

Gaga for Gobies

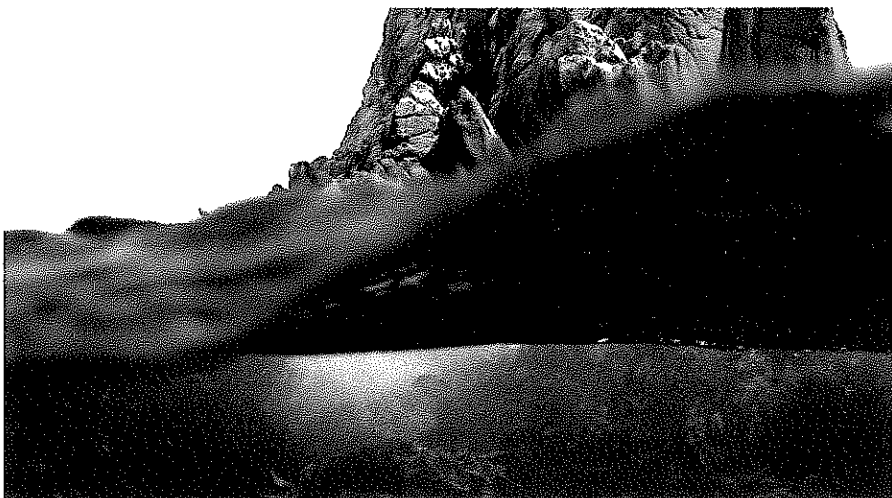
They're petite. They're precious. They're endangered.

The tidewater goby can now kick up its gills at our Santa Monica Pier Aquarium—one of only two aquaria to publicly exhibit these fish. Topping out at a dainty two inches, these gobies are found in coastal California's estuaries (brackish water that leads to the sea). Unfortunately, nonstop urban growth is eating up their habitat faster than you can say "mixed-use development."

Making space at the Aquarium for the tidewater goby is a win-win: A home for the at-risk fish...and living proof of our threatened waterways.



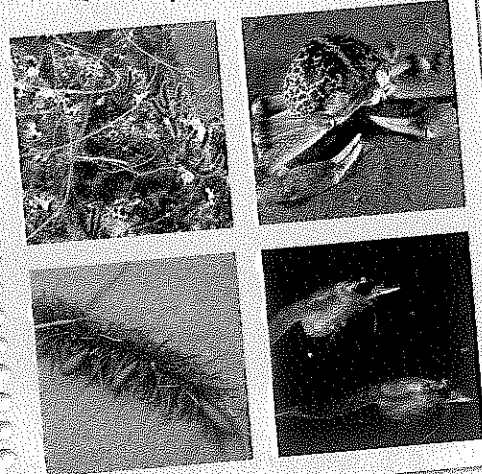
Tidewater goby (*Eucyclogobius newberryi*)



Ship Rock off Catalina Island, Aquarium Operations Manager José Bacallao's favorite dive site for sourcing sea creatures.

José's Shopping List:

6 nudibranchs
2 globe crabs
10 bunches of feathered
boa kelp
6,150 (or more!) mysid
shrimp



Don't Forget the Milk, Dear...

Stocking up at sea.

When Aquarium Operations Manager José Bacallao (pictured at right) needs to restock, it's not a quick trip to Costco. Bacallao dons his scuba gear and drops down 30 feet into the Pacific to search for invertebrates, crustaceans, fish and other marine life for the Aquarium. And weekly shopping trips along the ocean's surface are a must for collecting mysid shrimp to feed our Pacific seahorses and fresh kelp for all our exhibits.

