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# Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity

Jennifer L Molnar<sup>1\*</sup>, Rebecca L Gamboa<sup>1</sup>, Carmen Revenga<sup>2</sup>, and Mark D Spalding<sup>3</sup>

Although invasive species are widely recognized as a major threat to marine biodiversity, there has been no quantitative global assessment of their impacts and routes of introduction. Here, we report initial results from the first such global assessment. Drawing from over 350 databases and other sources, we synthesized information on 329 marine invasive species, including their distribution, impacts on biodiversity, and introduction pathways. Initial analyses show that only 16% of marine ecoregions have no reported marine invasions, and even that figure may be inflated due to under-reporting. International shipping, followed by aquaculture, represent the major means of introduction. Our geographically referenced and publicly available database provides a framework that can be used to highlight the invasive taxa that are most threatening, as well as to prioritize the invasion pathways that pose the greatest threat.

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Invasive species have transformed marine habitats around the world. The most harmful of these invaders displace native species, change community structure and food webs, and alter fundamental processes, such as nutrient cycling and sedimentation. Alien invasives have damaged economies by diminishing fisheries, fouling ships' hulls, and clogging intake pipes. Some can even directly impact human health by causing disease (Ruiz *et al.* 1997). Although only a small fraction of the many marine species introduced outside of their native range are able to thrive and invade new habitats (Mack *et al.* 2000), their impact can be dramatic.

The impacts of invasions may be seen locally, but the drivers of biological invasion are, to an increasing degree, global. Unfortunately, there is a paucity of information on invasive species at the global scale. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has identified the need for "compilation and dissemination of

#### In a nutshell:

- Marine invasive species are a major threat to biodiversity, and have had profound ecological and economic impacts
- Developing effective prevention strategies requires global information, but most datasets are local or regional
- A new database, containing a simple, quantified threat-scoring index and introduction pathways classification, provides a critical tool for objectively comparing marine invasions worldwide
- Initial results confirm earlier assessments of the primary importance of shipping and aquaculture as introduction pathways and of the high levels of invasion in the temperate regions of Europe, North America, and Australia

<sup>1</sup>The Nature Conservancy, Seattle, WA 98101 <sup>\*</sup>(jmolnar@tnc.org); <sup>2</sup>The Nature Conservancy, Arlington, VA 22203; <sup>3</sup>The Nature Conservancy, Newmarket CB8 8AW, UK information on alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species, to be used in the context of any prevention, introduction and mitigation activities" (CBD 2000). Most data have been compiled at local, national, or regional scales (Ricciardi *et al.* 2000). Data that do exist often do not have consistent formats or definitions, and are therefore not easily comparable (Crall *et al.* 2006). Many datasets also lack information regarding ecological and economic impacts, and are therefore unable to inform risk assessments or to catalyze effective policies across national borders.

Once alien species become established in marine habitats, it can be nearly impossible to eliminate them (Thresher and Kuris 2004). Interception or removal of pathways are probably the only effective strategies for reducing future impacts (Carlton and Ruiz 2005). With limited funds, establishing priorities is key, so that money allocated for prevention of invasions is well spent. Prioritizing actions requires knowing which species are likely to be most harmful to native ecosystems (Byers *et al.* 2002), current distributions of these species, and how they are likely to be transported to new regions.

This paper describes a new effort to quantify the geographic distribution of the threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity worldwide. We present an analytical framework that allows users to capitalize on existing information by: (1) integrating data from diverse sources in a uniform manner; (2) systematically scoring the threat of each alien species to native biodiversity; (3) collecting information by geographic units (marine ecoregions), so that data can be summarized and analyzed with other datasets at this scale; and (4) documenting introduction pathways for each species. Using the information compiled to date, we also present some initial findings from this dataset. This is not an exhaustive analysis, but illustrates the utility of the database, and provides some new insight into patterns and processes of global marine invasions.

#### Scope of the assessment

This assessment is focused on the global distribution patterns and impacts of alien species on native species and habitats in the coastal marine environment. Species that primarily occur in and modify human-managed waters (eg aquaculture) have been included, but only their impacts on native biodiversity are documented.

There are multiple ways to define "invasive species" (Lodge *et al.* 2006). Recognizing the limitations and practical needs of a global study, we use a broad definition that includes any species reported to have become established outside of its native range (Richardson *et al.* 2000; Rejmánek *et al.* 2002). This differs from the narrower definition used for public policy purposes, which requires that the species cause negative economic, environmental, or public health impacts (eg US Federal Executive Order 13112 1999; McNeely *et al.* 2001), but it allows incorporation of information from a broader array of data sources. We devised a threat scoring system to indicate the magnitude of species' ecological impact and invasive potential within the global framework.

We report non-native occurrences by ecoregion, using a biogeographic classification recently developed for marine coastal environments (www.nature.org/MEOW; Spalding et al. 2007). Ecoregions are widely used for conservation planning and strategic analysis by major conservation NGOs (Olson et al. 2001). Marine ecoregions have been defined as "areas of relatively homogeneous species composition, quite clearly distinct from adjacent systems" (Spalding et al. 2007). They are contained within marine realms, which are defined as large areas of ocean in which biota share a similar evolutionary history due to isolation or other factors (Spalding et al. 2007). We selected these units of analysis because they are global in scale and commensurate with the resolution of the data in a way that is useful for ecologically guided, regional risk assessment. Additional research was often necessary to convert data reported by political units (eg countries, states) into biogeographic terms.

We developed our data collection methods to allow consistent documentation of information across taxa and habitats. Related ongoing assessments of terrestrial and freshwater invasive species will be reported elsewhere.

#### Database development

We collected information on marine invasive species from a variety of sources and compiled the information in a geographically referenced database. In addition to nonnative distributions by marine ecoregion, we documented habitat types, native distributions, and introduction pathways for each species. We also collected detailed information about the threat that each species posed to native biodiversity, using the scoring system described below. A description of our data collection methods is provided in WebPanel 1.

Input data were restricted to published sources or otherwise highly credible, publicly available datasets, with a robust scientific framework; all sources are referenced in the database. We initially targeted datasets that covered broad spatial scales and taxonomic groups. Regional, national, and some sub-national datasets, along with literature and internet resources, were used to supplement data gaps and provide information at a finer scale. Data collection is ongoing. The database is available online (www.nature.org/marineinvasions) and will be updated periodically.

#### Threat scoring system

The number of alien species in a habitat does not indicate the level of threat posed to native biota or the damage already done. Many species establish in a new habitat with few disruptions, whereas others alter entire ecosystems or put native species at risk of extinction. We developed a threat-scoring system, based on several existing threat classification systems (Cal-IPC 2003; Salafsky *et al.* 2003; NatureServe 2004), to capture information on the threat posed by alien species.

Each invasive species was assigned a score (where data allowed) for the following categories: ecological impact, geographic extent, invasive potential, and management difficulty (Panel 1).

The "ecological impact" score measures the severity of the impact of a species on the viability and integrity of native species and natural biodiversity. For example, the green alga, *Caulerpa taxifolia*, was assigned the highest ecological impact score (4), based on its ability to outcompete native species and reduce overall biodiversity (Jousson *et al.* 2000). The sea slug, *Godiva quadricolor*, was conservatively assigned a lower score (2), because its only known impact is feeding on one taxon – other sea slugs – with no wider effects documented (Hewitt *et al.* 2002).

