

Tunicate (solitary) - *Halocynthia igaboja*

DESCRIPTION Common name: Sea hedgehog. Body unstalked, stout. Distinctive flexible bristles. Bristles sometimes completely covered in silt making the animal hard to detect.

RANGE	Japan, Aleutian Islands, and Alaska south to southern California.
SIZE	5 cm across to 10 cm tall
STATUS	Native
COLOR	Dark brown tunic under bristles: siphons red or orange.
HABITAT	Rocky or gravel areas. Usually near current.
TIDAL HEIGHT	Intertidal to 175m.
SALINITY	25.4 to 33.3 ppt. (Homer & Seldovia Harbor deep sonde range)
TEMPERATURE	- 0.4 to 12.4 °C (Homer & Seldovia Harbor deep sonde range)
SIMILAR SPECIES	This may be one species or a group of cryptic species under several names including <i>Halocynthia hispida</i> , <i>H hilgendorfi</i> , <i>H. hilgendorfi hilgendorfi</i> , <i>H hilgendorfi igajoba</i> and <i>H. igaboja</i> , depending on the publication. If they are all the same species, the spines make it very distinctive, though <i>Pyura haustor</i> , which is warty and often has many things growing on it, can look similar at first glance.



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