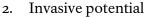


Phyllorhiza punctata

White-spotted Jellyfish

Threat scores

- 1. Ecological impact
 - "Although not yet proven destructive in Hawaii, this species has had an impact in the Gulf of Mexico; a population explosion led to overconsumption of fish eggs, plankton, and larvae, and to the decline in the populations of fish and other shellfish. P. punctata threatens large commercial fisheries of shrimp and crab in the Gulf of Mexico. P. punctata also damages boat intakes and fishing gear, and have caused the closure of productive areas to fishing activities" (Molnar 2008).



• "Origin of the medusae that invaded northern Gulf of Mexico waters in the summer of 2000 was attributed to circulation processes associated with the Loop Current and its spin-off eddies by Johnson et al. (2004)" (Molnar 2008).



- 3. Geographic extent
 - Locally patchy
- Management difficulty
 - "The very small polyp stage can survive for years. So, it is probably years before we can begin developing a strategy to remove these jellyfish from the affected regions" (Molnar 2008).

Geography and Habitat

- 1. Origin: Australia
- 2. First introduction: 1941
- 3. "Unintentional, as ship-fouling scyphistomae or as ephyrae in ballast water. Cutress (1961) indicated that this Indo-Pacific jellyfish was introduced from the Philippine Islands, as ship-fouling scyphistomae, into Pearl Harbor be -tween 1941-1945" (Molnar 2008).
- 1. Estuaries/bays
- 2. Harbors, water surface, murky water

Invasion Pathways

- 1. Ballast Water and Sediments
 - Accidental probable
 - Ephyrae in ballast water
- 2. Hull/Surface Fouling
 - Accidental probable
 - Hip-fouling scyphistomae

Non native locations

- 1. 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico
- 2. 59- Southern California Bight
- 3. 65- Greater Antilles
- 4. 70- Floridian
- 5. 152- Hawaiian Islands

Sources

- Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
- 2. http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment
- 3. http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/o/o8/Phyllorhiza_punctata_(White-spotted_jellyfish).jpg