

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Pomatoschistus pictus

English name: Painted goby	Scientific name: <i>Pomatoschistus pictus</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Actinopterygii Order: Perciformes Family: Gobiidae	Species authority: Malm, 1865	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: <i>Gobius pictus</i>	Generation length: 1.5 years	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Not known	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Not known	
IUCN Criteria: –	HELCOM Red List Category:	DD Data Deficient
Global / European IUCN Red List Category: NE/NE	Habitats Directive: –	
Previous HELCOM Red List Category (2007): VU		
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/D (Data deficient, Baltic Sea), Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/LC		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

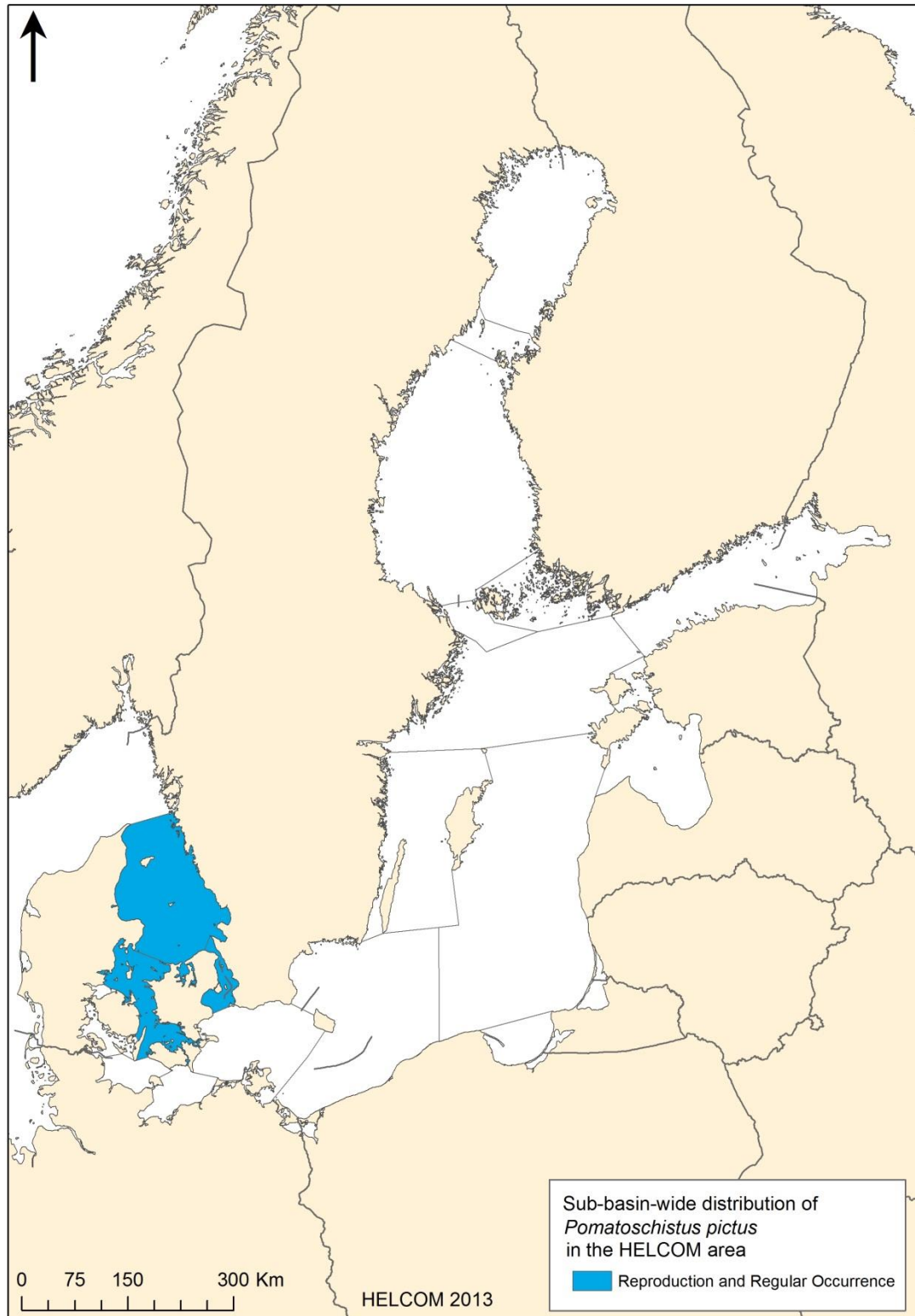
The painted goby occurs in coastal waters along the north-eastern coasts of Europe (Froese & Pauly 2012) and is presently considered common in the Skagerrak and rare in the Kattegat and the Sound but virtually nothing is known about its occurrence within the HELCOM area.



Painted goby. Photo by Anders Salesjö Photography, Undervattenbilder.se.

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET*Pomatoschistus pictus***Distribution map**

The map shows the sub-basins in the HELCOM area where the species is known to occur regularly and to reproduce (HELCOM 2012).



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Habitat and ecology

The painted goby is a marine species that often occurs together with *Pomatoschistus microps* and *P. minutus*. The species occurs from shallow coastal areas down to around 50 meters depth, mainly on gravel and sand bottoms. It feeds on copepods and amphipods. The male guards (paternal care) the eggs before hatching after about two weeks. Maturity is reached in a year and all individuals die after their second spawning season after two years (Miller 1986).

Description of major threats

Not known.

Assessment justification

Virtually nothing is known about the biology or occurrence of this species within the HELCOM area. The number of mature individuals could be anything between less than 50 and more than 2 000 meaning that possible status of this species is anything from Critical endangered to Least Concern and hence it is considered Data Deficient (DD).

Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

There is a need to improve knowledge on distribution, abundance, essential habitat requirements and population structure of the species before any recommendations can be given.

Common names

D: Fleckengrundel; DK: Spættet kutling; FI: Kivikkotokko; GB: Painted goby; LI: Puošnūsis grundalas; LV: Plankumainais jūrasgrundulis; PL: Babka pisana; SE: Bergstubb

References

- Froese, R., Pauly, D. (eds.) (2012). FishBase. World Wide Web electronic publication.
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- HELCOM (2007). HELCOM Red list of threatened and declining species of lampreys and fish of the Baltic Sea. Baltic Sea Environmental Proceedings No. 109. Helsinki Commission, Helsinki. 40 pp.
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- Miller, P.J. (1986). Gobiidae. p. 1019–1085. In: Whitehead, P.J.P., Bauchot, M.-L., Hureau, J.-C., Nielsen, J., Tortonese, E. (eds.) Fishes of the North-eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Vol. 3. UNESCO, Paris.
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