

Science Bite

Molly Tank Moving Day

Taylor, our current Aquarium Technician, needs to scrub the Molly Tank for some deep spring cleaning. Left on its own, the tank accumulates all sorts of microorganisms—like coralline and green algae—that can affect not only the water quality of its inhabitants but also the tank’s visibility for guests like you! And so, Wanda the Wolf Eel and her fishy neighbors must be temporarily housed in different tanks.

- There used to be a total of 11 different fish representing eight different species in the Molly Tank: the Red Irish Lord, lingcod, sablefish, copper rockfish, quillback rockfish, black rockfish, buffalo sculpin and Wanda. If the Molly Tank holds 850 gallons of water, about how much water did each fish “occupy” on average? (*Hint: use division to solve*)
- While there are about 11 regular vertebrate residents, the number of invertebrate hosts fluctuates. How many invertebrates (and vertebrates) can you find below?
- How many hours do you think Taylor will take to clean the entire tank and move all the animals? Taylor’s answer might surprise you...

Next week’s Wednesday Science Bite will feature one of the aquarium’s newest additions...be on the lookout for some *sandy* fun! Until then, *Who's that invertebrate?!*



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Answer: 850 gallons of water ÷ 11 fish = 77.27 gallons of water/fish

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****See labeled photo below****

- How many hours do you think Taylor will take to clean the entire tank and move all the animals? Taylor’s answer might surprise you...

She is still working on it! We will let you know the total time next Wednesday, April 1st.

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Copper Rockfish

Quillback
Rockfish

Copper
Rockfish

Sea Cucumber

Wolf Eel

Copper Rockfish

Leather Star

Lingcod

Dungeness
Crab

Sea Star

Black Cod

Tube Worm