

Alcyonium digitatum (Dead Man's Fingers)

Priority 3 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: *Anthozoa* (Corals, Sea Pens, Sea Fans, Sea Anemones)

Order: *Alcyonacea* (Soft Corals)

Family: *Alcyoniidae* (Soft Corals)

General comments: none

No Species Conservation Range Maps Available for Dead Man's Fingers

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation: NA

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern: NA

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority: NA

High Climate Change Vulnerability:

Alcyonium digitatum is highly vulnerable to climate change.

Understudied rare taxa:

Recently documented or poorly surveyed rare species for which risk of extirpation is potentially high (e.g. few known occurrences) but insufficient data exist to conclusively assess distribution and status. *criteria only qualifies for Priority 3 level SGCN*

Notes:

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Dead Man's Fingers:

Formation Name	Subtidal
Macrogroup Name	Subtidal Bedrock Bottom
Habitat System Name:	Erect Epifauna
Macrogroup Name	Subtidal Coarse Gravel Bottom
Habitat System Name:	Erect Epifauna
Macrogroup Name	Subtidal Mud Bottom
Habitat System Name:	Unvegetated
Macrogroup Name	Subtidal Sand Bottom
Habitat System Name:	Unvegetated

Stressors Assigned to Dead Man's Fingers:

No Stressors Currently Assigned to Dead Man's Fingers or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Dead Man's Fingers:

No Species Specific Conservation Actions Currently Assigned to Dead Man's Fingers or other Priority 3 SGCN.

Conservation Actions Associated with the Cnidaria Guild:

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Conservation Action	Category: Public Outreach	Biological Priority: high	Type: on-going
Encourage the use of more targeted fishing gear in order to reduce bycatch and habitat disturbance			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Conservation Action	Category: Policy	Biological Priority: critical	Type: new
Reduce the collection and possession of live specimens			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Conservation Action	Category: Research	Biological Priority: high	Type: new
Develop molecular tools to identify where specimens are collected.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources

Conservation Action	Category: Policy	Biological Priority: critical	Type: on-going
Through education and collaboration, reduce the use of antifouling agents and biocides that negatively affect SGCN, and investigate alternative biofouling agents.			

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.