

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Potamogeton friesii

English name: Flatstalked pondweed, Fries' pondweed	Scientific name: <i>Potamogeton friesii</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Liliopsida Order: Alismatales Family: Potamogetonaceae	Species authority: Rupr.	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: <i>Potamogeton mucronatus</i> Schrad. ex Sond	Generation length: –	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Eutrophication (H01.05), Construction (D03, J02.02.02)	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Eutrophication (H01.05), Construction (D03, J02.02.02)	
IUCN Criteria: B2a	HELCOM Red List Category:	NT Near Threatened
Global / European IUCN Red List Category NE / LC	Habitats Directive: –	
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/VU, Estonia –/LC, Finland Threatened status in the Nature Conservation Decree Annex 4 /NT, Germany –/(in freshwaters 2, Endangered), Latvia –/, Lithuania –/, Poland –/, Russia –/, Sweden –/NT		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

In the Finnish waters of the Baltic Sea *Potamogeton friesii* is found in the northern coast of the Gulf of Finland and in the Bothnian Bay. There have also been recent findings of the species on the Åland Islands but due to land up-heaval, the former bays are becoming lakes and currently have salinity of less than 2 psu (Tore Lindholm, ÅA, pers. comm.). Previously the species has been found at the Pojo Bay but there are no new observations of it during the 2000s. In Sweden the species is known to occur in the northernmost part of the Bothnian Bay (Forsberg & Pekkari 2000). In Finland *Potamogeton friesii* is classified as NT (Rassi et al. 2010). In Russia the species is only found in fresh water.

