

## SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

*Roxania utriculus*

English name: –	Scientific name: <i>Roxania utriculus</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Gastropoda Order: Cephalaspidea Family: Cylichnidae	Species authority: Brocchi, 1814	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: –	Generation length: –	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Unknown (U)	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): Climate change (M)	
IUCN Criteria: –	<b>HELCOM Red List Category:</b>	<b>DD Data Deficient</b>
Global / European IUCN Red List Category: NE/NE	Habitats Directive: –	
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/* (Not threatened, incl. North Sea), Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/NT		

**Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region**

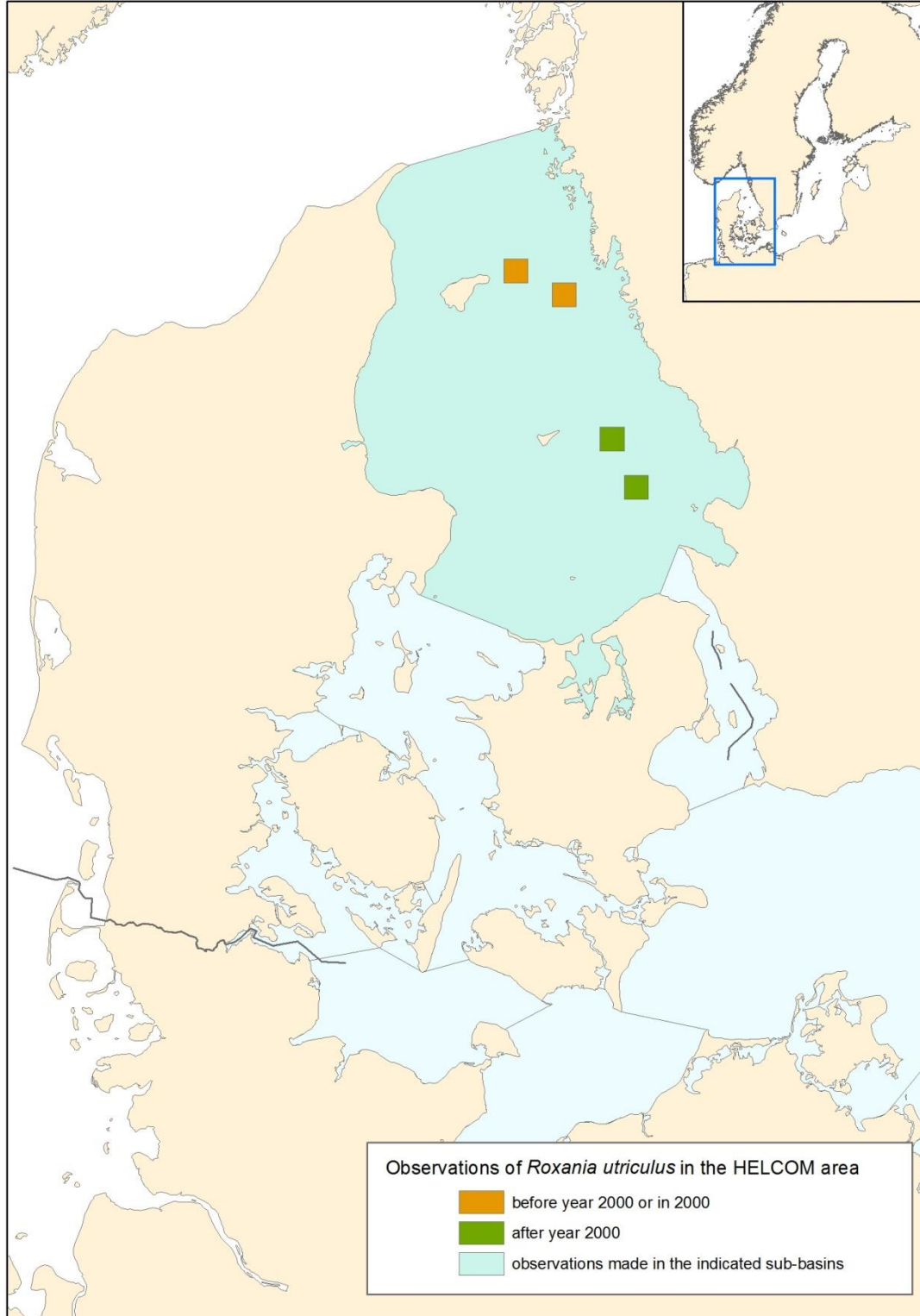
Within the HELCOM area the species is only recorded from the Kattegat. However, data is lacking from the Danish part of the Kattegat. Outside the HELCOM area the species is reported from the Skagerrak and the North Sea. In Swedish waters the species has primarily been reported from the Gullmarsfjord, where it seems to have been relatively common in the 1960s and 1970s. Very few examples have been found in this area in recent years. It is probably a naturally rare species in the Kattegat, although Danish experts suspect that the species may have become even rarer in recent years.

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### 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).



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### Habitat and Ecology

*Roxania utriculus* is a small white opisthobranch with a thick shell that may reach a length of 15 mm. It is found in muddy sand, generally in the sublittoral, and outside the HELCOM area it can be found down to a depth of 1500 m. The ecology of the species is more or less unknown.

### Description of major threats

It is not known whether the species is subject to any specific threats or not. However, as the species reaches its northern limit of distribution in our waters future climate change is likely to have a negative impact.

### Assessment justification

Very limited data is available, but experts suspect that the species has become more rare in the Kattegat in recent years. The information available is insufficient to determine which of the redlist categories that is most likely. The species is categorized as Data Deficient (DD).

### Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

It is difficult to suggest specific measures. In general the negative effects of eutrophication and 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: –, Estonia: –, Finland: –, Germany: –, Latvia: –, Lithuania: –, Poland: –, Russia: –, Sweden: –

### References

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- Hansson, H.G. 1998. Sydsandinaviska marina flercelliga evertebrater. Utgåva 2.
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