

Barbus microcephalus

Taxonomic Authority: Almaça, 1967

Synonyms:

Region: 1

Common Names:

Order: Cypriniformes

Family: Cyprinidae

Notes on taxonomy:

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

It is restricted to the Guadiana river basin in Portugal and Spain. It occurs also in a small reach of the Tajo river, where it is probably introduced there.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It is a small size barbel (<260 mm). It lives in the middle and lower reaches of rivers with deep and slow water. It is absent from the headwaters. It can be found also within reservoirs.

Conservation Measures:

Listed in the Appendix III of the Bern Convention, and Annex V of Habitats Dir as B. capito.

Threats:

Water pollution and extraction. Habitat alteration (dams) and introductions of exotic fish species.

Species population information:

Declining.

Country Distribution

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

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

Score

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

5.1	Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)	1
5.2	Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent/Irregular Rivers/Streams/Creeks	1
12.1	Artificial/Aquatic - Water Storage Areas (over 8ha)	1

Major threats

Conservation Measures

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future	Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Policy-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3	Extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.2	Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.6	Groundwater extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.2.1	Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.2.1.1	International level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.6	Dams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.2.2	Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Invasive alien species (directly affecting the species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.2.2.1	International level	<input 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"/>	3	Research actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3	Water pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.3.2	Domestic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.4	Habitat status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.3.3	Commercial/Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.5	Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.8	Sewage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.9	Trends/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Natural disasters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.1	Drought	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Intrinsic factors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
9.9	Restricted range	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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%
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%
Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:	Unknown			
Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:	Unknown			
CITES:	Not listed			

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Vulnerable (VU) Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria: A2ce+3ce

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: It is estimated that the population of B. microcephalus has declined by >30% in the past 10 years and it is suspected to decline by the same amount in the next 10 years (Carmona, J. pers comm). The population is declining in all of its range due to dam constuction (a current and future threat in

Spain and Portugal - for example a dam is planned near Alquedi (Carmona, J. pers comm)), water extraction and introduced species.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Date of Assessment: 31/10/2004

Assessor(s): A.J. Crivelli

Evaluator: J. Carmona

Notes on Red listing:

Bibliography

Pires, A.M., Cowx, I.G. & Coelho, M.M., 2001, Diet and growth of two sympatric Iberian barbel, *Barbus steindachneri* and *Barbus microcephalus*, in the middle reaches of the Guadiana basin (Portugal)., *Folia Zoologica*, , , 50, 291-304, ,

Almaça, C., 2003, *Barbus microcephalus* Almaça, 1967, , *The Freshwater Fishes of Europe*, Banarescu, P.M. & N.G. Bogutskaya, 5/II, 287-292, Aula-Verlag, Wiesbaden, Germany

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