

Supplementary information for Firth et al. (2020). Specific niche requirements underpin multidecadal range edge stability, but may introduce barriers for climate change adaptation. *Diversity and Distributions*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/ddi.13224>

## Appendix 1 – Data Sources

This document provides a summary of the sources of all of the records in Table 1 and a bibliography of all of the sources below separated into three sections:

1. Open access databases
2. Academic papers/publications
3. Reports
4. Unpublished theses

All of the 981 records of presence and absence from this study have been entered into a global database that is available at:

Curd, A., Cordier, C., Firth, L. B., Bush, L., Gruet, Y., Le Mao, P., Blaze, J. A., Board, C., Bordeyne, F., Burrows, M. T., Cunningham, P. N., Davies, A.J., Desroy N., Edwards H., Harris D.R., Hawkins, S. J., Kerckhof, F., Lima, F. P., McGrath, D., Meneghesso, C., Mieszkowska, N., Nunn, J. D., Nunes, F. L. D., O' Connor, N. E., O' Riordan, R. M., Power, A. M., Seabra, R., Simkanin, C., & Dubois, S. F. (2020). A broad-scale long-term dataset of *Sabellaria alveolata* distribution and abundance curated through the REEHAB (REEf HABitat) Project. SEANOE.  
<https://doi.org/10.17882/72164>

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### *Data quality assurance and control*

Caution had to be used in dealing with historical records and databases such as OBIS, GBIF and NBN due to potential mis-identification and data entry errors. These data points were carefully quality-controlled and duplicate and dubious records discarded.

Both *S. alveolata* and its congener *Sabellaria spinulosa* Lamarck occur in Irish waters. Whilst *S. alveolata* and *S. spinulosa* tend to be primarily found in the intertidal and subtidal zones respectively, *S. alveolata* is known to occur subtidally in Ireland (de Grave & Whittaker, 1997). *S. spinulosa* is known to co-occur subtidally with *S. alveolata* in the Mediterranean (Bertocci et al. 2017, *Marine Environmental Research*, 130: 325-337) and is occasionally found in the lower intertidal in Ireland (Nunn, pers. obs.).

The first references to *S. alveolata* in Ireland were from Belfast Lough (Templeton, 1836), where it was subsequently described as “common in some parts of Belfast Bay [Lough], between tide marks” (Thompson, 1856). Since then 22 surveys have been conducted by the authors throughout Belfast Lough with no occurrences recorded. Of the 25 records from nearby Strangford Lough, only a single positive observation was recorded in 2010 (Smyth and Roberts, 2010). In 2018, for the first time, intertidal sabellariids were observed at a number of sites in both Belfast and Strangford Loughs. Consultation with a polychaete taxonomist revealed that all 2018 specimens sampled from these locations were *S. spinulosa* and not *S. alveolata*. Therefore, we assume that all pre-existing published references to *S. alveolata* in Belfast Lough

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(Templeton, 1836; Thompson, 1844, 1856) and Strangford Lough (Smyth & Roberts, 2010) were misidentified and were actually *S. spinulosa*. These records were included in the database but treated as absences and explanatory notes inserted for future researchers. Finally, samples of *S. alveolata* individuals were collected for genetic analysis from a subset of 12 locations spanning the entire coastline of Ireland. All of the individuals sampled were confirmed as *S. alveolata* and not *S. spinulosa*.

Table 1. Summary of sources of all records, presents as the total number and % of the overall dataset.

Source type	Number	%
Authors of this paper	537	54.7
Crisp/Southward	235	24.0
Scientific papers	27	2.8
National Parks and Wildlife Services Reports	8	0.8
Other reports	33	3.4
Museum specimens	5	0.5
Unpublished theses	52	5.3
Unpublished paper by Yves Gruet	9	0.9
Personal communications	16	1.6
Databases (OBIS, GBIF, NBN)	53	5.4
Irish National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)	6	0.6
<b>Total number of records</b>	<b>981</b>	

## 1. Open access databases

Global Biodiversity Information Facility, GBIF. (2018). *Sabellaria alveolata*. GBIF occurrence download <https://doi.org/10.15468/dl.irmzuj>. Accessed 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018

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National Biodiversity Data Centre, NBDC. (2018). *Sabellaria alveolata*. Occurrence download from [www.obis.org](http://www.obis.org). Accessed 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018

National Biodiversity Network, NBN. (2018). *Sabellaria alveolata* NBN Atlas occurrence download from <http://nbnatlas.org>. Accessed 11 August 2018.

