



## Tritonia plebeia

### European nudibranch

#### Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
  - Severely impacts soft coral, *Alcyonium siderium*. Also feeds on *Alcyonium digitatum* (Molnar 2008).
2. Invasive potential
  - Established in 1980's. Thought to have been transported in ballast water.
3. Geographic extent
  - Transcontinental
  - Locally pervasive



#### Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Northeastern Atlantic from Norway to Portugal.
2. First introduction: mid- 1980's
3. Present in the Gulf of Maine during the Mid-1980's
4. Marine
5. Usually found hiding at the base of colonies of *Alcyonium digitatum* or amongst bryozoan undergrowth nearby.

#### Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast Water and Sediments
  - Accidental probable
  - Probable ballast water introduction.

#### Non native locations

1. 40- Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy
2. 41- Virginian

#### 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.seaslugforum.net/find/tritpleb>
4. <http://www.habitas.org.uk/marinelife/species.asp?item=W12460>