

***Compsomyax subdiaphana* (Carpenter, 1864)**

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Mollusca
Class	Bivalvia
Order	Venerida
Family	Veneridae
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Callista subdiaphana</i> , <i>Clementia subdiaphana</i> , <i>Clementia obliqua</i> , <i>Meretrix iizukai</i> , <i>Saxidomus gibbosus</i>



Distribution	
Type Locality	
Geographic Distribution	Cook inlet and Prince William Sound, Alaska, to Bahia San Quintin, Baja California, and at Puertecitos, in the Golfo de California, in 2-500 m, in soft mud, frequently in areas with high organic content

Description
Length to 85 mm; shape subovate to subtrigonal; very inflated ; posterior end longer; periostracum thin, with adherent sand grains or mud on surface; sculpture of fine, closely spaced commarginal striae; umbones anterior, prosogyrate; hinge plate feeble; anterior end of hinge plate deeply channeled; cardinal teeth stout, posterior cardinal tooth of right valve bifid; pallial sinus of moderate size, pointed; lunule weakly demarcated; escutcheon absent; ligament external , sunken; inner ventral margin smooth.

Related Species and Characteristic Differences	
Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Saxidomus gigantea</i>	Deep pallial sinus; protruding ligament; strong/short anterior lateral tooth

Diagnostic Characteristics

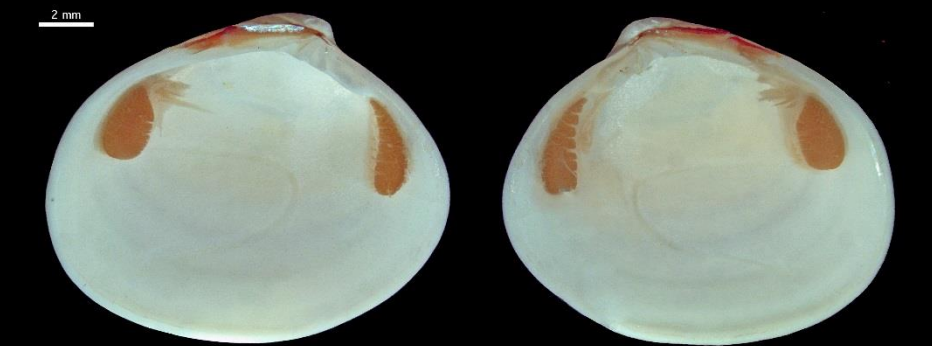
Diagnostic Characteristics

Photo Credit: Marine Sediment Monitoring Team

Anterior lateral tooth in right valve with beveled channel

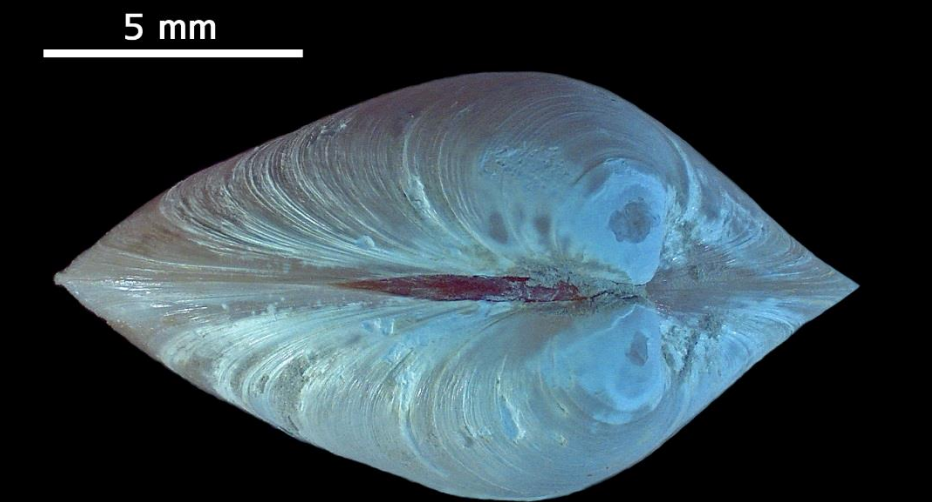


Pallial sinus moderate and pointed; smooth ventral margin



Compsomyx subdiaphana

Sunken ligament



Compsomyx subdiaphana



Literature

Coan, E.V., Valentich-Scott, P., and F.R. Bernard. 2000. Bivalve Seashells of Western North America Marine Bivalve Mollusks from Arctic Alaska to Baja California. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Monographs Number 2. Studies in Biodiversity Number 2. ISBN 0-936494-30-1. Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. pp. 376-377.

Valentich-Scott, P. 1998. Class Bivalvia. In: Valentich-Scott, P., and J.A. Blake. Taxonomic Atlas of the Benthic Fauna of the Santa Maria Basin and the Western Santa Barbara Channel. Volume 8. The Mollusca Part 1 The Aplacophora, Polyplacophora, Scaphopoda, Bivalvia, and Cephalopoda. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. pp. 148-149.

More Information

More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/psamp/index.htm>

Prepared by Angela Eagleston (Ecology); reviewed by Susan Weeks (Oikos). This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1703305.html>

If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call (360) 407-6764. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call (877) 833-6341.