



Photo Henrik Carl

Background for workshop

# Round goby – need for collaborative science and management in Nordic and Baltic countries

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norden



The background for the workshop is the fact that the invasive round goby *Neogobius melanostomus* within recent years has proliferated in several Nordic and Baltic coastal waters. Round goby is now not only posing a threat to native goby species occupying similar habitats, but also to the traditional coastal fishery through competition for food resources with commercially and recreationally important coastal species, and consumption of their fry and eggs. Furthermore, fishermen report on declined shrimp catches, one of the preferred prey items of adult round goby.

This Nordic/Baltic workshop on round goby will enable knowledge transfer across borders, identification of knowledge gaps and creating wide research projects on issues related to round goby invasion. Equally important, it would provide an opportunity to inform relevant authorities on the challenges of managing the species and to develop instruments to mitigate the impact on native coastal species and fisheries.

Outcome of the workshop will be a report on the current distribution and status of round goby in the Nordic/Baltic countries that could be used for future risk analyses and basis for management decisions, indicating future needs.