

PNW Invertebrate ID

Fishinar 1/15/2014, Janna Nichols – Instructor Questions? Feel free to contact me at janna@reef.org

Marvelous Molluscs

This session will concentrate on the Mollusc phylum

Mollusca

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	Rock Scallop - Often covered with other invertebrate growth, all you may see is the bright orange smile. Slow growing, slow to reproduce.
0	Northern Abalone - Very few left, populations have crashed. Look for alternating white/dark pattern on foot, with respiratory holes on top of the shell, often with yellow tentacles poking out. Very camouflaged!
	Oregon Triton - Spiral shell with little hairs all over. Can be quite large. Often hydroids growing on it, so also very camouflaged.
	Lewis' Moonsnail - Giant round white shell, covered by soft mantle, colored gray or beige. Can move around under the sand.
	Leafy Hornmouth - Shell has flat projections (flat like a leaf) along three sides. Very distinctive.
	Yellow Margin Dorid - Flat domed shape white nudibranch with yellow around the margin.

Giant Nudibranch - Very large nudibranch with many branched cerata. Comes in many colors. The trick to ID this guy is to look for the white edging around the foot.
White Lined Dirona - Can be various colors from bright white to salmon colored. Each of the petal-shaped cerata is lined all around with white.
Opalescent Nudibranch - Very small nudibranch with 'antlers' and 'fur', and a yellow/blue line that runs down mid body.
Giant Pacific Octopus - Rarely seen out in the open, it's more typical to just see suckers as you look under rocks. Look for the crab shell mess it leaves on its doorstep.
Gumboot Chiton - A large, rounded, elongated dome with small bumps. In shades of brown to reddish, to cream colors.