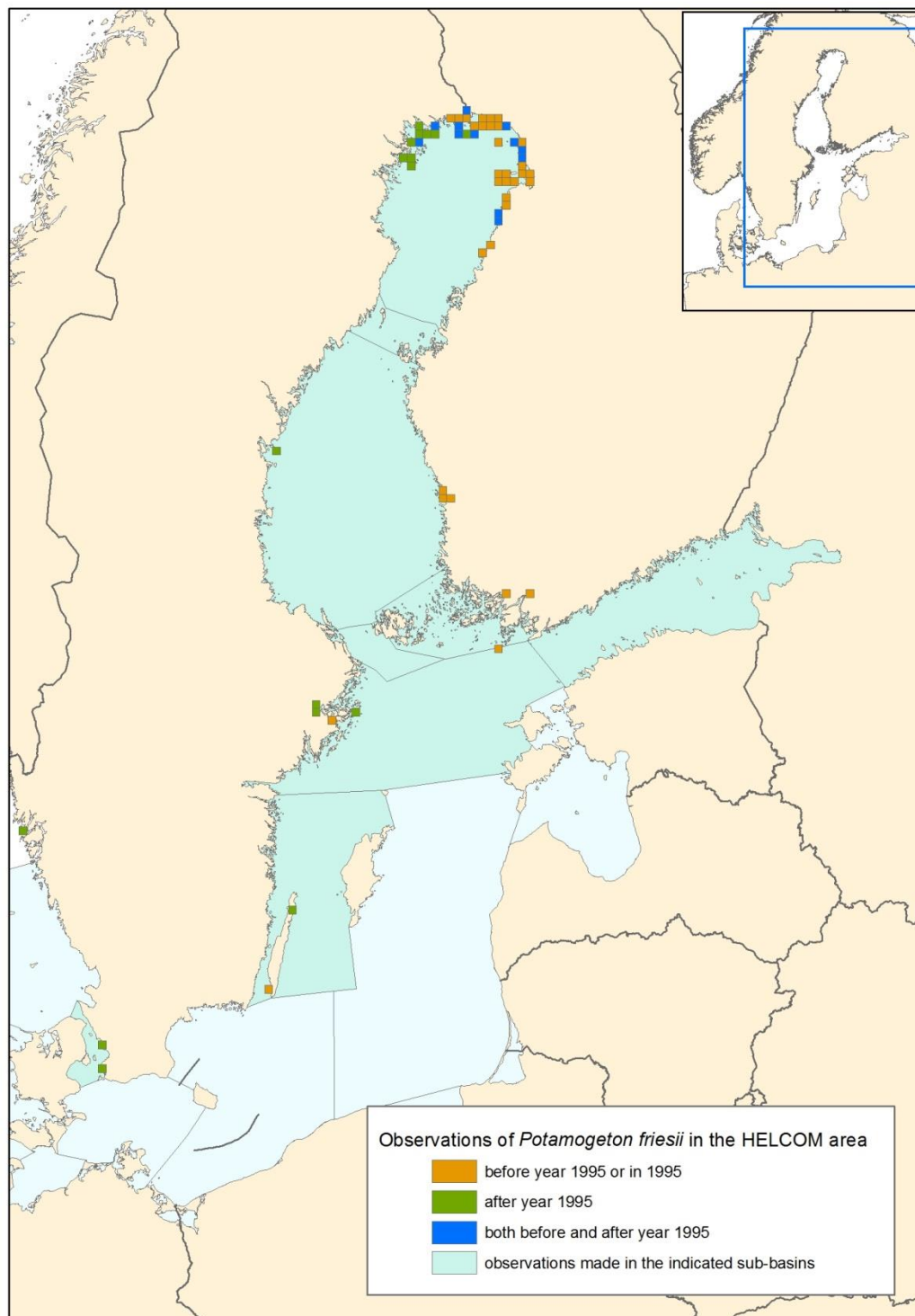


Potamogeton friesii. Photos by Don Cameron, Maine Natural Areas Program.

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*Potamogeton friesii***Distribution map**

The records of species compiled from the Swedish Species Gateway (www.artportalen.se) and from the Finnish database of threatened species (Herтта). The species occurs also in inland waters, e.g. in Russia, southern and central Sweden and northern Finland (occurrences not shown on the map). It is possible that not all of the occurrences included in the map represent brackish water locations, e.g. the sites on the west coast of Sweden may also represent lakes/ rivers that are just close to the coast.



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Habitat and ecology

Potamogeton friesii can be found in brackish water bays, coastal lagoons and shallow nutrient rich neutral lakes (Hämet-Ahti et al. 1998, Haeggström & Haeggström 2008).

Description of major threats

Anthropogenic impacts continue to threaten the species. Among these are eutrophication, construction of shipping lanes and ports, estuarine and coastal dredging and boat traffic which all directly destroy habitat suitable for the species.

Assessment justification

The species is geographically restricted in the Baltic Sea. The number of locations is limited or the overall population is severely fragmented. Even though the species occurs also in inland waters, e.g. in Finland and Sweden, it is not likely that there would be significant gene flow between the coastal and inland subpopulations. The Baltic Sea population might be considered also continuingly declining, at least in the southern locations. In the Baltic Sea, the area of occupancy (AOO) is estimated to be less than 500 km². The species is categorized as Near Threatened (NT).

Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

The species is quite rare and its ecology is not well known. Therefore more research and data is needed for recommendations.

Common names

Denmark: –, Estonia: ogaterav penikeel, Finland: otalehtivita, Germany: –, Latvia: Frīza glīvene, Lithuania: dygliaviršūnė plūdė, Poland: rdestnica szczeciolistna, Russia: Рдест Фриза, Sweden: uddnate

References

- Aronsson, M., Edqvist, M., Andersson, U.-B., Bertilsson, A., Ericsson, S., Mattiasson, G. & Ståhl, P. 2010. Kärlväxter – Vascular Plants. Tracheophyta. In Gärdenfors, U. (ed.) Rödlitade arter i Sverige 2010 – The 2010 Red List of Swedish Species. ArtDatabanken, SLU, Uppsala. P. 201–221. Red List categories available also at <http://www.artfakta.se/GetSpecies.aspx?SearchType=Advanced>
- Danish Red Data Book. Available at http://www2.dmu.dk/1_Om_DMU/2_Tvaer-funk/3_fdc_bio/projekter/redlist/redlist_en.asp
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- Haeggström, C.-A. & Haeggström, E. 2008. Ålands flora. Ålandstryckeriet, Mariehamn, 436 pp. ISBN 978-952-92-4820-9.
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