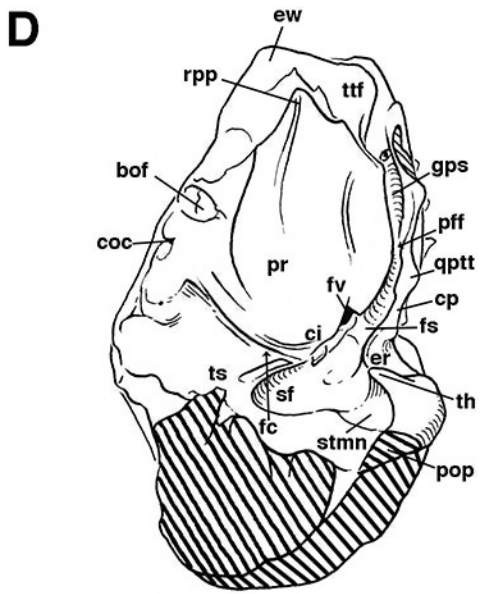
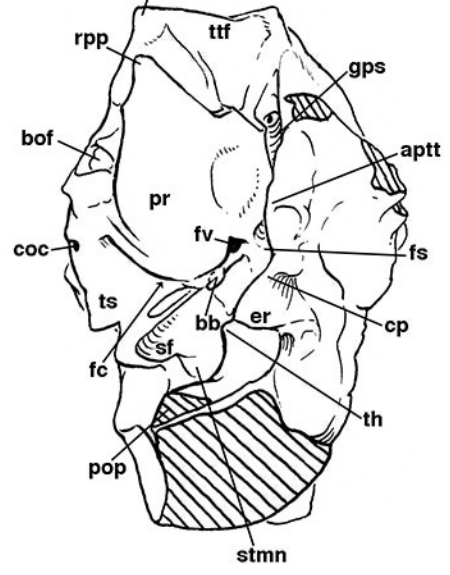
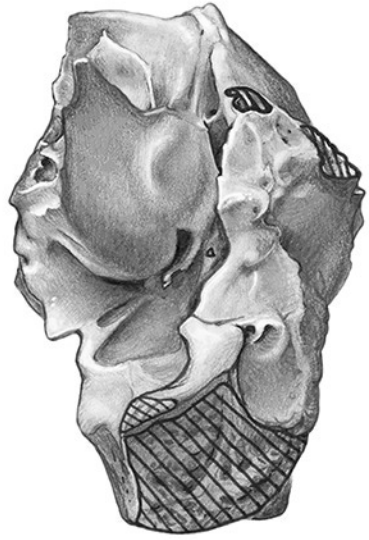
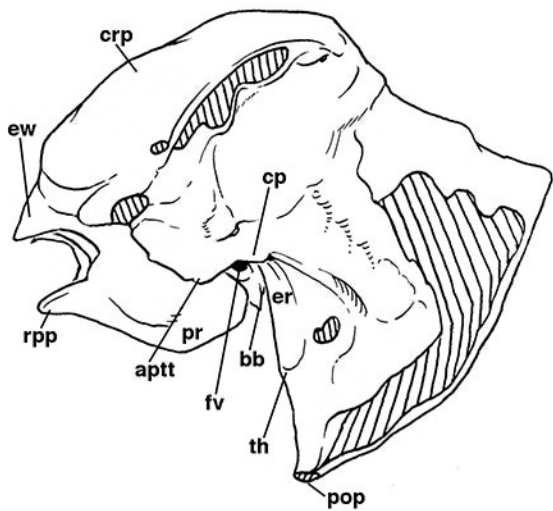
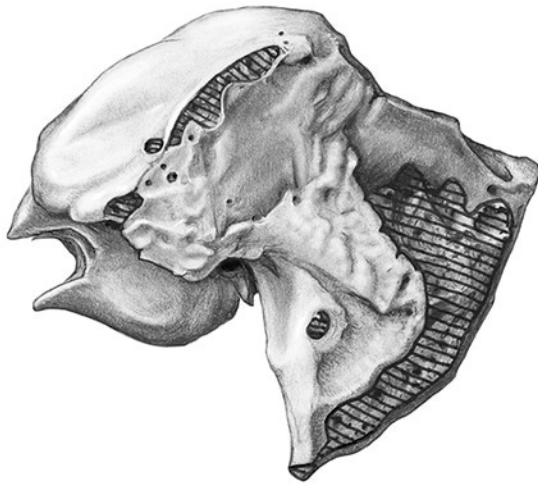


