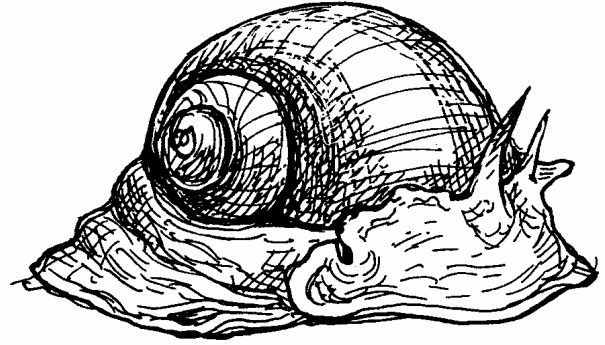


# Moon Snail



"What is that piece of sandy-looking toilet plunger doing on the beach?"

**Scientific name:** *Polinices lewisii*

**Phylum:** Mollusks

**Size:** Average: 5 inches

**Description:** Yellowish brown with hints of red spots, but the shell is gray and smooth.

**Habitat:** Sand, gravel and mud in low-inter-tidal zones.

**Diet:** A carnivore, feeds on bivalves, drilling a neat hole in one of the valves.

**Range:** Queen Charlotte Islands to Southern California.

**Relatives:** Other snails

**Conservation Status:** none available

## **Fun Facts:**

- The foot squirts water at its enemies.
- The females enclose the eggs in a collar-like sack that looks like a piece of rubber.
- Its mantle (the body) is enormous, it is always a surprise that it can pull all this soft tissue into the shell.