

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Stomphia coccinea

English name: Spotted swimming anemone	Scientific name: <i>Stomphia coccinea</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Anthozoa Order: Actiniaria Family: Actinostolidae	Species authority: Müller, 1776	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: <i>Actinia coccinea</i> O.F. Müller (synonym)	Generation length: –	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Unknown (U)	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Climate change (M01.01)	
IUCN Criteria: B1ab(iii)	HELCOM Red List Category:	VU Vulnerable
Global / European IUCN Red List Category NE/NE	Habitats Directive: –	
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/–, Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/– VU		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

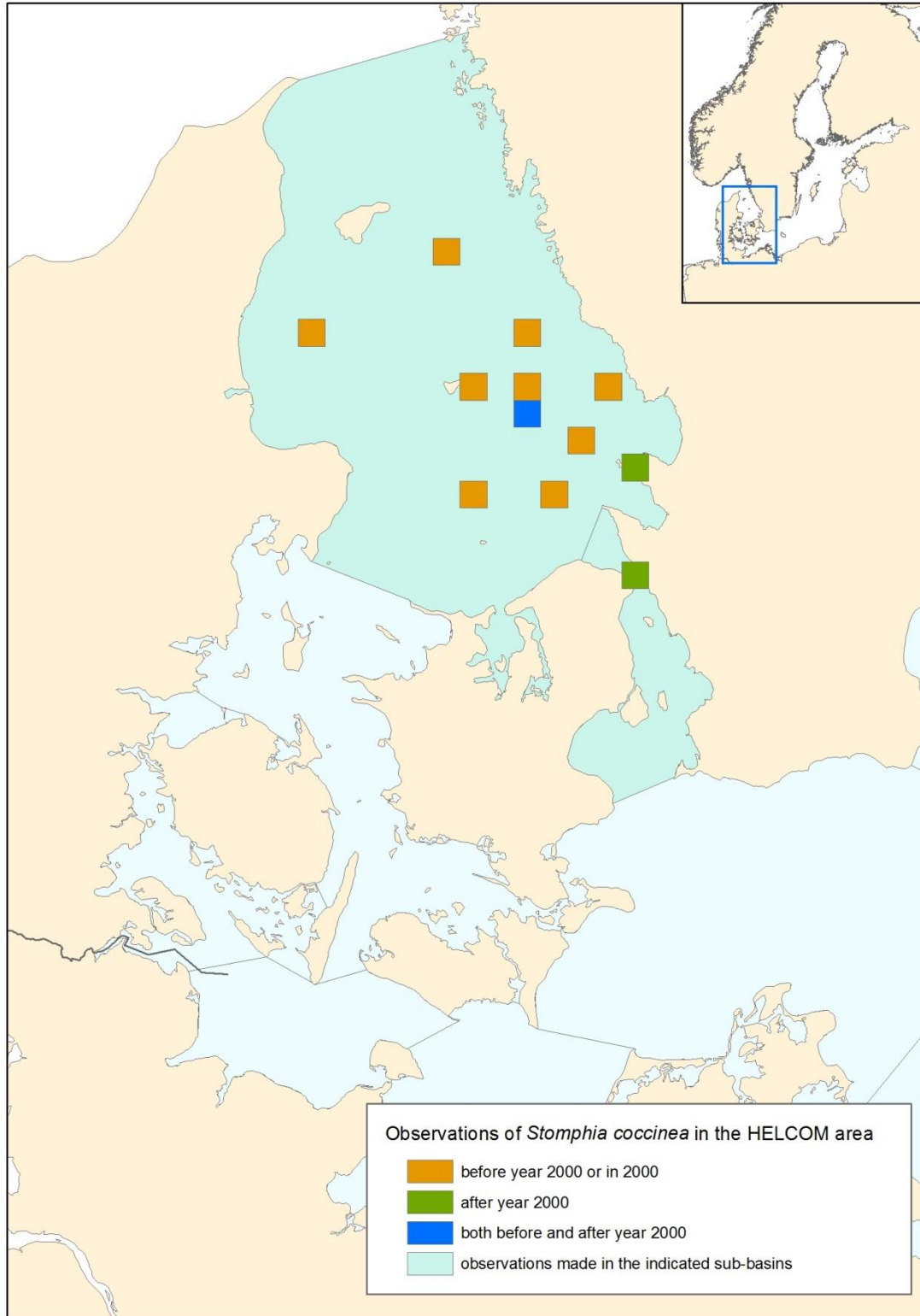
The main distribution of *S. coccinea* within the HELCOM area is in the Kattegat. It has also been found in the Sound. Outside the HELCOM area the species is reported from the Skagerrak and along the Norwegian coast. The species requires cold water, and it is therefore likely that it lives on the border of its southern occurrence within the HELCOM area. There are indications of decline in both the Skagerrak and Kattegat. The climate change with future higher water temperature poses a plausible threat to the species.