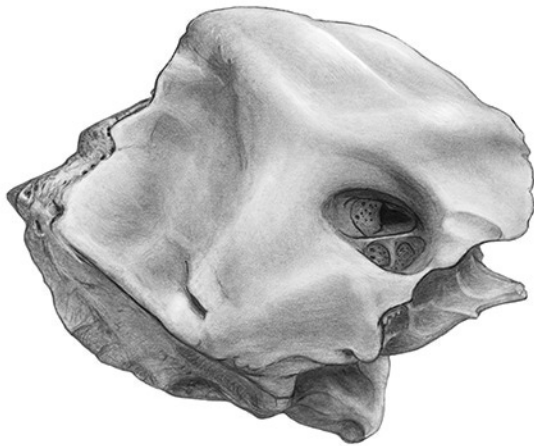
Figure 10(on next page)

Isolated left petrosal of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 248500)

Isolated left petrosal of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 248500) in A, B, ventrolateral; C, D, ventral; E, F, lateral; and G, H, medial views. Abbreviations: **aptt**, anteroventral process of tegmen tympani (= processus crista facialis); **av**, aqueductus vestibuli; **bof**, basioccipital facet; **ci**, crista interfenestralis; **coc**, cochlear canaliculus; **cp**, crista parotica; **crp**, crista petrosal; **ctpp**, caudal tympanic process of petrosal; **er**, epitympanic recess; **ew**, epitympanic wing; **fc**, fenestra cochleae; **ff**, facial foramen; **fs**, facial sulcus; **fsi**, foramen singulare; **fv**, fenestra vestibuli; **gps**, sulcus for greater petrosal nerve; **iam**, internal acoustic meatus; **iva**, inferior vestibular area; **pfc**, prefacial commissure; **pop**, paroccipital process of petrosal (= mastoid process of Patterson et al. 1989); **pr**, promontorium of petrosal; **rpp**, rostral process of petrosal; **saf**, subarcuate fossa; **sct**, spiral cribriform tract; **sf**, stapedius fossa; **stmn**, stylomastoid notch; **sva**, superior vestibular area; **tc**, transverse crest; **th**, tympanohyal; **ts**, triangular shelf (=roof of post-promontorial sinus. Scale bar = 1 cm.



G



H

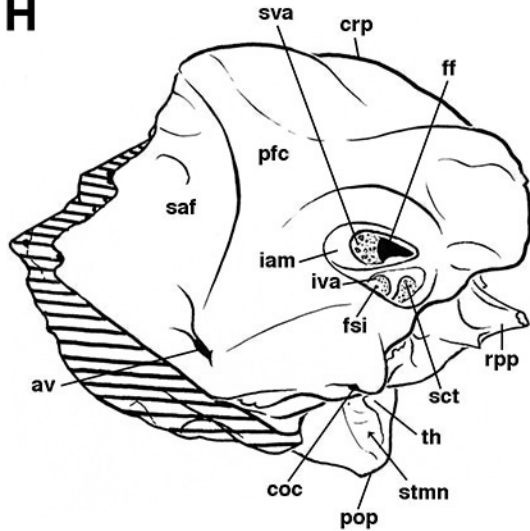


Figure 11 (on next page)

Skull of *Holmesina floridanus* in posterior view

A, UF 191448; B, Reconstruction. Abbreviations: **bo**, basioccipital; **dcf**, dorsal condyloid fossa; **dgf**, digastric fossa; **eo**, exoccipital; **eoc**, external occipital crest; **eocc**, exoccipital crest; **fm**, foramen magnum; **nc**, nuchal crest; **oc**, occipital; **occ**, occipital condyle; **og**, groove for occipital artery; **me**, mastoid exposure of petrosal; **pcp**, paracondylar process of exoccipital (=paroccipital process of Patterson et al. 1989); **ptc**, posttemporal canal; **so**, supraoccipital; **sq**, squamosal. Scale bar = 5 cm.

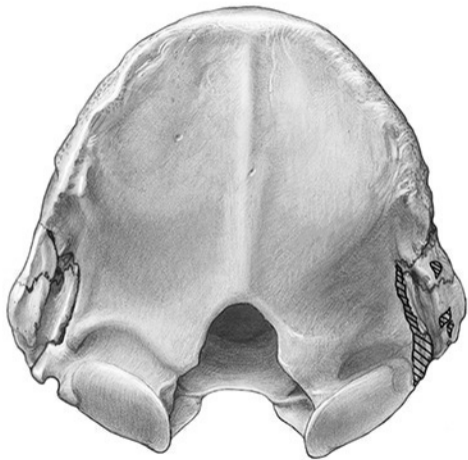
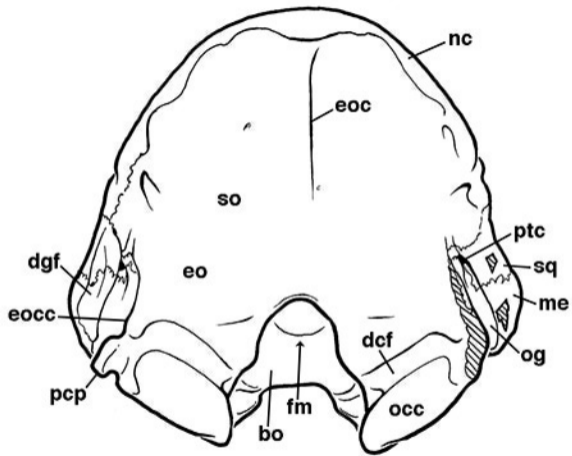
A**B**

