



Zebrasoma veliferum

Sailfin tang

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
 - Known to be associated with symbiotic microorganisms, which were determined to be unusually large bacteria called *Epulopiscium fishelsoni*, that reside in its digestive tract. (Molnar 2008).
 - “The sharp spine on the peduncle has the capability of inflicting deep, painful wounds to a person trying to grasp one of these fish live. Also, in the larval stage, fish of this species have venomous second dorsal, second anal, and pelvic spines. This venom is lost during transformation to the juvenile stage. Furthermore, this species is ciguatoxic and can be poisonous to humans if eaten. Finally, the mycobacterioses carried by *Z. veliferum* are potential zoonoses that can cause skin infections and lesions in humans” (Molnar 2008).
2. Invasive potential
 - Dispersing larval stage responsible for broad geographical distribution.
 - Potential for human assisted dispersal in ballast
3. Geographic extent
 - Locally patchy
4. Management difficulty
 - No known controls in aquatic environment.



Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Pacific Ocean from Indonesia and Christmas Island to the Hawaiian and Tuamotu Islands, north to southern Japan, and south to the southern Great Barrier Reef, New Caledonia, and Rapa.
2. Marine, coral reefs
3. Can be found inhabiting lagoons and seaward reefs from the lower surge zone to a depth of 30m or more.

Invasion pathways

1. Pet, Aquarium release, and Water Garden Trade - including organisms & facilities
2. Intentional known
3. Cause- aquarium release

Non native locations

1. 70- Floridian

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.fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?id=1266>
4. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Zebrasoma_veliferum.JPG