

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Upogebia stellata

English name: –	Scientific name: <i>Upogebia stellata</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Malacostraca Order: Decapoda Family: Upogebiidae	Species authority: Montagu, 1808	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: –	Generation length: –	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Fishing (direct impact and sedimentation caused by bottom trawling; F02.02.01)	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Fishing (direct impact and sedimentation caused by bottom trawling; F02.02.01)	
IUCN Criteria: –	HELCOM Red List Category:	DD Data Deficient
Global / European IUCN Red List Category NE/NE	Habitats Directive: –	
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/2 (Endangered, incl. North Sea), Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/DD		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

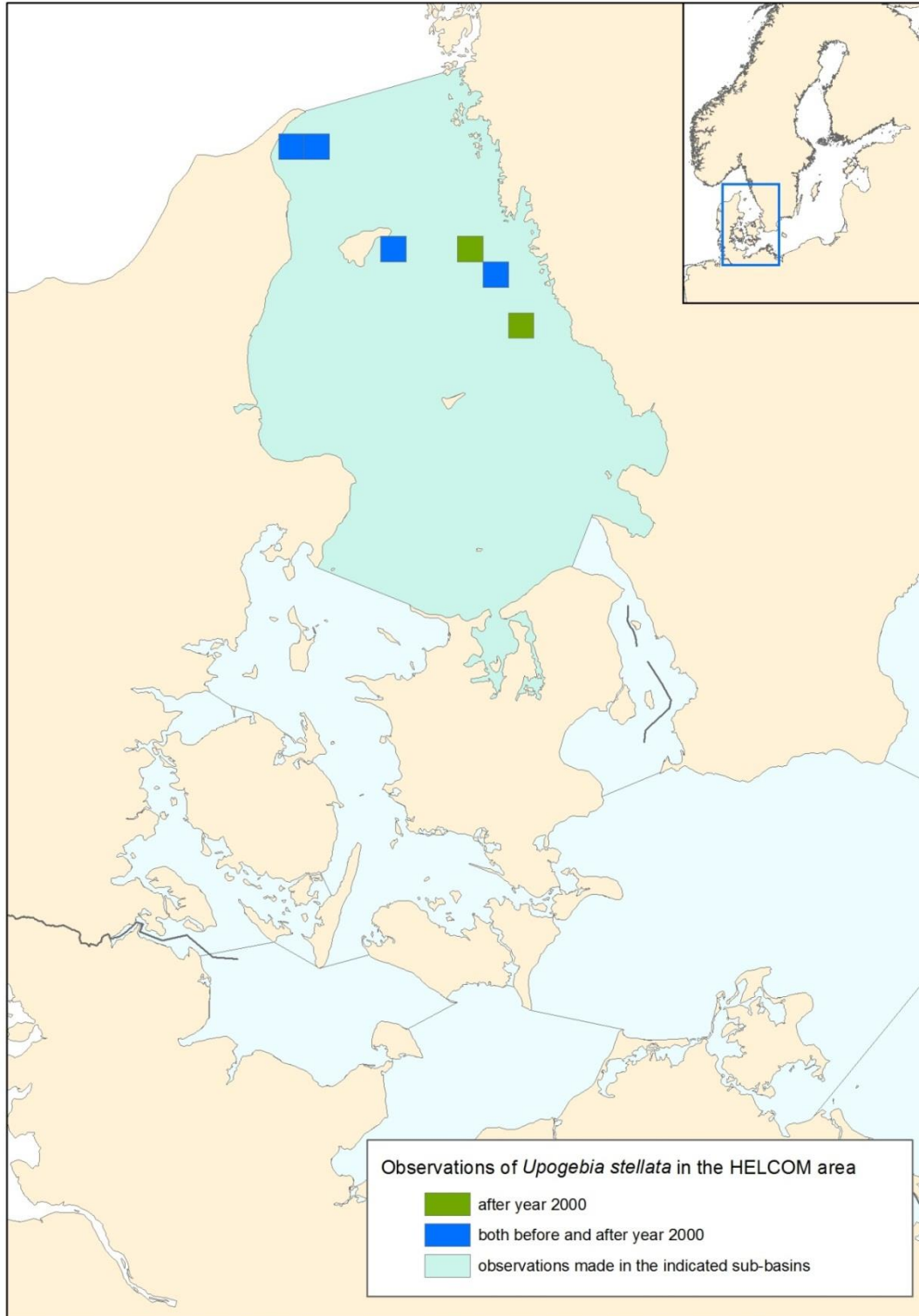
As far as is known *U. stellata* has only been reported from the Kattegat within the HELCOM area. Outside the HELCOM area the species is reported from the Skagerrak and the North Sea. In Sweden the species is only known from a few coastal locations in the Kattegat and Skagerrak. Very little data, both from Sweden and Denmark, is available and it is thus difficult to say anything about the population trend and status of the species. However, the species may very well be sensitive to sedimentation caused by bottom trawling. It may also be directly affected by trawling as bycatch.

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Distribution map

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



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Habitat and ecology

U. stellata is a rather inconspicuous shrimp that occasionally may reach a length of 50 mm. It lives in burrows in sandy soft bottoms, on depths between 20 and 40 meters. *U. stellata* is a filter feeder, i.e. it feeds by filtrating nutrients from the sea water.

Description of major threats

At present there are no indications of decline, but as the species is caught as bycatch in trawling the intense bottom trawling in the area is likely to have a negative effect. Furthermore, sedimentation may affect the habitat negatively.

Assessment justification

Only limited data from Sweden and Denmark is available. No indications of decrease in population size or distribution, but it may be that the species is negatively affected by bottom trawling, both indirectly through sedimentation and directly as bycatch. The information available is insufficient to determine which of the redlist categories is the most likely. The species is categorized as Data Deficient (DD).

Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

In general the negative effects of eutrophication and bottom trawling on marine biotopes need to be reduced. More information on the species distribution and status within the HELCOM area is needed.

Common names

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

References

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