The ecological impact score was assigned globally for each species, not for specific occurrences. For consistency, this score reflects the most damaging documented impacts, although geographic variation and diversity of impacts were also noted where available. Where impact information was ambiguous, we were conservative and assigned a lower score. Because we are assessing the ecological impacts of invasive species, we have, to date, only included species for which we found documentation of ecological impacts, or lack thereof. We did not track how many species were excluded due to this criterion. We believe that the most harmful species are also the best documented, so that even at this stage, our work has a representative coverage of these most harmful species.

Species not captured in our database probably have relatively low ecological or economic impact and may include microorganisms whose introductions are largely unrecorded and whose impacts remain poorly understood (Drake *et al.* 2007). "Geographic extent" captured the scale of each species' invasive range. It was defined relative to ecoregion size, instead of by absolute units (eg area, length of coastline), to allow use across marine, freshwater, and terrestrial environments. "Invasive potential" is an estimate of the magnitude of the current or recent rate of spread and the potential for future spread after introduction to new habitats. The "management difficulty" score indicates the effort required to reverse the threat, remove the species, and/or manage its presence.

Threat scores were necessarily semiquantitative, but they correspond to categories that differ substantially in threat level, with clearly defined parameters for assigning individual scores (WebPanel 1). This enabled us to include a broad range of information and to use the same categorical scoring across marine, freshwater, and terrestrial habitats.

## Pathways

To consistently document introduction information in our database, we needed a classification of marine, terrestrial, and freshwater species pathways that would allow for the capture and summary of data with various levels of detail. We based our framework on the outline developed by the US National Invasive Species Council's Pathways Team (Campbell and Kriesch 2003; revised by Lodge *et al.* 2006). This team developed "a system for evaluating the significance of invasive species pathways" into and within the US, broadly

defining pathways as "any means that allows entry or spread of an invasive species" (Campbell and Kriesch 2003). Although this system includes routes of introduction that others may consider to be vectors (Carlton and Ruiz 2005) and categories are not always mutually exclusive, it allows the practical categorization of commonly reported information on pathways and vectors. We modified this system slightly, to better fit a global assessment and made category adjustments to allow effective gathering of data by species (Panel 2).

Using this framework, we documented all known and likely pathways for each species in our database. We only included pathways to new habitats, not methods for local dispersal. We were not geographically specific (eg we recorded that a particular species could be carried in ballast water, but not the specific ports between which it traveled). We documented additional introduction infor-

#### Panel 1. Threat scoring system

Each species in our assessment was assigned a score for each of the following categories (where data allowed), to indicate the magnitude of the threat it poses to native biodiversity. The scoring system was devised so that it could be applied consistently to different types of species and to those living in marine, freshwater, and terrestrial habitats.

#### **Ecological impact**

- 4 Disrupts entire ecosystem processes with wider abiotic influences
- 3 Disrupts multiple species, some wider ecosystem function, and/or keystone species or species of high conservation value (eg threatened species)
- $2-\mbox{Disrupts}$  single species with little or no wider ecosystem impact
- I Little or no disruption
- $\mathsf{U}-\mathsf{U}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{k}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{o}\mathsf{w}\mathsf{n}$  or not enough information to determine score

# **Geographic extent**

- 4-Multi-ecoregion
- 3 Ecoregion
- $2-Local\ ecosystem/sub-ecoregion$
- I Single site
- $\mathsf{U}-\mathsf{U}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{k}\mathsf{n}\mathsf{o}\mathsf{w}\mathsf{n}$  or not enough information to determine score

# Invasive potential

- 4 Currently/recently spreading rapidly (doubling in <10 years) and/or high potential for future rapid spread
- 3 Currently/recently spreading less rapidly and/or potential for future less rapid spread
- 2 Established/present, but not currently spreading and high potential for future spread
- I Established/present, but not currently spreading and/or low potential for future spread
- U Unknown or not enough information to determine score

#### Management difficulty

- 4 Irreversible and/or cannot be contained or controlled
- 3 Reversible with difficulty and/or can be controlled with significant ongoing management
- 2 Reversible with some difficulty and/or can be controlled with periodic management
- I Easily reversible, with no ongoing management necessary (eradication)
- U Unknown or not enough information to determine score

mation, including whether the introduction of a species via a pathway was intentional or accidental.

# Assessing the extent and impact of invasive species

We have compiled information from over 350 data sources. The database now includes 329 marine invasive species, with at least one species documented in 194 ecoregions (84% of the world's 232 marine ecoregions; Figure 1). The dominant groups of species in our database are crustaceans (59 species), mollusks (54), algae (46), fish (38), annelids (31), plants (19), and cnidarians (17).

We scored all 329 species for ecological impact and geographic extent. The mean ecological impact score was 2.55 (SD = 1.04) – halfway between "disrupts single species with little or no wider ecosystem impact" and "dis-

#### Panel 2. Pathways framework

We used this framework to document known and likely pathways for each marine species in our assessment. It was adapted from the National Invasive Species Council Invasive Species Pathway Team, with "pathways" defined broadly as "any means that allows entry or spread of an invasive species" (Campbell and Kriesch 2003). This outline has been summarized to highlight sub-pathways for marine species; see WebPanel 2 for full outline with all sub-pathways.

#### Transportation-related pathways

- Modes of transportation
  - Air transportation
  - Freshwater/marine transportation
    - Ballast and/or fouling
      - Ballast water and sediments
      - Hull/surface fouling
    - Stowaways in holds
    - Superstructures/structures above the water line
    - Dredge spoil material
    - Canals that connect waterways
  - Land/terrestrial transportation
- Items used in shipping process
- Containers both exterior and interior
- Packing materials
- Tourism/travel/relocation
- Mail/internet/overnight shipping companies

#### Commerce in living organisms pathways

- Live seafood trade
- Livestock
- Aquaculture and mariculture activities • Enclosed facilities
  - Stocking in open water
- Pet, aquarium, and water garden trade
- Bait industry
- Biocontrol
- Nurseries/garden/landscaping
- Agricultural and forestry species trade
- Plants and plant parts as food
- Other animal trade
- Other plant trade

#### Other human-assisted pathways

- Ecosystem disturbance
- Climate change

#### Natural spread

rupts multiple species, some wider ecosystem function". Most species have been found in multiple ecoregions (mean geographic extent score of 3.98, SD = 0.19). We scored 324 species for invasive potential, with a mean score of 2.05 (SD = 1.03; "established/present...high potential for future spread"). The 268 species scored for management difficulty had a mean of 3.56 (SD = 0.71), indicating that most are difficult if not impossible to remove or control.

ment was to provide a means of distinguishing relatively low-impact invasive species from those with potentially severe detrimental effects. We defined "harmful" invasive species as those having ecological impact scores of 3 or 4 (disrupting multiple species or wider ecosystems). Using this definition, 57% of species in our database are harmful, ranging from 47% of cnidarians to 84% of plants (Figure 2). The database also allows a geographic perspective; Figure 1 shows the number of harmful invasive

A primary driver for the development of this assess-



**Figure 1.** Map of the number of harmful alien species by coastal ecoregion, with darker red shades indicating a greater number of species with high ecological impact scores (3 or 4). Ecoregions in which only less harmful species have been documented are shown in dark blue.

species by ecoregion.

