

Alosa vistonica

Region: 1

Taxonomic Authority: Economidis & Sinis, 1986

Synonyms:

Alosa caspia vistonica Economidis & Sinis, 1986

Common Names:

Order: Clupeiformes

Family: Clupeidae

Notes on taxonomy: Considered by some people as a subspecies.

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

It is restricted to coastal Lake Vistonis in northern Greece.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It mainly occupies the upper part of Lake Vistonis where the water is exclusively fresh. It is probably a non-migratory shad. Reproduction occurs in the spring.

Conservation Measures:

On paper it is protected by Greek laws on fishery management but they are rarely enforced.

Threats:

Habitat destruction and pollution (organic and industrial). Sewage enters the lake from the nearby town of Xanthi. Water extraction from the inflowing streams is also a serious threat as it may lead to increasing salinity within the lake.

Species population information:

According to the available information the species is possibly extinct. A small population is hypothesized to survive in some channels or streams outflow into the lake (Bobori et al., 2001).

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Greece	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

Score

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

5.5 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Lakes (over 8ha) 1

Major threats

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3	Extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.2	Fisheries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.2.1	Subsistence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.2.2	Artisinal/small-scale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Pollution (affecting habitat and/or species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3	Water pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.2	Domestic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.3	Commercial/Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.8	Sewage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Natural disasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.1	Drought	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
1	Policy-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1	Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.1	International level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.2	National level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2	Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.1	International level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.2	National level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Research actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1	Taxonomy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Habitat status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.6	Uses and harvest levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.8	Conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.9	Trends/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.2	Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Protected areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.3	Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Species-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.3	Sustainable use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.3.1	Harvest management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:		
1. Food - human	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Primary forms removed from the wild	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50%	<25%	Other forms removed from the wild:
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50%	<25%	Other source of specimens:
Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:	Decreasing					
Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:	Unknown					
CITES:	Not listed					

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Critically Endangered (CR)

Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria: A2ace; B1ab(iii,v)

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: This species is restricted to a small coastal lake (estimated EOO 40 km²). A major decline in the population was observed some 20 years previously. Although no one has surveyed the population in the last 20 years there is no reason to suspect this trend is not continuing (the threats all remain). The species is assessed as Critically Endangered where a greater than 80% decline in the population is suspected in the last 10 years based on direct observations of habitat decline, reduction in water quality, and increasing salinity and pollutants.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Date of Assessment: 31/10/2004

Assessor(s): A.J. Crivelli

Evaluator: Barbieri, R, & Bianco, G.

Notes on Red listing:

Bibliography

Economidis, P.S. & Sinis, A.I., 1986, Situation taxinomique et comparaisons des aloses (Pisces, Clupeidae) provenant des lacs Volvi et Vistonis (Grèce). Description d'une nouvelle sous-espèce: *Alosa caspia vistonica*, Journal of Natural History, , , 20, 723-734, ,

Economidis, P.S., 1995, Endangered freshwater fishes of Greece, Biological Conservation, , , 72, 201-211, ,

Bobori, D.C., Koutrakis, E.T. & Economidis, P.S., 2001, Shad species in Greek waters – An historical overview and present status., Bull. Fr. Peche Piscic., , , 362-363, 1101-1108, ,