Mytella charruana

Charru mussel

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
    - "Created bifouling problem at Jacksonville Electric Authority's Northside Generating Station by clogging an intake pipe filter just feet away from steam condensers. Mussels collected in Mosquito Lagoon were collected off a reef where they could compete with native organisms for food and habitat" (Molnar 2008).
2. Invasive potential
    - Potential for spread through ballast water exchange or hull fouling. May spread on water currents attached to driftwood (Molnar 2008).
3. Geographic extent
    - Native of South America collected in Florida.
    - Locally patchy
4. Management difficulty
    - Early detection and removal is key to prohibiting introduction.

Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Coast of South America
2. First introduction: 1986
3. "1st identified /reported by Jacksonville Electric Authority as found in power plant off St. Johns River near Blount Island, Jacksonville, Florida" (Molnar 2008).
4. Marine, estuaries/bays

Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast Water and Sediments
    - Accidental probable
    - Cause- oil tanker ballast
    - Probable ballast water introduction.
    - Perhaps released in ballast water of oil tankers from Venezuela
2. Hull/Surface Fouling
    - Accidental probable
    - Either ballast water or ships fouling may have played a role in the introduction of this species.

Non native locations

1. 70- Floridian

Sources

1. 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://nas.er.usgs.gov/XIMAGESERVERX/2005/20051116092352.jpg