Our data reveal high levels of invasion in the following ecoregions: Northern California, including San Francisco Bay (n = 85 species, 66% of which are harmful), the Hawaiian Islands (73, 42%), the North Sea (73, 64%), and the Levantine Sea in the eastern Mediterranean (72, 50%). Realms that feature the highest degree of invasion are the Temperate Northern Atlantic (240, 57%), Temperate Northern Pacific (123, 63%), and Eastern Indo-Pacific (76, 45%). The least invaded realms are the Southern and Arctic Oceans (1, 100%, and 9, 56%, respectively).

We documented known or likely pathways for all 329 marine invasive species, with a mean of 2.0 pathways per species (SD = 1.1). More than 80% of species were introduced unintentionally. The most common pathway for marine species in the database was shipping (ballast and/or fouling; 228 species, 57% of which are harmful). Of the 205 species with more detailed shipping pathway information, 39% are known to have been, or are likely to have been transported only by ship fouling, 31% are transported only by ballast, and 31% are transported by either ship fouling or ballast. The aquaculture industry is the next most common pathway (134 species, 64% of which are harmful; Figure 3).

To demonstrate regional variation, key pathways into the most heavily invaded ecoregions were determined by aggregating the known and likely pathways of species recorded in those ecoregions (Table 1). While shipping pathways are generally dominant, aquaculture is an important conduit for invasions on the west coast of the US, while the Suez Canal is a key pathway into the eastern Mediterranean.

Among the 359 data sources compiled to date, 47% are from peer-reviewed literature, 33% are from other published reports, 11% are from existing databases and atlases, and 3% are from unpublished reports (a list of database sources is provided in WebPanel 3). Most species were initially entered into our database using other databases and atlases, which, in almost every case, were compiled from the peer-reviewed literature and/or by regional experts. Additional information was obtained from the literature and reports. The accuracy of the patterns we found is dependent, in part, on the



**Figure 3.** Number of marine alien species known or likely to be introduced by the most common human-assisted pathways, with the proportion scored as high ecological impact (3 or 4) shown in a darker shade. Percent of total number of species in assessment (n = 329) is indicated.



*Figure 2.* Number of species in the dominant groups that fall into the highest two categories (3 or 4) of each threat score.

reliability of the data sources we used. Of course, even with reliable sources it is probable that, over time, corrections will be required. Necessary amendments may include incorporation of new studies or correction of errors from original field assessments, but environmental, evolutionary, or stochastic changes may also necessitate revision of the information in our database. For example, a heretofore benign, non-native species could invade a new niche and become a greater threat, or a native species could adapt to consume or out-compete an invader.

# Identifying research and information needs

We documented more information on wellstudied regions (eg US, Europe, Australia) than on other areas. Regions with a small number of invasions reported may contain few, if any, invasive species, but it is likely that at least some of these gaps are the result of a lack of research, monitoring, and/or public reporting of information.

A large number of ecological and economic impacts of alien species have been documented by others in regions identified as highly invaded on our map (eg San Francisco Bay, Cohen and Carlton 1998; Hawaiian Islands, Smith *et al.* 2003; North Sea, Eno *et al.* 1997; Mediterranean Sea, Galil 2006). It is probable that alien species are also affecting regions that appear, on our map, to be less invaded. To see if shipping data could act as a proxy indicator for identifying areas where invasions may have gone undetected, we compared our data on harmful species introduced via shipping in well-

	Number of harmful	
Ecoregion	species (% of total)	Pathways (% of harmful species) $^{*}$
Northern California	56 (66%)	Shipping (71%); aquaculture (71%)
North Sea	47 (64%)	Shipping (83%); aquaculture (57%)
Western Mediterranean	43 (66%)	Shipping (77%); aquaculture (55%)
Oregon, Washington, Vancouver	41 (65%)	Aquaculture (73%); shipping (68%
Levantine Sea	36 (50%)	Canal (61%); shipping (58%)
Puget Trough/Georgia Basin	35 (64%)	Aquaculture (74%); shipping (69%
Celtic Seas	33 (66%)	Shipping (76%); aquaculture (67%)
Aegean Sea	31 (53%)	Shipping (55%); canal (52%)
Southern California Bight	31 (72%)	Shipping (81%); aquaculture (71%)
Hawaiian Islands	31 (42%)	Shipping (68%); aquaculture (39%)

<sup>\*</sup>Species may be known or likely to be transported via more than one pathway

studied regions (US excluding Alaska, temperate Europe, Australia, New Zealand) with separate shipping indicators (number of ports and shipping cargo volume) in a recent year (2003) by ecoregion (Halpern unpublished). We found statistically significant correlations between these shipping indicators and the number of harmful species reported (using a generalized linear model for number of ports – number of harmful species: t = 6.94, SE = 0.0019, df = 32; for shipping cargo volume – number of harmful species: t = 5.81, SE = 5.2 x 10<sup>-10</sup>, df = 32). Thus, the magnitude of shipping activities could potentially predict the risk for harmful invasions. These shipping measures do not account for the origin of incoming ships, susceptibility to invasion, changes in shipping patterns and volume (Drake and Lodge 2004), or variation in quarantine standards and shipping operations. Should such refinements to shipping data become available, it is likely that even stronger relationships would be observed.

Given the correlation between shipping indicators and harmful invasions, regions with high port traffic but few reported invasions probably contain more marine invaders than we have documented. Notably, we would expect this to include east and southeast Asia. Data may not have been collected in these regions, or results may not be easily available to researchers in other parts of the world. It is our hope that the establishment of global data repositories or networks on invasive species (eg Global Invasive Species Information Network; www.gisinetwork.org) will encourage more detailed research and the release of additional information.

Together with more thorough geographic coverage, better reporting of ecological impacts would help to close the most substantial and immediate information gaps. Our database includes only those species with documented ecological impacts. Several hundred invasive species known to exist in places like the Mediterranean Sea (Mooney and Cleland 2001) and San Francisco Bay (Cohen and Carlton 1998) were excluded because impact information was not reported. These particular systems are already highly invaded, but a more complete assessment of impacts would improve understanding of likely effects in other regions where those species are found. We are making our database freely available online, to encourage further submissions; this will improve reporting and refine our knowledge of global invasion patterns.

#### Conservation and policy applications

Using data collected in this assessment, we can identify global patterns and draw pre-

liminary conclusions that may be applied to conservation and policy efforts. Here, we discuss several ways in which our database could be used to inform policy decisions.

#### Informing regional strategies

The database allows us to examine patterns of the known presence of marine invasive species and the distribution of their threat. The number of harmful species in each ecoregion provides an indication of the level of degradation from past invasions as well as, perhaps, the pressure from future invasions. This information could help policy makers to understand the trade-offs as they choose how to implement decisions and invest resources.