Figure 12(on next page)

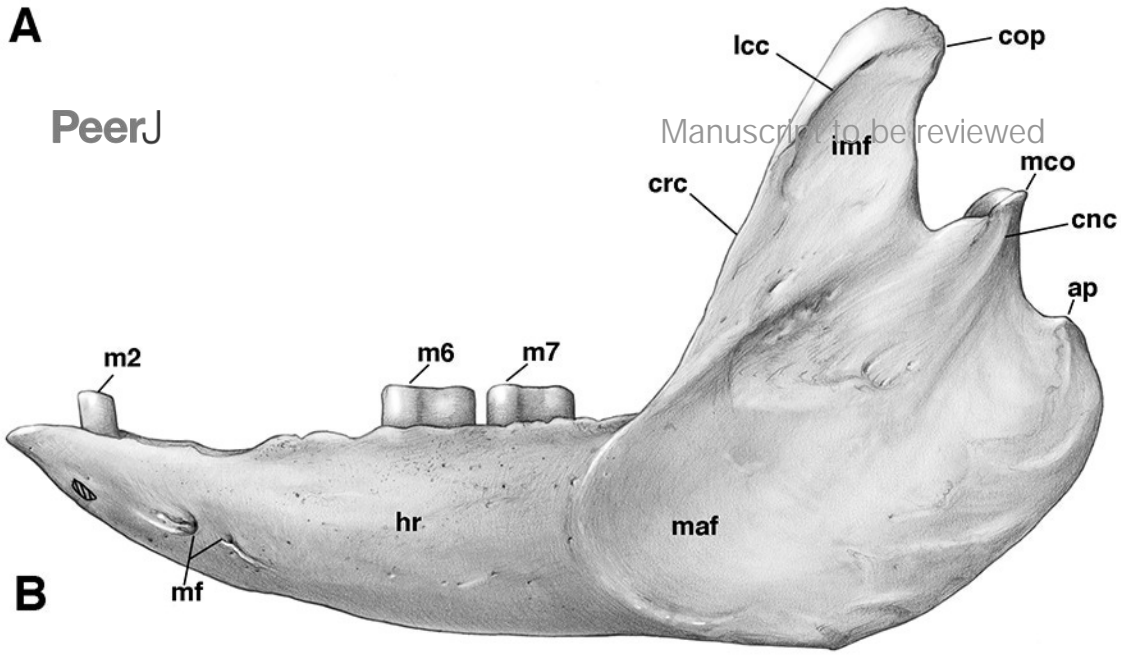
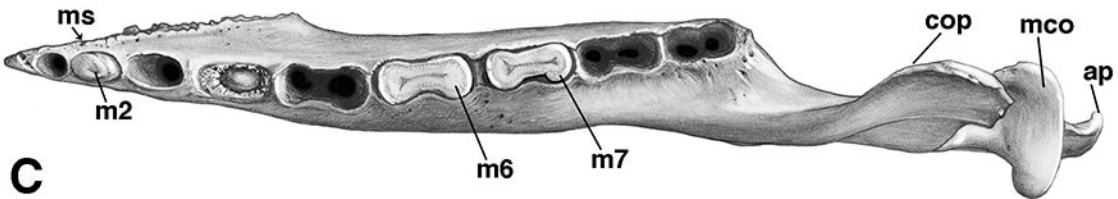
Left mandible of *Holmesina floridanus* (UF 224450)

A, lateral; B, occlusal; and, C, medial views. Abbreviations: **ap**, angular process; **cnc**, condyloid crest; **cop**, coronoid process; **crc**, coronoid crest; **hr**, horizontal ramus of mandible; **imf**, intermuscular fossa; **lcc**, lateral coronoid crest; **m1**, first lower molariform tooth; **m6**, sixth lower molariform tooth; **m7**, seventh lower molariform tooth; **maf**, masseteric fossa; **mco**, mandibular condyle; **mf**, mental foramen; **maf**, mandibular foramen; **ms**, mandibular symphysis. Scale bar = 5 cm.

A

PeerJ

Manuscript to be reviewed

**B****C**