

NATIVE TUNICATES

Tunicate (colonial) - *Synoicum* sp. aff. *jordani* or *kincaidi*

DESCRIPTION	Colonies are thick, massive, with a rounded shape. Tunic is smooth and mostly transparent. Attachment area is narrower than the width of the colony. Difficult to tell it's a tunicate out of water (photo upper right and lower left). Individual zooids long and slender, up to 20-25 mm. Commonly called Sea Pork.
RANGE	Found in Bering Sea and Japan. In Alaska found from the Aleutians to Kachemak Bay. Also found in Washington state.
SIZE	Colonies 10 cm in diameter or greater
STATUS	Native
COLOR	Variable, white, pink, orange, peach or brown.
HABITAT	Wave washed rocks, open coast. Rocky overhangs and vertical walls. May be washed up on beaches after storms.
TIDAL HEIGHT	Lower intertidal, subtidal to 366 m.
SALINITY	15.2 to 33.3 ppt. (Homer & Seldovia harbor range)
TEMPERATURE	neg 2.3 to 14.9° C (Homer & Seldovia harbor range)
SIMILAR SPECIES	Often mistaken for a sponge. Members of this Genus and several other compound tunicates are very difficult to tell apart and without a microscope. Photo in upper left has been sliced in half.



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