

DIVER CITIZEN SCIENCE



SUBTIDAL STUDY

Leptasterias spp. Distribution and Sea Star Wasting Disease (SSWD)

We are studying sea stars in the genus *Leptasterias* to understand features of their distribution and abundance. We are requesting information on their presence (or absence) in the subtidal to compare to our intertidal surveys.

Leptasterias are small, six-rayed sea stars that have varying coloration (including pink, red, green, white, tan, and brown). Adults are ~2 - 3 cm, but can be larger.

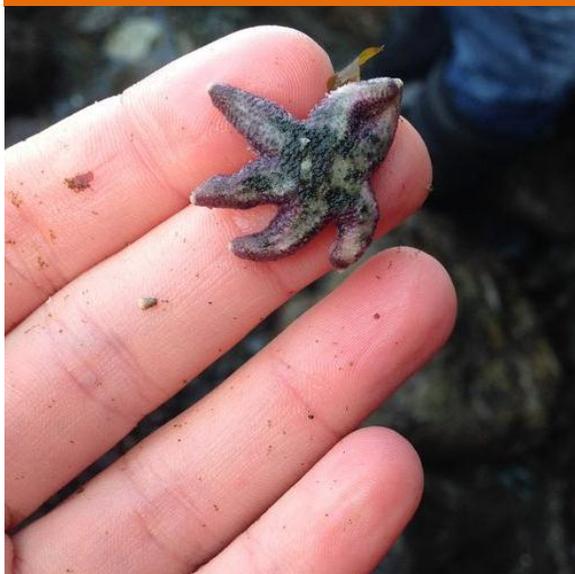
WHAT WE NEED

We would appreciate any of the following information on sightings of *Leptasterias* during dives:

- Site name and GPS coordinates
- Date observed
- Depth observed
- Substrate (i.e. found on rock, soft algae or sand)
- Size estimate
- Appearance (photo if available)



Adults-sized *Leptasterias*



TO REPORT SIGHTINGS

Enter sighting information at:
<http://seastarwasting.org/>

**If you have a permit that allows you to collect a tissue sample, please email Dr. Sarah Cohen (sarahcoh@sfsu.edu) in advance for further instructions.