Ocean Biogeographic Information System, OBIS. (2018). *Sabellaria alveolata*. OBIS occurrence download from <http://www.iobis.org/explore/#/taxon/505188> Accessed 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018

## **2. Academic papers/publications**

Boaden, P. J. S., Gotto, R. V., Hartnoll, R. G., & Williams, G. (1964). North-East Ireland. In Crisp, D. J. (1964) The effects of the severe winter of 1962-63 on marine life in Britain. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 33, 165-210. DOI: 10.2307/2355 <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2355>

Crisp, D. J. (1964) North-west Ireland. In Crisp, D. J. (1964) The effects of the severe winter of 1962-63 on marine life in Britain. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 33, 165-210. DOI: 10.2307/2355 <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2355>

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Cullinane, J. P., Egan, B., & Whelan, P. (1980). Most northern fruiting record of *Pterosiphonia complanata* (Clem.) Falkenb. on the Atlantic coast. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 20, 140-141.

Culloty, S. C., Favier, E., Ní Riada, M., Ramsay, N. F. & O'Riordan, R. M. (2010) Reproduction of the biogenic reef-forming honeycomb worm *Sabellaria alveolata* in Ireland. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*, 90, 503-507. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0025315409990932>

Davenport, J., Moloney, T. V., & Kelly, J. (2011). Common sea anemones *Actinia equina* are predominantly sessile intertidal scavengers. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 430, 147-155.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3354/meps08861>

De Grave, S., & Whitaker, A. (1997). The occurrence of a subtidal *Sabellaria alveolata* (L.) reef off Wicklow Head, Irish Sea. *The Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 25, 416–418.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/25536118>

de Valéra, M., & Ó Céidigh, P. (1964). West of Ireland. In Crisp, D. J. (1964) The effects of the severe winter of 1962-63 on marine life in Britain. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 33, 165-210.

DOI: 10.2307/2355 <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2355>

Duerden, J. E. (1895). The rock-pools of Bundoran. *The Irish Naturalist*, 4, 1-7.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/25584877>

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Green, D. S., & Crowe, T. P. (2013). Physical and biological effects of introduced oysters on biodiversity in an intertidal boulder field. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 482, 119-132. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3354/meps10241>

Humphreys, J. D. (1845). The Mollusca, Crustacea and Echinodermata. In Contributions towards a fauna and flora of the county of Cork. George Purcell and Co., Cork, Ireland.

Keegan, B. F., O'Connor, B. D. S., McGrath, D., Könecker, G., & Ó Foighil, D. (1987). Littoral and benthic investigations on the south coast of Ireland: II. The macrobenthic fauna off Carnsore Point. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy. Section B: Biological, Geological, and Chemical Science*, 87b, 1-14. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20494465>

Killeen, I. J., & Light, J. M. (2000). *Sabellaria*, a polychaete host for the gastropods *Noemiamea dolioliformis* and *Graphis albida*. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*, 80, 571-573. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0025315400002381>

Kochmann, J., O'Beirn, F., Yearsley, J., & Crowe, T. P. (2013). Environmental factors associated with invasion: modelling occurrence data from a coordinated sampling programme for Pacific oysters. *Biological Invasions*, 15, 2265-2279. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-013-0452-9>

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Ryland, J. S., & Nelson-Smith, A. (1975). Littoral and benthic investigations on the west coast of Ireland: IV (section A: faunistic and ecological studies.) Some shores in Counties Clare and Galway. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy. Section B: Biological, Geological, and Chemical Science*, 75, 245-266. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20518978>

Smyth, D., & Roberts, D. (2010). The European oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) and its epibiotic succession. *Hydrobiologia*, 655, 25-36. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-010-0401-x>

Southern, R. (1910). The marine worms (Annelida) of Dublin Bay and the adjoining district. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy. Section B: Biological, Geological, and Chemical Science*, 28, 215-246. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20490944>

Southern, R. (1912). Part 67. Marine Ecology. In Ussher, R. J. (1912) A biological survey of Clare Island in the County of Mayo, Ireland and the adjoining district. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*, 31, 67-110. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20517047>

Templeton, R. (1836). A catalogue of the species of annulose animals, and of rayed ones, found in Ireland, as selected from the papers of the late J. Templeton, Esq., of Cranmore, with localities, descriptions, and illustrations. In Loudon, J. C. (1836). *The Magazine of Natural History and Journal of Zoology, Botany, Mineralogy, Geology and Meteorology*, Volume IX. Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green and Longman, London.