#### Prioritizing pathways for prevention efforts

Identification of the most common pathways for introduction of harmful marine species (Figure 3) can inform and support international policies aimed at preventing such introductions. Our results, based on the largest dataset compiled to date, clearly confirm earlier studies (eg Ruiz et al. 1997; Minton et al. 2005) and point to shipping as a major global pathway. This provides a powerful, objective argument in support of ongoing efforts to improve ballast water management practices (eg International Maritime Organization's Ballast Water Convention and Management Programme; http://globallast.imo.org). Even so, the major impacts of ship-fouling species suggest that ballast water agreements alone may be insufficient. We also confirm earlier studies describing the role of aquaculture operations in marine invasions (eg Navlor et al. 2001). Stricter, industry-wide control measures could be developed and legal and enforcement structures strengthened to restrict intentional and accidental introductions of harmful species.

Our assessment data can also be used by policy makers in specific regions (Table 1). For example, in the two ecoregions that extend along the coastlines of Oregon and Washington State, including the Puget Sound, aquaculture is the most common pathway for introduction (71% of non-native marine species documented in these ecoregions were introduced by aquaculture). Most of these introductions probably occurred accidentally, through ovster farming (with introduced species hitchhiking on shells or equipment). Of the 33 species known to be associated with ovster farming, 55% are harmful, and most are difficult if not impossible to remove or control (26 of 28 species scored for management difficulty received a score of 3 or 4). In this region, policy makers and conservation practitioners should be working with the aquaculture industry to prevent any future invasions, by improving practices and perhaps limiting new operations.

Our data could inform biosecurity measures by helping to identify *indicated in red, its na* species that have not yet invaded an ecoregion or realm but have had considerable impact in similar habitats elsewhere. Our use of biogeographic units will be of value in identifying "similar" vulnerable ecoregions, and more refined data about ship movements and habitat suitability would further support such work (see Hayes *et al.* 2002).

#### Informing introduction decisions

Species are often introduced to new habitats for their economic benefits or to meet development needs (eg aquaculture). There may be an initial economic gain, but if a species becomes invasive, it can cause serious, unfore-seen economic and ecological damage. These risks of invasion have often not been factored into decisions on species introductions (Naylor *et al.* 2001).

Our impact scores offer guidance on the merits of these intentional introductions. For example, oysters have been deliberately introduced into coastal waters worldwide, to be cultured for food. One species in particular, Crassostrea gigas, has been introduced in at least 45 ecoregions (Figure 4). Its high ecological impact score (3) should cause decision makers and regulators to reconsider plans for introduction of this oyster into new areas. While its harvest brings economic gains, the ecological impact of introductions of this species are potentially dramatic. Oysters play a role in many estuarine ecosystem processes; altering their abundance or distribution causes complex changes. Furthermore, when oyster populations are supplemented with alien oysters, other alien species can piggyback on their shells (Ruesink et al. 2005). Global information about distribution and impacts could inform risk assessments and decisions about whether, and how, species should be introduced in the future.



**Figure 4.** The Pacific oyster (Crassostrea gigas) has been intentionally released and cultured in coastal waters around the world. It can dominate native species and destroy habitat (ecological impact = 3). The map shows its distribution; its invasive range is indicated in red, its native range in blue.

#### Conclusions

The new invasive species database provides a powerful tool for understanding the patterns and processes of marine invasions. The current data holdings already represent the most comprehensive collection of information on marine invasions worldwide. By quantifying impacts and describing pathways of invasion, our data framework improves our ability to assess threats and impacts and allows valid and consistent assessments between locations, habitats, or taxonomic groups. Work is continuing to expand this assessment of marine invasive species and similar analyses are underway for terrestrial and freshwater species.

Initial findings confirm earlier studies and point to shipping and aquaculture as the most critical pathways for marine invasions globally. At the same time, regional differences in dominant pathways are highlighted.

The information we have compiled can begin to inform the large-scale strategies necessary to prevent future introductions. This global perspective allows researchers and regulators to better consider where and how invasive species are likely to be introduced and invade in the future. This can help to inform risk assessments and decisions about potential future introductions, as well as the development of species- and pathway-specific regulations and geographically targeted policies.

We have also identified some disparities in information resources on marine invasive species. In particular, there is clearly under-reporting of both microorganisms and low-impact invasive species, and there appears to be a geographic gap in our knowledge regarding large parts of east Asia, where invasions are highly likely, but little published information exists. We hope that these observations may catalyze and encourage efforts to make decentralized data available and direct future research efforts.

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# JL Molnar et al. - Supplemental information \_

#### WebPanel 1. Data collection methods

We have developed a data framework in which we document information about individual invasive species, including their non-native range extent, threat to native biodiversity, and introduction pathways. Building on existing datasets, we have integrated information from a wide variety of sources and developed a geographically referenced Microsoft Access database of marine invasive species.

Our aim was to enable efficient and consistent data collection through effective design of the database and criteria (described below). To aid in this, we used database fields common to other data collection efforts wherever possible (eg IUCN SSC's Global Invasive Species Database [GISD], www.issg.org/database). This allowed us to collect data from those sources more efficiently, and will make it easier for others to incorporate our data into their work.

We present data only on marine species in this publication, but we are collecting data on freshwater and terrestrial species in parallel efforts, using consistent methods.

Information about data collected in our database and how we made decisions on documenting information is provided below. The database is available at http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment.

#### **General species information**

We collected data on species that are established outside of their native range and have the potential to impact native species and biodiversity. Species that occur in and impact human-dominated habitats (eg aquaculture) have been included, but only their impact on natural habitats and native biodiversity has been recorded.

We documented basic information about each species, including:

- Scientific name
- Common name
- Whether the species lives in marine, freshwater, and/or terrestrial habitats
- Higher taxonomic group (list based on "organism type" in GISD):
  - o Algae
  - o Ascidian
  - o Bacterium
  - o Bryozoan
  - o Ectoprocta
  - o Fungus
  - o Invertebrate annelid
  - $o \ \ Invertebrate-arthropod-crustacean$
  - o Invertebrate arthropod insect

- o Invertebrate arthropod other
- o Invertebrate cnidarian
- o Invertebrate ctenophore
- o Invertebrate echinoderm
- o Invertebrate mollusk
- o Invertebrate mollusk (snail)
- o Invertebrate platyhelminth
- o Invertebrate porifera (sponges)
- o Nematode
- o Plant
- o Protozoa
- o Tunicate
- o Vertebrate amphibian
- o Vertebrate bird
- o Vertebrate fish
- o Vertebrate mammal
- o Vertebrate reptile
- o Virus

#### References

In an index of references, we noted bibliographic citation information and the type of documentation for each source.

**Type of documentation** – measure of reliability of data used to score, based on Cal-IPC (2003)

- Peer review (PR) published, peer-reviewed scientific evidence or floras/faunas
- *Report (RE)* non-peer-reviewed, published documents and reports
- Compilations (COMP PR/RE) source that is a compilation of data from PR and RE sources (eg existing databases of invasive species)
- Expert opinion (EO) confirmed, unpublished observations by a qualified professional
- Anecdotal (AN) unconfirmed, anecdotal information

#### Geography and habitat

In addition to non-native occurrences by ecoregion (described below), we collected descriptive information about distribution and habitats for each species, where data allowed. References for these data were documented.

