

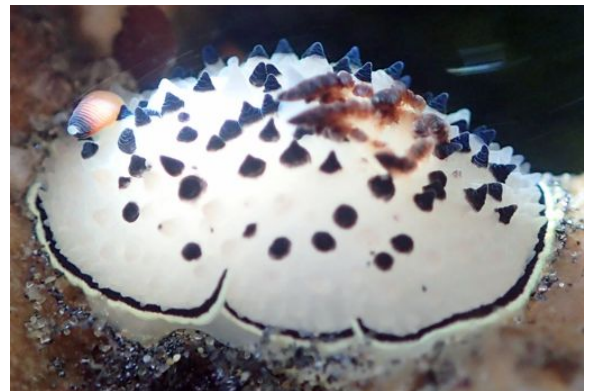
Expanded Northern Range of *Acanthodoris rhodoceras* in Oregon
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This Black-tipped Spiny Dorid, *Acanthodoris rhodoceras* Cockerell & Eliot, 1905, was photographed by Tara Maginnis on June 17, 2015. It was located in a hubcap at Netarts Jetty on the Oregon coast and was only about 1 cm in length. This is a range extension for this species.

During years with unusually warm summers, some species of nudibranchs follow the warming waters north of their more typical ranges. With the strong El Nino beginning in 2015 and an exceptionally hot and dry summer, it is no surprise that several species of nudibranchs were found at the most northern ends of their ranges this past year. Another species to add to the list is the Black and White Tipped Dorid, *Acanthodoris rhodoceras* (Cockerell & Eliot, 1905).

On June 17, 2015 a single individual was cited on the south side of Netarts Jetty in Netarts Bay (45° 25' 46" N, 123° 56' 54" W). The animal was tucked into a corner of a hubcap that was covered in sponges and crusting algae. It was 10-12 mm long, and was spotted by its red-tipped gills and rhinopores (literally "rhodo" "cerata"). The individual was not collected, but additional photos and videos can be found at pilots.up.edu/web/maginnis. No other *A. rhodoceras* were found at that location despite our efforts in July and August.



Goddard (1990) was the first to report *A. rhodoceras* in Oregon, extending its known range at the time from California. Most recently, Behrens (2005) reported the most northern range in Umpqua River, Winchester Bay, Oregon (43° 40' 7" N, 124° 12' 50" W). The new citing is ~140 miles of its previously recorded range.

As part of my teaching and scholarship at The University of Portland, I work with undergraduate students on intensive research experiences that include 4-6 weeks at the Oregon coast. Although the focus of the lab is crabs (locally and affectionately known as "The Crab Lab"), an inordinate fondness for nudibranchs keeps me hunting for them during the spring and summer low tides.

References:

- Behrens D.W. and Hermosillo A. (2005). *Eastern Pacific Nudibranchs*. Sea Challengers Natural History Books.
Goddard, J. H. R. 1990. "Additional opisthobranch mollusks from Oregon, with a review of deep-water records and observations on the fauna of the south coast". *The Veliger*, 33(3): 230-237.