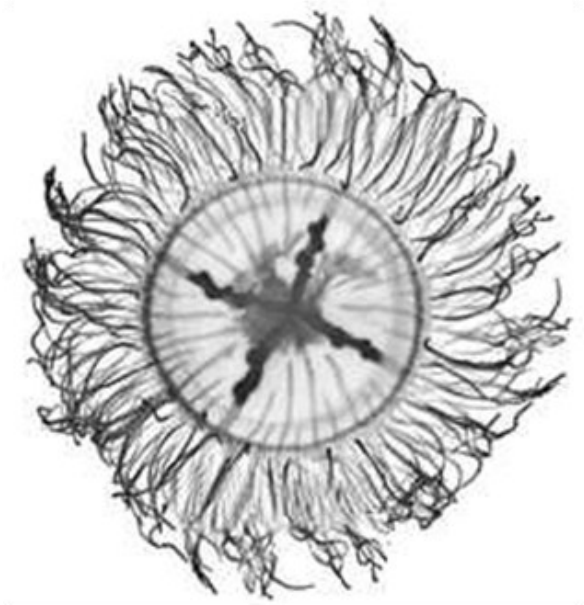
Maeotias inexspectata

Black Sea jellyfish



Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
    - The medusae eat larvae of an introduced mud crab, Rhithropanopeus harrisi (Mills and Sommer 1995)
    - Dense populations of this jelly can alter estuarine food webs
    - The prey of this jelly includes small adult crustaceans and larvae, so local populations of crabs and their relatives could be diminished
2. Invasive Potential
    - Know to be transported and discharged from ballast water
    - Tolerant of brackish and low salinity environments
    - Spread from original ports of entry into estuaries and river systems
3. Geographic Extent
    - Locally patchy
4. Management Difficulty
    - No effective eradication methods

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Black Sea
2. Introduced: Atlantic Coast of United States, California
3. Habitats
    - Marine, brackish water, estuaries/bays

Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast water and sediments

Non-Native Locations

1. 41- Virginian
2. 42- Carolinian
3. 58- N. California

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer et al. 2008. Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity. Frontiers in ecology and the environment. Vol. 6, No. 9, pp. 485-492.
2. http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment
3. http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/factsheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1066
4. http://www.elkhornslough.org/research/aquaticinvaders/aqua_images/BLACKS~1.JPG