- Origin description of the native range of a species
- First introduction description of the first reported introduction for which we found evidence
- Non-native distribution by country and other geographic units – Our focus was on documenting non-native ranges by ecoregion, but many data sources reported distributions using different units. We have captured this information in text fields.
- Habitat description text field describing the habitats in which a species is found

#### WebPanel 1. Data collection methods - Continued

- Habitat Species were noted as living in one or more of the marine habitats in the following list. To maintain consistency with existing databases, we based it on the habitat list in the GISD and included some additional marine habitat classes. This is not a formal classification of marine or coastal habitats, and we would also point out that the habitat classes are not mutually exclusive – many are nested or overlapping. Where relevant we documented multiple habitats for species:
  - o Aquaculture facilities
    - o Benthic
  - o Brackish water
  - o Coastland
- o Estuaries/bays
- o Fouling communitieso Mangroves

o Coral reefs

- o Intertidal zones o Marine habitats
- o Shallow lagoons
- o Rocky habitats o Wetlands

#### Non-native occurrence by ecoregion

We have documented the non-native range of each species, defining non-native occurrences as ecoregions in which a species is established outside of its native range (marine ecoregions: www.nature.org/MEOW; Spalding et al. 2007). Reference(s) were included for each ecoregional occurrence.

As a rough indicator of the reliability of these data, we also noted whether an ecoregional occurrence was within the geographic scope of references used. For example, if a database of invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea states that a species is also found in the Philippines, we included that occurrence in the database, but noted that it was outside of the geographic scope of the data source (until we can confirm the occurrence with a source from that region).

#### **Threat scores**

Species were assigned a score for each of the following (where data allowed) to indicate the magnitude of the threat that it poses to native biodiversity: "ecological impact", "geographic extent", "invasive potential", and "management difficulty".

Our four threat scores are based on systems proposed by Salafksy et al. (2003), NatureServe (2004), and California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC 2003). The following chart roughly compares the criteria of each to our scores:

The categories used to assign each score were devised so that they can be applied consistently to different types of species and to those living in marine, freshwater, and terrestrial habitats.

Scores were assigned globally for each species, not for specific occurrences. For consistency, we used the worst documented case to score a species. If data were ambiguous, we were conservative in assigning higher scores.

Below are descriptions of how we scored the threat of species and collected supporting data.

#### Ecological impact

Ecological impact measures the severity of the impact of a species on the viability and integrity of native species and natural biodiversity. The following information was captured in the database:

#### Score

- 4 Disrupts entire ecosystem processes with wider abiotic influences
- 3 Disrupts multiple species, some wider ecosystem function, and/or keystone species or species of high conservation value (eg threatened species)
- 2 Disrupts single species with little or no wider ecosystem impact
- I Little or no disruption
- U Unknown or not enough information to determine score

**Text Description** – succinct description to support score, including, if data allowed, description of the wider abiotic influences, ecosystem and species disruptions, and including geographic variation in impact if applicable

**Sources** – cited documentation for score and descriptive text

Species were scored based on the worst documented case, with conditions in that case noted in the text description field. Occurrences and conditions where there was less of an impact are described in the text description as well.

We were conservative in assigning higher scores when data were ambiguous. For example, if a species is known

	Salafsky et al.	NatureServe	Cal-IPC
Ecological impact	Severity/synergism	Ecological impact	Ecological impact
Geographic extent	Scope	Current distribution and abundance	Ecological amplitude and distribution
Invasive potential	Timing/likelihood	Trend in distribution and abundance	Invasive potential
Management difficulty Reversibility		Management difficulty	na
Type of documentation	na	na	Level of documentation

to have economic impacts (eg fouling ship hulls), but its impacts in natural habitats have not been studied, we would assign it a low ecological impact score, pending more available data. Potential but unverified impacts were noted in the text description.

Some examples of the types of impacts that we assigned to each of the categories:

- 4 Causing large scale changes such as: altering community structure, causing localized to widespread extinctions, altering native level of activity (eg clogging waterways, altering natural topography)
- 3 Disrupting changes impacting more than a small number of species without causing localized extinctions, competition with threatened or keystone species, changing balance in ecosystem
- 2 Causing minor impact to a species or species group with no wider known impacts and without causing extinctions
- I Established, but little or no known impact; may be long-term resident, coexisting with native species

#### Geographic extent

Geographic extent measures the current extent of the species outside of its native range. The following information was captured in the database:

#### Score

- 4 Multi-ecoregion
- 3 Ecoregion
- 2 Local ecosystem/sub-ecoregion
- I Single site
- $U-\mbox{Unknown}$  or not enough information to determine score

**Distribution within non-native range** – locally patchy, locally pervasive, regionally patchy, regionally pervasive (approximate division between local/regional is ecoregion)

**Text description** – succinct description to support score

**Sources** – cited documentation for score and descriptive text

These categories were developed to indicate order of magnitude differences in non-native range, using a system that can be applied across marine, freshwater, and terrestrial habitats. We distinguished between the categories using the following criteria:

4 – Spans three or more ecoregions, cross continental, trans-oceanic

- 3 Established in no more than two adjoining ecoregions
- 2 More than one occurrence within one ecosystem
- I Single locality

As an additional description of the non-native distribution of a species, we noted the following, if data allowed:

- Locally patchy sightings or small communities established in localized area
- Locally pervasive dominant to similar flora/fauna in localized community
- Regionally patchy small, independent populations spanning two or more ecoregions
- Regionally pervasive dominant characteristics within all/most regional occurrences

#### Invasive potential

Invasive potential measures current/recent rate of spread and potential for future spread once introduced in a new habitat. The following information was captured in the database:

#### Score

- 4 Currently/recently spreading rapidly (doubling in <10 years) and/or high potential for future rapid spreading
- 3 Currently/recently spreading less rapidly and/or potential for future, less rapid spreading
- 2 Established/present, but not currently spreading and high potential for future spreading
- I Established/present, but not currently spreading and/or low potential for future spreading
- $U-\ensuremath{\mathsf{Unknown}}$  or not enough information to determine score

**Text description** – succinct description to support score and other information (eg description of dispersal methods, past invasions, and geographic variation)

**Sources** – cited documentation for score and descriptive text

We used both quantitative and qualitative descriptions of the spread of invasive species in a new habitat to assign a score. We distinguished between the categories using the following criteria:

- 4 Species has spread/invaded rapidly (doubling in < 10 years) after past introductions, indicating that it is likely to spread quickly after new invasions
- 3 Species has spread/invaded after past introductions and/or is likely to after new invasions, but not quickly enough to be scored a "4"

#### WebPanel 1. Data collection methods – *Continued*

- 2 Species has not yet spread/invaded into the habitat in which it has been introduced, but it has characteristics/traits that indicate it is likely to spread/invade
- I Species has not and is not likely to in the future spread/invade once introduced

#### Management difficulty

Management difficulty measures effort required to reverse the threat and/or remove the species. The following information was captured in the database:

#### Score

- 4 Irreversible and/or can not be contained or controlled
- 3 Reversible with difficulty and/or can be controlled with significant ongoing management
- 2 Reversible with some difficulty and/or can be controlled with periodic management
- I Easily reversible, with no ongoing management necessary (eradication)
- U Unknown or not enough information to determine score

