



ROUND GOBY

Neogobius melanostomus
Origin: Eurasia

INVASIVE RANKING, NYS

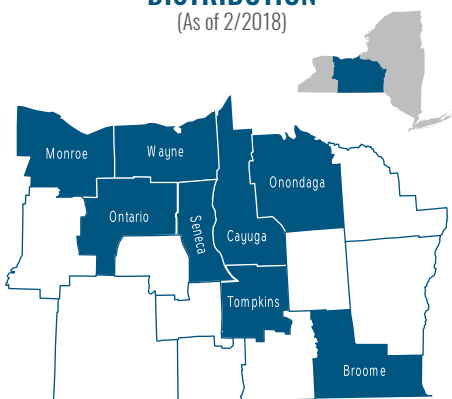
High

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Prevention

DISTRIBUTION

(As of 2/2018)



www.fingerlakesinvasives.org

Round Gobies are small, brown and black blotched fish with large, frog-like heads. There is a black spot on their front dorsal fin, which is a characteristic of the species. They grow to just under 30 cm in size. Round Gobies can be distinguished from native sculpins (*Cottidae*) by their fused pelvic fins, or sucktorial disc, which helps them attach to surfaces in flowing water.

HABITAT

Round Gobies are bottom dwellers of fresh or brackish water. They can thrive in a wide variety of habitat types, including open sand, dense macrophytes, and rocky substrates.

THREAT

Round Gobies are aggressive fish that can outcompete native species for food, shelter, and nesting sites. They also prey on eggs of many native fish species. Round Gobies bioaccumulate many contaminants, which are then passed on to larger game fish and then potentially to humans.

MANAGEMENT

Prevention and education are the best management strategies. Clean, drain, and dry all equipment prior to moving between waterbodies, and do not release live bait. Little can be done to eradicate populations once they are established.

REFERENCE - Invasives Species Awareness Program. (2011). Round Goby. Retrieved from Ontario Invading Species Awareness Program: <http://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/fish/roundgoby/>
U.S. Geological Survey. [2017]. Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database. Gainesville, Florida. Accessed [6/8/2017].



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

