



Garveia franciscana

"Pelo do Oso", hydroid

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
 - "Pelo de Oso" constitutes one of the three components of the metal/biota/solution system that interact in Lake Maracaibo, producing biofouling and microbiological corrosion
 - The latter generates great economic problems, mainly: water-pump failures
 - Its ecological impact includes: competition, habitat change, and predation, water-pump failures, increase in cleaning frequency at inlets, and decreasing efficiency of deoxygenating towers
 - Considered a plague in some regions of the world, demanding raised economic expenses in anti-incrustant treatments.
2. Invasive potential
 - A fouling organism requiring assisted transport to expand alien range
 - Known to extend distributions and abundances after extreme storms (Tropical Storm Agnes)
3. Geographic extent
 - Locally patchy
4. Management difficulty
 - Free Field Ultrasonic Radiation used to control colonial hydroid macrofouling
 - Twenty-four hour exposures to the sound regime caused destruction of the hydranths and regression of tissue in the stolons



Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Prout-Caspian region
2. Introduced: Gulf of Mexico, Alaska, California
 - Habitats
 - Marine, lakes, brackish water, water courses, estuaries/bays
 - A primitive macroscopic animal species that lives in colonies and requires dissolved oxygen in water, as well as the right concentration of chlorides above 1500 ppm for subsistence (Lopez, 1978)

Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast water and sediments
2. Stocking in open water - oyster farming
3. Natural spread - ocean currents

Non-Native Locations

1. 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico
2. 54- Gulf of Alaska
3. 58- Northern California
4. 59- Southern California Bight

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.

2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. http://www.solpugid.com/cabiota/garveia_franciscana_2.jpg