Euchone limnicola

Fanworm

Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
    - Outcompetes native species; changes tube building consolidates sediments, thereby altering the habitat for other organisms
    - Has become abundant in Port Phillip Bay, Australia and are contributing to long-term and probably irreversible changes to the ecology of Port Phillip Bay
    - Densities exceed 2000/sq. m in Portland Harbor
2. Invasive Potential
    - A fouling organism requiring assisted transport to expand alien range
    - Some concern that tidal flushing may also be responsible for localized spreading of this invasive from introduced sites in alien habitats
3. Geographic Extent
    - Regionally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
    - Considered long term and probably irreversible changes to the ecology of Port Phillip Bay, Australia
    - No known predators

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Pacific Coast - Southern California, Australia
2. Introduced: Northern California
3. Habitats
    - Marine, coastland, estuaries/bays, intertidal zones, benthic
    - Burrows into soft sediments, secreting a mucous layer to enable it to build firm burrow walls
    - Found sub-tidally to 24m in Port Phillip Bay, Australia

Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast water and sediments

Non-Native Locations

1. 58- Northern California

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer et al. 2008. Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity. Frontiers in ecology and the environment. Vol. 6, No. 9, pp. 485-492.
2. http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment
3. http://content3.eol.org/content/2010/01/12/12/76001_large.jpg