**Text description** – succinct description to support score

**Sources** – cited documentation for score and descriptive text

We used information about past or ongoing eradication and control efforts. We distinguished between the categories using the following criteria:

- 4 No known successful form of complete removal, eradication, or control
- 3 Removal and/or control require significant resources and effort; complete removal may require routine scheduled maintenance on regular basis
- 2 Removal and/or control do not require significant resources and effort, but seasonal controls and monitoring may be required
- I Known occurrences have been easily detected and eradicated; no recurrence or spread after eradication

#### **Pathways**

We documented all known and likely introduction pathways for each species in our database, adapting a list of "pathways" developed by the US National Invasive Species Council's Invasive Species Pathways Team (Campbell and Kriesch 2003; refined by Lodge *et al.* 2006). Their task was "developing a system for evaluating the significance of invasive species pathways" with "pathways" defined broadly as "any means that allows entry or spread of an invasive species" (Campbell and Kriesch 2003). Although this system includes routes of introduction that are elsewhere classed as vectors (Carlton and Ruiz 2005) and categories are not always mutually exclusive, it allows the practical categorization of commonly reported information on pathways and vectors. We modified this system slightly, to better fit a global assessment and made category adjustments to allow effective gathering of data by species.

A summary of the marine pathways used is in Panel 2, and our full pathways list is provided in WebPanel 2.

The following information was captured in the database for each species:

**Pathway** – This field captured how a species is brought to new habitats (not local dispersal after it has been introduced). We documented all known and likely pathways for each species. The field was populated from the list of pathways described above (Panel 2, WebPanel 2)

For each pathway of a species, the following was also documented (as data allowed):

**Introduction** – describes the release itself (after a species travels on a pathway to a new habitat)

- Intentional deliberate release, authorized or not
- Accidental unintentional release, hitchhiker
- Not human assisted natural migration

**Documented** – this field allowed us to distinguish between pathways that are known for a species, and those that are likely (eg due to habitat, species vulnerabilities)

- Known documented case(s)
- Probable likely pathway for a species and/or for specific introduction
- Possible potential pathway (eg based on species physiology)

**Cause** – describes the driver of an invasion on a pathway (eg specific industries, food resource, ornamentation)

This type of field has been used in other databases to specifically describe the cause of one introduction, but it is difficult to repeat this level of detail in a global database. We are capturing typical/known modes of introduction, instead of the details of one introduction. For example, for the introduction of a diatom via the "ballast water" pathway, we usually can not get enough detailed information to narrow the cause to the type of ship/industry.

#### WebPanel 1. Data collection methods - Continued

**Description** – text field to capture details about introductions (eg specific cases)

**References** – documented for each species' pathway

#### References

- Cal-IPC (California Invasive Plant Council). 2003. Criteria for categorizing invasive non-native plants that threaten wildlands. www.cal-ipc.org/ip/inventory/pdf/Criteria.pdf. Viewed 23 Mar 2005.
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WebPanel 2 Alien species pathway framework							
Adapted from NISC Invasive Species Pathway Team's outline (Campbell and							
Kriesch 2003)							
I. Transportation-related pathways							
A. Modes of transportation							
I. Air transportation							
a) Wheel wells							
b) Cabin							
c) Cargo holds							
2. Freshwater/marine transportation							
a) Ballast and/or fouling							
(1) Ballast water and sediments							
(2) Hull/surface fouling							
b) Stowaways in holds							
c) Superstructures/structures above the waterline							
d) Dredge spoil material							
e) Canals that connect waterways							
3. Land/terrestrial transportation							
a) Cars, trucks, buses, AI Vs, etc							
b) Construction equipment and firefighting equipment							
c) Trains, subways, metros, monoralis							
d) Hikers, norses, pets							
b. Items used in snipping process							
2. Packing materials							
2. Facking materials							
b) Seaweed							
c) Other plant materials							
d) Sand/earth							
C Tourism/travel/relocation							
L. Travelers themselves							
2. On baggage and gear							
3. Transported pets/plants and animals transported for enter-							
tainment							
4. Travel consumables							
D. Mail/internet/overnight shipping companies							
II. Commerce in living organisms pathways							
A. Live seafood trade							
B. Livestock							
C. Aquaculture and mariculture activities							
1. Enclosed facilities							
2. Stocking in open water							
D. Pet, aquarium, and water garden trade							
E. Bait industry							
F. Biocontrol							
G. Nurseries/garden/landscaping							
1. Whole plants							
2. Plant parts							
H. Agricultural and forestry species trade							
1. vvnoie plants 2. Plant south							
2. Plant parts							
I. Flants and plant parts as food							
J. Other alimat trade							
K. Other plant trade							
2. Plant parts							
2. Hall parts							
A Ecosystem disturbance							

- A. Ecosystem disturbance

   Short-term disturbances that facilitate introduction
   Long-term disturbances that facilitate introduction
   B. Climate change

  IV. Natural spread

#### WebPanel 3. Marine data sources in database

In general, "databases and atlases" were the initial sources of species that we included in our database. We then used "articles and reports" and "other web sources" to supplement species information on occurrences, pathways, and threat scoring. We have not included all the information available in each of the local datasets listed.

#### **Databases and atlases**

Database/atlas name	Access information
IUCN-ISSG's Global Invasive Species Database	www.issg.org/database
FishBase	www.fishbase.org
FIGIS: FAO's Fisheries Global Information System	www.fao.org/fi/figis/
AquaInvader: Database of Aquatic Invasive Species of Europe	www.zin.ru/rbic/projects/aquainvader/searchmain.asp
NAS: USGS's Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database	http://nas.er.usgs.gov
NIMPIS: Australia's National Introduced Marine Pest Information System	www.marine.csiro.au/crimp/nimpis/
CIESM Atlas of Exotic Species in the Mediterranean	www.ciesm.org/atlas/
NEMESIS: Smithsonian Environmental Research Center's National Exotic	
Marine and Estuarine Species Information System	http://invasions.si.edu/nemesis/
NatureServe Explorer	www.natureserve.org/explorer/
Australia Weed Database	www.weeds.org.au
Invasive Plants of Canada Project	www.plantsincanada.com/
CERC's Introduced Species Summary Project	www.columbia.edu/itc/cerc/danoff-burg/invasion_
	bio/inv_spp_summ/invbio_plan_report_home.html
Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's Non-Native Aquatic	
Species Summaries	http://nis.gsmfc.org/nis_alphabetic_list.php
Baltic Sea Alien Species Database	www.ku.lt/nemo/alien_species_directory.html
	· · ·
Invasive species in the Pacific northwest	Boersma PD, Reichard SE, and Van Buren AN. 2006. Seattle, WA: University
	of Washington Press
Intertidal Marine Invertebrates in the Puget Sound	www.nwmarinelife.com/
Exotic Aquatics on the Move: A Joint Project of National Sea Grant	
Network and Geographic Education Alliances	www.iisgcp.org/EXOTICSP/
Caspian Sea Biodiversity Database	www.caspianenvironment.org/biodb/eng/main.htm
AlgaeBase	www.algaebase.org/
Belgian Forum on Invasive Species' Harmonia Database	http://ias.biodiversity.be
APIRS Online: The Database of Aquatic, Wetland, and Invasive Plants	http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/search80/NetAns2/
Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species List	www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Programs/invasive/anscommon052703.html
NOBANIS: North European and Baltic Network on Invasive Species	www.nobanis.org/Factsheets.asp
NCC's Non-native marine species in British waters: a review and	<b>5</b>
directory	www.incc.gov.uk
MarLIN: The Marine Life Information Network for Britain and Ireland	www.marlin.ac.uk/
Invasive Aliens in Northern Ireland	www.habitas.org.uk/invasive
Government of Western Australia – Dept of Fisheries: Introduced	5
Marine Aguatic Invaders – A Field Guide	www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/IMPMarine/index.php?0506
Alien Species in Swedish Sea Areas / Frammande Arter / Svenska	
Hav – Sweden	www.frammandearter.se/
Alien and Invasive Algae in Hawai`i	www.botany.hawaii.edu/GradStud/smith/websites/m-kupeke.htm
Marine Algae of Hawai`i	www.hawaii.edu/reefalgae/invasive_algae/
Invasive Species of Long Island Sound	www.seagrant.uconn.edu/INVID.HTM
Harmful Plankton Project: The user-friendly guide to harmful phyto-	
plankton in FLJ waters	www.liv.ac.uk/bab/Data%20sheets/p_mini.htm
University of California–Davis Agriculture and Natural Resources	
Database	http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/datastore/datareport.cfm?searcher=&survey
	number=182&reportnumber=42&Submit x=58&Submit v=13
	(Continued
	(continued)

