

Dublin Bay prawn (*Nephrops norvegicus*)

Malacostraca (Arthropoda:Decapoda)

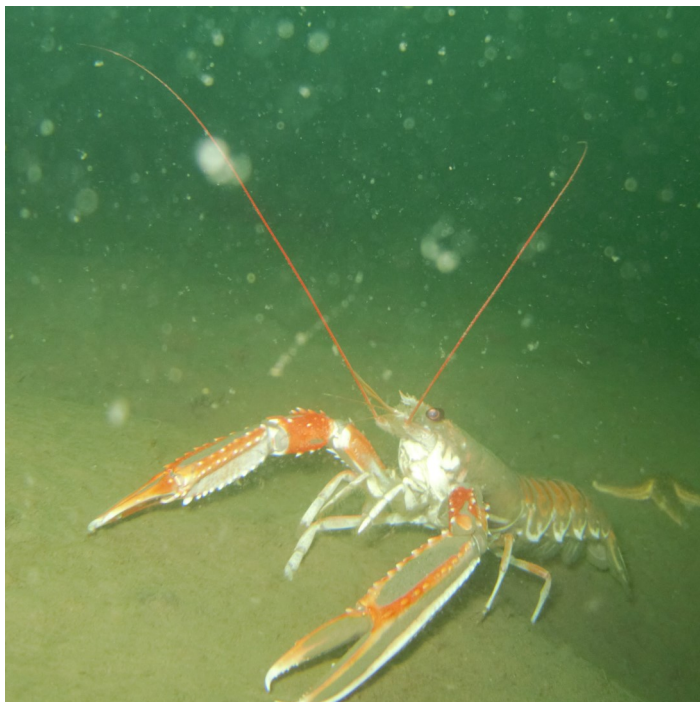


A short pale to vivid orange lobster with long claws and a tail fan this species is similar in shape to the common lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) though significantly smaller rarely reaching lengths greater than 20cm. The small size, well developed tail fan, black eyes and distinctive habitat are the key diagnostics features of this species though it is unlikely to be confused with any other species found in Irish waters.

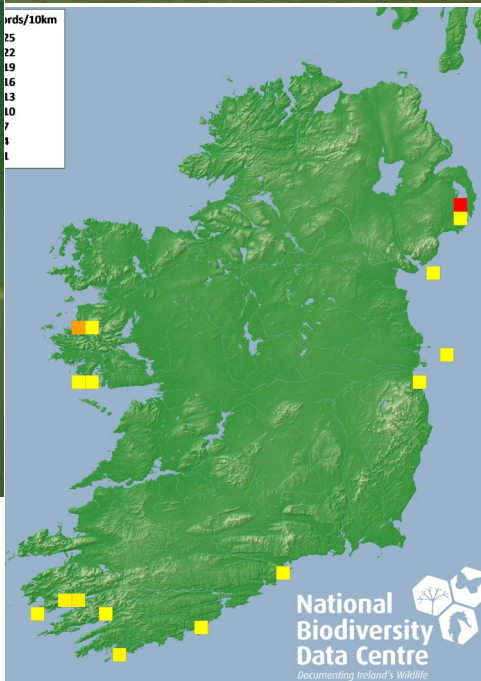
Arthropoda->Crustacea->Malacostraca->Decapoda

IUCN Red List Categorisation: Least Concern

Globally distributed from Iceland to north Africa and into the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas. This species is commercially harvested throughout most of its range. They live in shallow burrows in muddy sediments and are more commonly found in deep waters at depths of 200-800m, though they also occur at diving depths such as those shown.



Typically a deeper water species found below 20m in muddy areas so rarely seen by divers. However they do occur at diving depths at a number of sites. Also likely to be under recorded somewhat due to the large gaps in distribution.



National Biodiversity Data Centre
Documenting Ireland's Wildlife

seasearch
Ireland

Every dive can be a Seasearch dive