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Thompson, W. (1844). Report on the fauna of Ireland, Div. Invertebrata. From the Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science for 1843. Richard & John Taylor, London, UK

Thompson W. (1856). The Natural History of Ireland, Volume 4, pp 429, Henry G. Bohn, London.

Williams, G. (1953). Fauna of Strangford Lough and neighbouring coasts. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy. Section B: Biological, Geological, and Chemical Science*, 56, 29-133.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/20490909>

### **3. Reports**

Annual Reports and Proceedings of the Belfast Naturalists' Field Club (1907-1913). Record is from the 1909-1910 report.

Aquafact (2012). Sanitary survey report and sampling plan for Killough Harbour.

BEC Consultants (2013). Site report Tralee Bay and Maharee Peninsula SAC (Site code: 00).

CDM Barry & Partners (2012). Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Works Extension Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, Appendices, March 2012, Final.

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Cunningham, P. N., Hawkins, S. J., Jones, H. D. & Burrows, M. T. (1984) The geographical distribution of *Sabellaria alveolata* (L.) in England, Wales and Scotland, with investigations into the community structure of, and the effects of trampling on *Sabellaria alveolata* colonies. N.C.C. Contract No. HF3/11/22)

Edwards, H. (2017). The Honeycomb worm *Sabellaria alveolata* in the North of Ireland 1985 to 2020. Draft report by Hugh Edwards 26th February 2017, Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

Fehily Timoney and Company (2001). Environmental Impact Statement: Arklow Bank Wind Park (Final Report). A report prepared for Sure Partners Ltd., 29 Lower Leeson St., Dublin 2.  
Cited In: Conservation Assessment of Sandbanks slightly covered by seawater at all times (Habitat Code: 1110). Cited in AECOM (2010) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (OREDPA) in the Republic of Ireland.  
Environmental Report Volume 2: Main Report

Fingal County Council (2005). Ecological study of the coastal habitats in County Fingal Phase IV.

National Parks and Wildlife Service, NPWS (2010). Site Investigations for *Sabellaria alveolata* (Honey-comb worm) biogenic reefs in Ireland.

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National Parks and Wildlife Service, NPWS (2011). River Barrow and River Nore SAC (site code: 2162) Conservation objectives supporting document - marine habitats, version 1.

National Parks and Wildlife Service, NPWS (2013). Site Synopsis: Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, west to Cloghane SAC, site code 002070.

National Parks and Wildlife Service, NPWS (2013). Galway Bay Complex SAC (site code: 0268) Conservation objectives supporting document - Marine habitats and species, Version 1.

Preston, J., & Portig, A. (2001) An assessment of the honeycomb worm *Sabellaria alveolata* at several locations in County Down. A report prepared for Martin Bradley, The Environment and Heritage Service (EHS), Department of the Environment, Northern Ireland.

Wilkinson, M., Fuller, I. A., Telfer, T. C., Moore, C. G., & Kingston, P. F. (1988). A conservation orientated survey of the intertidal seashore of Northern Ireland. Institute of Offshore Engineering, Heriot Watt University.

#### **4. Unpublished theses**

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Tuthill, R. E. (2015). Are we finally seeing the effects of global climate change on intertidal biota? MSc thesis submitted to the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork, Ireland.

Patterson, F. (2015). There is no difference in the presence or abundance of the honeycomb worm *Sabellaria alveolata* on intertidal rocky shores in south west Ireland. BSc thesis submitted to the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork, Ireland.

Favier, E. (2001). An investigation into the aspects of the ecology and reproductive biology of the honeycomb worm, *Sabellaria alveolata*. BSc thesis submitted to the Department of Zoology, University College Cork, Ireland.

Ní Riada, M. (2000). An investigation into the aspects of the ecology and reproductive biology of the honeycomb worm, *Sabellaria alveolata*. BSc thesis submitted to the Department of Zoology, University College Cork, Ireland.

Cooney, B. (2015). Intertidal indicators of climate change. BSc thesis submitted to the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University College Cork, Ireland.