

***Macoma carlottensis* Whiteaves, 1880**

Nomenclature	
Phylum	Mollusca
Class	Bivalvia
Order	Veneroida
Family	Tellinidae
Common Synonyms (S) Previous Names (PN)	<i>Macoma (Psammacoma) carlottensis</i> , <i>Macoma inflatula</i> , <i>Macoma leptonoidea</i> , <i>Macoma quadrana</i>



Distribution	
Type Locality	Virago Sound, Graham Island, Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia; Lectotype, NMC316
Geographic Distribution	Adak Island (51.8°N, 176.8°N) [USNM], eastward to Lituya Bay, Alaska (58.6°N) [Lacm], and southward to Islas Los Coronados, Baja California (32.4°N) [USNM], and in the central Golfo de California (29.1-28.7°N) [LACM], in the subtidal zone to 1,550m.

Description
<p>Length to 30mm; shape trigonal to subovate; inequilateral (highly variable in shape); shell thin; inflated moderately, more inflated anteriorly; anterior slightly longer; periostracum adherent, polished, frequently iridescent, straw colored (young shells translucent and often opalescent white or whitish); sculpture weakly marked by very fine, close-set, concentric striations, and by a few, distant, lines of growth; beaks small, moderately prominent, incurved, and placed considerably behind the middle; ligament short, external; pallial sinuses in both valves moderate in depth, reaching beyond the center of the valves, rounded at its extremity, substantially detached for about half its length, larger in the left valve; umbones broad; hinge plate narrow; right valve with 2 minute subequal cardinal teeth, widely diverging; left valve with small, bifid, narrowly triangular cardinal tooth (anterior tooth obscure); lateral teeth absent</p>

Related Species and Characteristic Differences	
Species Name	Diagnostic Characteristics
<i>Macoma calcarea</i>	pallial sinus very deep in left valve, moderate in right; chalky surface; periostracum usually abraded, silky
<i>Macoma nasuta</i>	pallial sinus merging with anterior adductor in left valve; deep not detached in right; moderately compressed; periostracum silky, brown-grey, adherent

Diagnostic Characteristics

Diagnostic Characteristics

Photos by Marine Sediment Monitoring Team

shape
subovate;
posterior end
subequilateral
to slightly
shorter than
anterior end

2 mm



Macoma carlottensis

pallial sinus
moderate in
both valves

2mm



Macoma carlottensis

Literature

Coan, E.V., Scott, P.V., 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. 407, 414, 416.

Harbo, R.M. 1997. Shells & Shellfish of the Pacific Northwest A Field Guide. Madeira Park, BC: Harbor Publishing. pp. 38, 159.

Valentich-Scott, P. 1998. Class Bivalvia. In: Scott, P.V., 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. 152-153.

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More Information

<p>More information about Puget Sound benthic invertebrates is available at: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/psamp/index.htm</p>	<p>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/1703309.html</p>	<p>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.</p>
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