

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Pomatoschistus norvegicus

English name: Norway goby	Scientific name: <i>Pomatoschistus norvegicus</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Actinopterygii Order: Perciformes Family: Gobiidae	Species authority: Colett, 1902	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: <i>Gobius minutus norvegicus</i>	Generation length: 1–2 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): –		
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/–, Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/LC		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

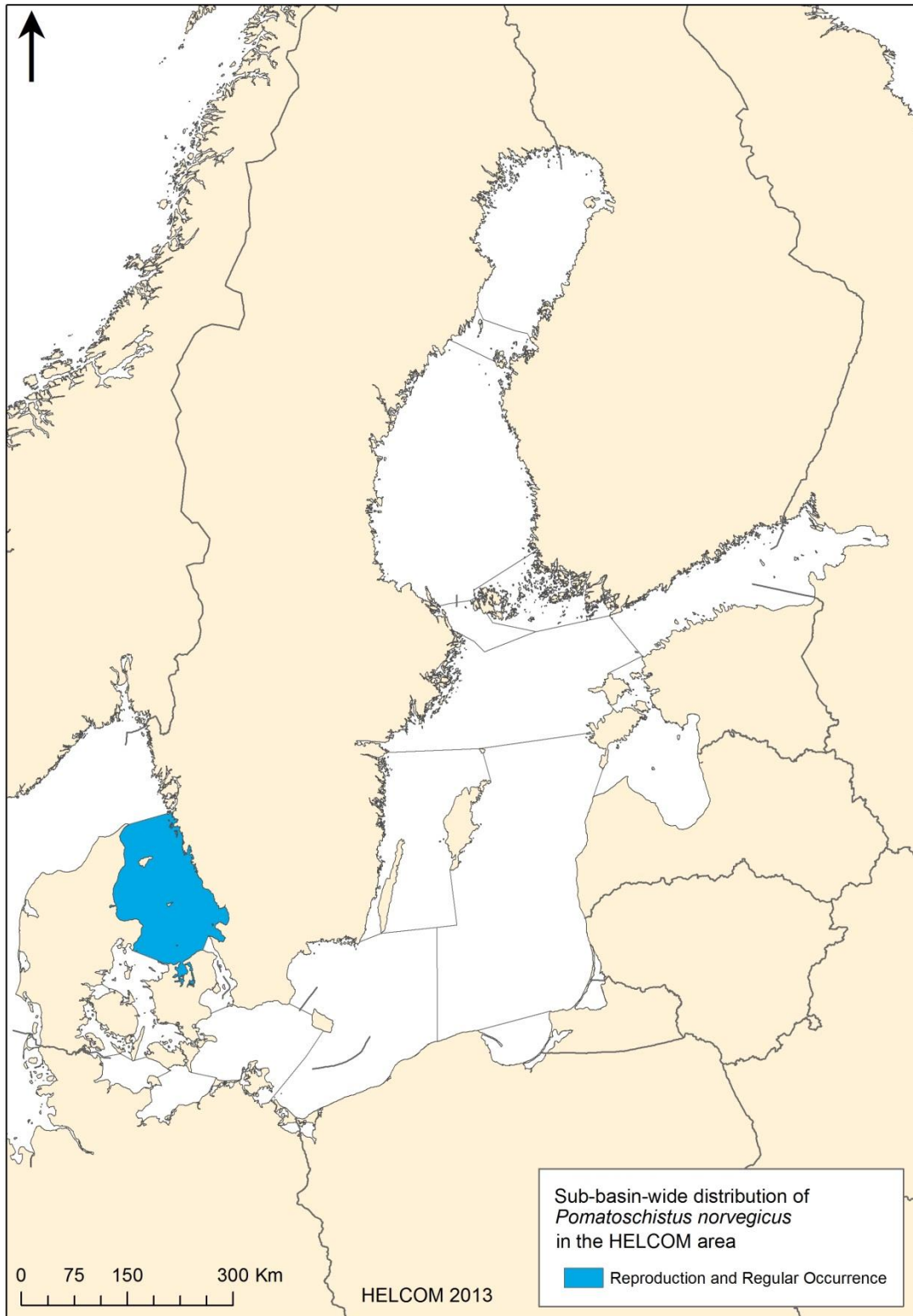
The Norway goby occurs in coastal waters along the north-eastern coasts of Europe (Froese & Pauly 2012). It is very similar to the sand goby (*Pomatoschistus minutus*) but lives offshore on depths from 30 to 300 meters. The species has been overlooked and the first Swedish record originates from 1994. The Norwegian goby is presently considered common in the Skagerrak and rare in the northern Kattegat but virtually nothing is known about its occurrence within the HELCOM area.



Norway goby. Photo by Erling Svensen, UW Photo.

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET*Pomatoschistus norvegicus***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 Norway goby lives in deeper water (down to 325 meters) on mud and shell bottoms and feeds on amphipods and small crustaceans. Spawning occurs between March and July. Maturity is reached after the first winter and 75% of the individuals survive their first spawning season but all die after their second spawning season (Miller 1986).

Description of major threats

Not known.

Assessment justification

Virtually nothing is known about the biology or occurrence of the 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 the knowledge on distribution, abundance, essential habitat requirements and population structure of the species until any recommendations can be given.

Common names

D: Norwegengrundel; DK: Norsk kutling; FI: Norjantokko; GB: Norway goby; LV: Norvēģu jūrasgrundulis; SE: Dystubb

References

- Froese, R., Pauly, D. (eds.) (2012). FishBase. World Wide Web electronic publication.
Available at: www.fishbase.org, version (10/2012).
- HELCOM (2012). Checklist of Baltic Sea Macro-species. Baltic Sea Environment Proceedings No. 130. Helsinki Commission, Helsinki. 203 pp.
- 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.