Author	Title	Year	Website	Journal/report information
Ahyong S	Range extension of two invasive crab species in eastern Australia: <i>Carcinus maenas</i> (Linnaeus) and <i>Pyromaia tuberculata</i> (Lockington)	2005		Mar Pollut Bull <b>50</b> : 460–62
Ahyong ST et al.	First Mediterranean record of the Indo-West Pacific mantis shrimp, <i>Clorida albolitura</i> Ahyong and Naiyanetr, 2000 (Stomatopoda, Squillidae)	2006	www.aquaticinvasions.ru/2006/AI_ 2006_I_3_Ahyong_Galil.pdf	Aquatic Invasions 1:191–93
Akyol O et al.	First confirmed record of <i>Lagocephalus sceleratus</i> (Gmelin, 1789) in the Mediterranean Sea	2005		J Fish Biol <b>66</b> : 1183–86
Aligizaki K et <i>al</i> .	The presence of the potentially toxic general <i>Ostreopsis</i> and <i>Coolia</i> (Dinophyceae) in the North Aegean Sea, Greece	2006		Harmful Algae <b>5</b> :717–30
Andreakis N et al.	Asparagopsis taxiformis and Asparagopsis armata (Bonnemaisoniales, Rhodophyta): genetic and morphological identification of Mediterranean populations	2004		Eur J Phycol <b>39</b> : 273–83
Andrews JD	Effects of tropical storm Agnes on epifaunal invertebrates in Virginia estuaries	1973		Chesapeake Sci <b>I 4</b> : 223–34
Armonies W	What an introduced species can tell us about the spatial extension of benthic populations	2001	www.int-res.com/articles/meps/209/ m209p289.pdf	Mar Ecol-Prog Ser <b>209</b> : 289–94
Ashton G et al.	Global distribution of the alien marine amphipod <i>Caprella mutica</i>	2004	http://66.165.102.189/pdf/24Friday/ A/fri_a_e_am/Gail_Ashton.pdf	13th International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species
Ashton G et al.	Rapid assessment of the distribution of marine non-native species in marinas in Scotland	2006	www.aquaticinvasions.ru/2006/AI_ 2006_1_4_Ashton_etal_1.pdf	Aquatic Invasions 1:209–13
Avent SR	Distribution of <i>Eurytemora americana</i> (Crustacea, Copepoda) in the Duwamish River estuary, Washington		www.ocean.washington.edu/ people/oc549/savent/projects/ duwamish.htm	Unpublished report: University of Washington, School of Oceanography
Bachelet G et al.	Invasion of the eastern Bay of Biscay by the nassariid gastropod <i>Cyclope neritea</i> : origin and effects on resident fauna	2004	www.int-res.com/articles/meps2004/ 276/m276p147.pdf	Mar Ecol-Prog Ser <b>276</b> : 147–59
Bailey RJE et al.	Predatory interactions between the invasive amphipod <i>Gammarus tigrinus</i> and the native opossum shrimp <i>Mysis relicta</i>	2006		J North Am Benthol Soc <b>25</b> : 393–405
Bailey-Brock JH	A new record of the polychaete Boccardia proboscidea (Family Spionidae), imported to Hawai`i with oysters	2000	www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/journals/ps/ PS541.html	Pac Sci <b>54</b> : 27–30
Baker P et al.	Nonindigenous marine species in the greater Tampa Bay ecosystem	2004	http://dl.nwrc.gov/net_prod_download/ /public/gom_net_pub_products/DOC/ Tech-02-04-Invasives.pdf	Tampa Bay Estuary Program Technical Publication # 02-04
Bakir K et al.	Contribution to the knowledge of alien amphipods off the Turkish coast: <i>Gammarposis</i> <i>togoensis</i> (Schellenberg, 1925)	2007	www.aquaticinvasions.ru/2007/AI_ 2007_2_1_Bakir_etal.pdf	Aquatic Invasions 2:80–82
Ballesteros E et al.	Mortality of shoots of <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> following meadow invasion by the red alga <i>Lophocladia lallemandii</i>	2007		Bot Mar <b>50</b> : 8–13
Band-Schmidt CJ et al.	Culture studies of <i>Alexandrium affine</i> (Dinophyceae), a non-toxic cyst forming dinoflagellate from Bahia Concepcion, Gulf of California	2003		Bot Mar <b>46</b> : 44–54
				(Continued)

Aution	nue	Tear	vvedsite	journal/report information
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Yamamoto M et al.	Draft priority species – freshwater and marine	2003	http://praise.manoa.hawaii.edu/news/ Priorityspecies_draft2.doc	State of Hawaii Aquatic Nuisance Species Plan
Yokes B et al.	Touchdown – first record of <i>Percnon gibbesi</i> (H Milne Edwards, 1853) (Crustacea: Decapoda: Grapsidae) from the Levantine coast	2006	www.aquaticinvasions.ru/2006/AI_2006 _1_3_Yokes_Galil.pdf	Aquatic Invasions 1:130–32
Zenetos A <i>et al.</i>	Origin and vectors of introduction of exotic molluscs in Greek waters	2005	www.naturalsciences.be/institute/ associations/rbzs_website/bjz/back/pdf/ BJZ%20135(2)/Volume%20135(2), %20pp.%20279-286.pdf	Belgian J Zool <b>135</b> : 279–86
				(Continued)

# Articles and reports

Author	Title	Year	Website	Journal/report information
Zettler ML et al.	Distribution and population dynamics of <i>Marenzelleria viridis</i> (Polychaeta, Spionidae) in a coastal water of the southern Baltic	1995		Arch Fish Mar Res <b>42</b> : 209–24
Zhokhov AE et al.	Dispersal of invading trematodes <i>Nicolla</i> skrjabini (Iwanitzky, 1928) and <i>Plagioporus</i> skrjabini Kowal, 1951 (Trematoda: Opecoelidae) in the Volga	2006		Russ J Ecol <b>37</b> : 363–65

