ID Guide
Marine Non Native Species

Please report your sighting on the MarLIN website **www.marlin.ac.uk/rml** or phone **01752 633291**

Wakame
Undaria pinnatifida

A large, golden-brown kelp

Key ID features:
- 1-3m in length, consisting of a divided frond with a mid-rib
- Very frilly with lots of "ribbons" just above the root-like holdfast
- Has a long stipe

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Similar to: native kelps such as *Saccorhiza polyschide*s which does not have a mid-rib and has a knobbly, bulbous - holdfast
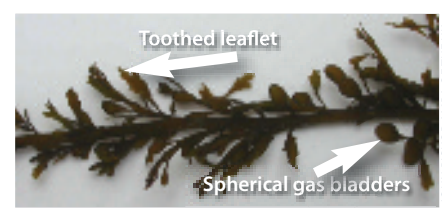
Wireweed
Sargassum muticum

A type of brown seaweed

Key ID features:
- A large olive-brown seaweed with fronds often over 1m long
- A main axis or stipe bears alternating secondary branches, giving characteristic "washing line" appearance out of water
- Branches with small, flattened leaflets and spherical gas bladders

LIZ COOK

Toothed leaflet

Spherical gas bladders

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Orange-striped anemone
Haliplanella lineata

An anemone

Key ID features:
- Up to 4cm tall, (usually 1-2cm) with a smooth and cylindrical column
- Generally olive green or brown with contrasting vertical stripes (stripes are usually orange in colour, less commonly yellow or white stripes)
- Up to 100 slender tentacles, these and their supporting platform greyish

PATRICK VAN MOER

Distinguished by: the vertical stripes on the column. Young specimens of plumose anemone *(Metridium senile)* may be similar in general form, but are never striped

ANDREW COHEN

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Darwin's barnacle
Elminius modestus

A barnacle

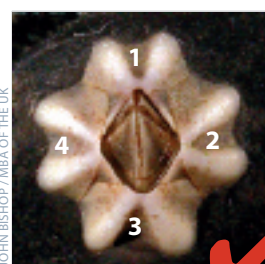**Key ID features:**
- Small cone shaped shell up to 1cm across
- White-grey in colour
- Diamond shaped opening
- Shell has 4 plates

Similar to: *Semibalanus balanoides*, which also has a diamond-shaped opening. *Elminius modestus* can be positively identified by only having four outer shell plates, other species have six

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Striped barnacle
Balanus amphitrite

A barnacle

Key ID features:

- A white or pinkish barnacle growing to 1cm in diameter or more
- Large diamond shaped opening
- Six outer shell plates relatively smooth, with groups of purple or pink stripes tapering from the base
- Four dark bands cross tissue flaps bordering the opening

Japanese skeleton shrimp
Caprella mutica

An amphipod crustacean

Key ID features:

- A slender, reddish, shrimp-like animal
- Males up to 45mm long with two elongated body segments behind the head, the hindmost of which has a pair of large grasping appendages
- Females smaller (to 15mm) without conspicuously elongated segments or enlarged appendages, but with red spotted brood pouch on underside
- Both sexes have spines along back
- Larger than native skeleton shrimps

Male

Female

Chinese mitten crab
Eriocheir sinensis

A crab

Key ID features:

- Large crab up to 8cm across
- Grey-green to dark brown in colour with paler legs, which are twice the length of the body.
- Near-hexagonal body shape narrowing towards the front
- 4+4+4 pattern of teeth around front end of body and deep central notch between the eyes
- Distinguishing feature in adult crabs is the dense mat of hair on the claws. The leading edges of the legs are also very hairy

Pacific oyster
Crassostrea gigas

A bivalve mollusc

Key ID features:

- Thick, rough, hinged shell up to 18cm long
- Markedly wavy or saw-toothed shell margin
- Shell may have dark purple patches

Similar to: Native oyster *Ostrea edulis*, which has more numerous but much weaker ridges and much less wavy shell margin. *Crassostrea gigas* tends to be more elongate in shape whereas *Ostrea edulis* can be almost circular
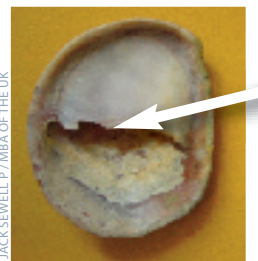
Slipper Limpet
Crepidula fornicata

A gastropod mollusc – a type of sea snail

Key ID features:

- Often found in curved chains of up to 12 individuals with large shells at the bottom and smaller ones on top
- Domed shell, oval or kindey shaped up to 5cm long with distinctive slipper-like internal shelf
- Shell can be white, cream, yellow or pinkish in colour, with streaks or blotches of red or brown

Leathery sea squirt
Styela clava

A sea squirt

Key ID features:

- A brown sea squirt up to 20cm tall
- Attached by narrow stalk (underdeveloped when very small)
- Two tube like openings (siphons) on top which have dark brown stripes on the inside
- Surface is tough and leathery, looks lumpy.

Information provided by Marine Biological Association