



Urosalpinx cinerea

American oyster drill, American tingle, American whelk tingle

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
 - “Predates native oysters, each individual consumes about 40 oyster spat (5-20 mm diameter) per year. It devastates commercial oyster beds through predation” (Molnar, 2008).
2. Invasive potential
 - “Has shown slow and limited natural dispersal. Limited adult mobility and lack of a free-swimming larval stage prevents it spreading quickly. Movement has been facilitated through trade in oysters” (Molnar 2008).
3. Geographic extent
 - Locally pervasive
4. Management difficulty
 - “Traps used during summer months. Bounty paid on Essex oyster beds. A dramatic decline in Essex estuaries as a result of imposex caused by tributyltin (an antifoulant) - which also affected native species” (Molnar 2008).



Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: USA (Northwestern Atlantic coast, from Gulf of St. Lawrence to southeastern Florida)
2. First reported on Pacific Coast in 1890 in San Francisco Bay oyster beds.
3. Introduced to San Francisco Bay in shipments of Atlantic oysters.
4. Marine, aquaculture, estuaries/bays, intertidal zones
5. Occurs in intertidal and shallow subtidal waters in bays and estuaries, to a maximum depth of about 15 m. It is common on rocks and oyster reefs, and can live in salinities down to about 13-15 parts per thousand.

Invasion Pathways

1. Stocking in Open Water
 - Accidental known
 - Cause- oyster culture
 - Unintentional introduction with American oysters *Crassostrea virginica*

Non native locations

1. 56- Puget Trough/Georgia Basin
2. 57- OR, WA, Vancouver Coast and Shelf
3. 58- Northern California

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://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/speciesmap.aspx?SpeciesID=1020>