# Other web resources

Title	Website
Alaska Invasive Species Working Group: Marine Subcommittee Audio Conference	www.uaf.edu/ces/aiswg/pdf-documents/MarineMinutes-5-30-06.pdf
Aquatic Nuisance Species: European Green Crab	http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/ans/greencrab.htm
Aukland Museum	www.aucklandmuseum.com/
Australia identifies marine pest threats (2003 media release)	www.marine.csiro.au/media/03releases/14jul03b.htm
Australia's NSW Dept of Primary Industries: Factsheets	www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries
Avian Web: Canada Geese	www.avianweb.com/canadageese.html
Battle of the Black Sea Jellies	www.imagequest3d.com/pages/general/news/blackseajellies/blackseajellies.htm
Centre for Aquatic Plant Management's Information Sheet 7: Canadian Waterweed	www.nerc-wallingford.ac.uk/research/capm/pdf%20files/7%20Canadian%20pondweed.pdf
Chesapeake Bay Program	www.chesapeakebay.net/index.cfm
Crustikon – Crustacean photographic website – Tromsø Museum – University of Tromsø (author: C d'Udekem d'Acoz)	www.imv.uit.no/crustikon/Decapoda/Decapoda2/Species_index/Hemigrapsus_ penicillatus.htm
CSIRO's The Web-Based Rapid Response Toolbox	http://crimp.marine.csiro.au/NIMPIS/controls.htm
Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Dock Watch	http://dockwatch.disl.org/haveyouseen.htm
Defense scientists discover introduced marine species (2001 media release)	www.dsto.defence.gov.au/news/3308/
Ecoplan News Issue 58	www.naturebase.net/component/option,com_docman/task,doc_download/Itemid, 1075/gid,324/
Elkhorn Slough Research: Least Wanted Aquatic Invaders	www.elkhornslough.org/research/aquaticinvaders/aquatic0.htm
Examples of marine invasive species introduced via the shipping industry	www.ortepa.org/pages/ei19pt5.htm
Exotic Species of San Francisco Bay	www.exoticsguide.org/
FAO Fishery and Aquaculture country profile – Bolivia	$www.fao.org/fi/website/FIRetrieveAction.do?dom=countrysector\&xml=FI-CP\_BO.xml=firstressectorse$
FloraBase:Western Australia Flora	http://florabase.calm.wa.gov.au/
Gammarus tigrinus, a new species in the Gulf of Finland (Baltic Sea Portal)	www.itameriportaali.fi/en/tietoa/artikkelit/ihminen/en_GB/gammarus/
Government of Western Australia – Department of Fisheries	www.fish.wa.gov.au/index.php
	(Continued

# Other web resources

Title	Website
Gracilaria salicornia	http://downwindproductions.com/tours/streams/algae.html
Greater Chicago Cichlid Association	www.gcca.net/index.htm
Guide to Marine Invaders in the Gulf of Maine	www.mass.gov/czm/invasives/monitor/id.htm
HELCOM (Helsinki Commission) 1/2005 Newsletter	http://helcom.navigo.fi/stc/files/Publications/Newsletters/newsletter_01_2005.pdf
Hemigrapsus takanoi in the Eastern Scheldt	www.dochterland.org/hemigrapsus.htm
ldentifying Harmful Marine Dinoflagellates: Harmful Marine Dinoflagellate Taxa	www.nmnh.si.edu/botany/projects/dinoflag/taxa.htm#Ostreopsis
Invasion of the Jellies: Unwelcome Visitors to the Black Sea	www.ocean.udel.edu/blacksea/chemistry/jellyfish.html
Jax Shells (Jacksonville, FL)	www.jaxshells.org/
Jellies Zone	http://jellieszone.com/gonionemus.htm
Marine invasive species at our door steps: Seychelles is taking early measures (author: Bijoux J)	www.mcss.sc/MCNEWS/MCNews_v2_2.htm
Maryland DNR: Harmful Algal Blooms in Maryland	www.dnr.state.md.us/Bay/hab/prorocentrum.html
MIT Sea Grant's Introduced and Cryptogenic Species of the North Atlantic	http://massbay.mit.edu/exoticspecies/exoticmaps/index.html
MLPC – Hemimysis anomala, shrimp	http://blog.midwestlakes.org/06-12/hemimysis-anomala-shrimp.html
Museo Di Storia Naturale – Di Venezia: Bursatella leachi	www.msn.ve.it/index.php?pagina=progamb_view&id=4&idprog=18
NOAA NMFS – Southwest Regional Office	http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/Default.htm
Non-indigenous aquatic species of concern for Alaska – Fact Sheets	www.pwsrcac.org/projects/NIS/factsheets.html
Overview of the Conservation of Australian Marine Invertebrates (Report for Environment Australia 2002)	www.amonline.net.au/invertebrates/marine_overview/chapt6aa.html
Poisonous Red Sea Pufferfish Reach Crete	www.cretegazette.com/2007-05/crete_lagocephalus_sceleratus.php
Polysiphonia Ecology: Invasions (author: S Skikne)	www.mbari.org/staff/conn/botany/reds/Sarah/ecology-invasions.htm
San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project	www.spartina.org/maps_findings.htm
Seastar threat grows in southern Australia (1999 media release)	www.csiro.au/files/mediarelease/mr1999/SeastarThreatGrowsInSouthernAustralia.htm
Sierra Club Comments for the US Coral Reef Task Force – 10/24/06	www.coralreef.gov/taskforce/pdf/sierra_club_usvi.pdf
Southern Ocean Amphipoda Checklist	www.naturalsciences.be/amphi/checklist.pdf
Synopsis of Infectious Diseases and Parasites of Commercially Exploited Shellfish	www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/shelldis/pages/morwoy_e.htm
The Indian River Lagoon Species Inventory (Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce)	www.sms.si.edu/irLspec/index.htm
UNEP-GRID Fact Sheet: Hemimysis anomala GO Sars, 1907	www.grid.unep.ch/bsein/redbook/txt/hemimysa.htm
University of Michigan Museum of Zoology's Animal Diversity Web	http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/index.html
University of Tartu: Benthic Invertebrates	www.sea.ee/Sektorid/merebioloogia/MASE/Benthic_invertebrates.htm (Continue

#### Other web resources

Title	Website
USGS's Florida Integrated Science Center – Gainesville	http://cars.er.usgs.gov/Nonindigenous_Species/nonindigenous_species.html
USGS's Marine Nuisance Species	http://woodshole.er.usgs.gov/project-pages/stellwagen/didemnum/
WA State Noxious Weed Control Board's Information about common cordgrass (Spartina anglica)	www.nwcb.wa.gov/weed_info/Written_findings/Spartina_anglica.html
Weed Information Sheet: Hygrophila costata	www.portstephens.local-e.nsw.gov.au/files/46654/File/Hygrophila_info_sheet.pdf
Why do jellyfish sting? (author: B Galil)	www.ocean.org.il/Eng/Focus/Jellyfish.asp