



Pennaria disticha

Christmas Tree hydroid

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
 - A common fouling organism; will sting humans and cause minor irritations; it is likely that this species competes with other invertebrates.
2. Invasive potential
 - A fouling organism requiring assisted transport to expand alien range.
3. Geographic extent
 - Locally patchy

Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Western Atlantic
2. First introduction: 1928
3. “Reported from Kaneohe Bay (later synonymized by Cooke, 1977), collected as a single large colony in 2 meters of water at low tide, in 1928” (Molnar 2008).
4. Benthic, fouling communities, coral reefs
5. “Attached to artificial and natural hard substrates where there is some water movement. Very common as fouling in harbors throughout the main islands, and commonly found on reefs usually in more protected areas or in cracks and crevices” (Molnar 2008).



Invasion pathways

1. Hull/Surface Fouling
 - Accidental known
 - Unintentional, as fouling on ships' hull

Non native locations

1. 152- Hawaiian Islands

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://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/51/Pennaria_disticha_Scarpone_003.jpg