

Macoma



Thin, white to light brown shells with concentric rings. Depending on the species of *Macoma*, can reach up to 4 inches. Bent-Nose Macomas' shells bend sharply to the right near the tip of the shell. Macomas are found within the intertidal zone down to depths of over 100 feet.

Types of *Macoma* Clams in the Salish Sea:

- Baltic *Macoma* (*Macoma balthica*)
- Pointed *Macoma* (*Macoma inquinata*)
- Bent-Nose *Macoma* (*Macoma nasuta*)
- White Sand-*Macoma* (*Macoma Secta*)
- Expanded *Macoma* (*Macoma expansa*)

Nuttall's Cockle



These bivalves are characterized by their oval shell with a heart-shaped profile. Light brown colored with radiating ribs or ridges on the exterior of the shell. Nuttall's Cockle, also known as Basket Cockle or Heart Cockle can grow up to 5 ½ inches and live up to 16 years old. Lives in mud and sand intertidal zones to 200 m and often found in eelgrass beds. Latin name is *Cinocardium nuttallii*.

Native Littleneck



The Native Littleneck (*Protothaca staminea*) has a round to oval shaped inflated shell. Light brown to whitish-gray with strong radiating ridges and concentric rings (lattice-like) with rough edges on the inside margin of the shell. Can grow up to 3 inches in diameter, the minimum size for harvesting the Native Littleneck is 1 ½ inches. Also known as Pacific Littleneck. Lives in the mid-intertidal zone to 35 feet.

Horse Clam



Large oval shells (up to 8 inches long) that is brown to black in color. Lives deep in the intertidal zone, buried around 20 inches deep, to depths of over 100 feet. Two types of Horse Clams, also known as Gaper Clams live within the Salish Sea; the Pacific Gaper (*Tresus nuttallii*) and the Fat Gaper (*Tresus capax*). Horse Clams have large siphons to allow them to live deep within the sand and mud to avoid predators. Because of the large siphon, the shells have evolved to not close completely. Horse Clams have no visible external ligament and pronounced dip in the shell for the siphon.

Manila Clam



Manila Clam (*Venerupis philippinarum*), also known as Japanese Littleneck. Oval shells with gray blotchy or streaking patterns. Has concentric rings and radiating ridges, inside margin of shell is smooth. Shells grow up to 3 inches long. Manila Clams live in the high to mid intertidal zone. They are similar in size and appearance to Native Littleneck Clams; however they are slightly more oblong than littlenecks and have a smooth groove near the hinge where the littleneck has a more pronounced ridge.

Varnish Clam



Varnish Clams (*Nuttallia obscurata*) also known as Dark Mahogany-Clams have a shiny brown covering over their exterior shell. The shells are thin with a purple coloring on the inside. Varnish Clams can grow up to 2 ¼ inches and live in the high to mid intertidal zone often where freshwater is present. Varnish Clams are a non-native species from the waters off of Japan; they were introduced into The Salish Sea as recently as the 1980's.

Butter Clam



Butter Clam (*Saxidomus gigantean*) has a smooth creamy white shell with concentric rings. This clam can grow up to 6 inches wide and live up to 20 years. Butter clams are most commonly found in the low intertidal zone down to depths of 130 feet.

Eastern Softshell Clam



The Eastern Softshell Clam, also known as Mud Clam, grows up to 4 inches wide. The shell is slightly oval with no visible ligament on the outside. Shell is often coated with yellowish to brown coating. This clam lives within the mud and sand of the intertidal zone, often where freshwater is present.