*Nuculana pontonia* (Dall, 1890)

**SCAMIT Code:**

**Date examined:** 11 March 1991  
**Voucher by:** Paul Scott, SBMNH

**Synonymy:**

*Leda pontonia* Dall, 1890

**Diagnostic characters:**

1. Shell short, inflated, length to 18 mm.
2. Sculpture of very fine, low concentric riblets which become obsolete on the central slope.
3. Rostrum short, sharply pointed, not recurved.
4. Periostracum dull to silky.
5. Escutcheon very wide, deep.

**Related species / character differences:**

*Nuculana pontonia* is closest to *N. taphria*, but the smooth central slope and non-recurved rostrum of the former easily separates these species.

**Depth range:** 1,150 - 3,000 meters

**Distribution:** Santa Maria Basin, California to the Gulf of Panama.