

Tunicate (solitary) - *Halocynthia igaboja*

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| 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 | 15.2 to 33.2 ppt. (Homer & Seldovia Harbor range) |
| TEMPERATURE | neg 2.3 to 14.9° C (Homer & Seldovia Harbor 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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