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Stomphia coccinea

Distribution map

The records of species compiled from the species database of the Swedish Species Information Centre (Artportalen) and from the Danish national database for marine data (MADS).



SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Stomphia coccinea

Habitat and ecology

Stomphia coccinea is a sea anemone with a smooth column and banded tentacles. It may reach a size of 70–80 mm in diameter. The species always lives on open surfaces of stones and rocks, never buried in sand. It typically occurs on the depths more than 10 meters. It may attach itself to hard parts or products of other organisms (shells) also, with a definite preference for the large mussel *Modiolus*. Generally, anthozoans are primarily carnivorous and prey on sea urchins, gastropods, bivalves, or crustaceans that crawl or swim into their grasp. *S. coccinea* reproduces asexually through longitudinal fission and sexually (it is a protandric hermaphrodite).

Description of major threats

The reasons for the indicated decline are not understood. As *Stomphia coccinea* probably lives on the border of its southern occurrence within the HELCOM area, the climate change with future higher water temperature is expected to have a negative effect on the species.

Assessment justification

Only limited data is available, indicating a decrease in distribution in recent decades. Due to climate change the distribution is expected to decrease further due to a decline in habitat quality. The number of locations is estimated to 3 (3–4). Present distribution (EOO) is estimated to 8 000 (6 000–10 000) km². The estimated values are below the limits for Vulnerable (VU). In combination with few locations and continuing decline the B-criterion is thus fulfilled. The distribution is also so restricted that the limit values for Vulnerable are fulfilled according to the D-criterion.

Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

It is difficult to suggest specific measures for *Stomphia coccinea*: since the species depends on cold water it may go extinct within the HELCOM area when water temperature increases.

Common names

Denmark: –, Estonia: –, Finland: –, Germany: –, Latvia: –, Lithuania: –, Poland: –, Russia: –, Sweden: –

References

- Gärdenfors, U. (ed.) 2010. Rödlistade arter i Sverige -The 2010 Red List of Swedish Species.
- Hansson, H.G. 1998. Sydsandinaviska marina flercelliga evertabrater. Utgåva 2
- Hayward, P. J & Ryland, J. S. (eds). 2002. Handbook of the Marine Fauna of North-West Europe.
- Karlsson, A., Agrenius, S., Berggren, M., Cedhagen, T., Hansson, H. G., Kautsky, H., Lundin, K., Lundälv, T., Schander, C. & Smith, S. 2010. Koralldjur – Anthozoans. Anthozoa. In Gärdenfors, U. (ed.) Rödlistade arter i Sverige 2010 – The 2010 Red List of Swedish Species. ArtDatabanken, SLU, Uppsala. P. 515–518. Red List categories available also at <http://www.artfakta.se/GetSpecies.aspx?SearchType=Advanced>
- Lundin, K. 2011. *Stomphia coccinea*. Artfaktablad. ArtDatabanken, SLU. Available at http://www.artfakta.se/Artfaktablad/Stomphia_Coccinea_217860.pdf.
- MADS, The Danish national database for marine data. NERI: University of Aarhus; National Environmental Research Institute. Downloaded in June 2011.
- Swedish Species Gateway. Swedish Species Information Centre and Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. Available at www.artportalen.se.