### Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

*Boreotrophon truncatus* is an arctic marine shell-bearing mollusc that occurs in the HELCOM area only in deep waters of the western Baltic Sea from the Kattegat to the entrance of the Baltic Proper. It appears to be rather rare and its habitat has deteriorated e.g. due to bottomtrawling.

*Boreotrophon truncatus*. Photo by Maria Wlodarska-Kowalczuk
http://www.iopan.gda.pl/~maria/wwwmollusca/index.html
Distribution map

The georeferenced records of species compiled from the species database of the Swedish Species Information Centre (Artportalen), Danish national database for marine data (MADS), and the database of the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research (IOW).
**Habitat and ecology**

*B. truncatus* is an arctic species that requires cold water and high salinities. It occurs only in deep waters of the western Baltic Sea where it lives on muddy and coarse sediments on well oxygenated bottoms. However, the species is so rare that its habitat preferences are poorly known. The species feeds on planktonic and minute detrital food items through either suspension or deposit feeding (WoRMS).

The species’ ability to disperse and recolonize is regarded limited as its larvae are not pelagic (direct development).

**Description of major threats**

In the HELCOM area, the species is threatened by bottom trawling, eutrophication, and climate change. It is directly affected by bottom trawling, and indirectly by the turbidity and sedimentation caused by trawling on larger areas. Eutrophication has probably also had a negative effect on the population. As *B. truncatus* requires cold and well-oxygenated water, the species is also threatened by the global warming.

**Assessment justification**

In the HELCOM area, this arctic marine species occurs only in cold, deep, and well-oxygenated waters of the western Baltic Sea. The species is rare and the number of locations is assumed to be 11–19. The recolonization ability of the species is regarded limited as its larvae are not pelagic. It is sensitive to physical disturbance to bottom habitats (e.g. bottom trawling). The geographically restricted distribution in the Baltic Sea area together with continuing decline in the area of occupancy and the habitat quality qualifies for the category Near Threatened according to criteria B2ab(ii,iii).

**Recommendations for actions to conserve the species**

The habitat preferences and ecology of the species are not well enough known for giving very specific recommendations. However, it would probably benefit from restrictions to bottom trawling, as well as from any actions that could slow down global warming and decrease eutrophication.

**Common names**


**References**


Available at http://www.artfakta.se/Artfaktlablad/Boreotrophon_Truncatus_102795.pdf


SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Boreotrophon truncatus


Swedish Species Gateway. Swedish Species Information Centre and Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. Available at www.artportalen.se.