

Olive Snail



INVERTEBRATE

Olivella biplacata

diet: detritus

size: 2-3cm (.75-1.18 in) about the size of an olive pit.

Habitat: Burrows in the sand, leaving humped lines in the sand - like speed bumps. More abundant during summer around north and south boulders. Look for tell-tale plowed lines in sand.

These beautiful purple snails have shells that are very smooth due to the fact the animal spends the majority of it's life just below the surface. The shell, from constantly being abraded by sand keeps it bright and shiny. Look for the elongated white siphon that the animal uses as a "snorkel". May live up to 15 years.

Fun Fact: When mating, the male temporarily glues himself to the female.