

Cobitis meridionalis

Taxonomic Authority: Karaman, 1924

Synonyms:

Region: 1

Common Names:

Order: Cypriniformes

Family: Cobitidae

Notes on taxonomy:

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

Restricted to the Prespa lakes in north-western Greece, Albania, and FYROM

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It is an annual fish species dying after reproduction which takes place in May. It spawns in coarse sand.

Conservation Measures:

None

Threats:

Water pollution (agriculture and domestic). In potential introduction of alien species to lake Prespa would be likely to have a negative impact upon *C. meridionalis*.

Species population information:

Stable

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Albania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greece	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
1.3.6	Groundwater extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Invasive alien species (directly affecting the species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>
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"/>
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"/>
9	Intrinsic factors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.1	Limited dispersal	<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"/>

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Habitat status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:		
Primary forms removed from the wild	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50%	<25%	Not used at all.
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50%	<25%	Other forms removed from the wild:
						Other source of specimens:

Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:

Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:

CITES:

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Vulnerable (VU)

Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria: D2

Rationale for the Red List Assessment:

This species is not abundant, but the population is thought to be stable. It is, however, restricted to the lake shore habitat of Lake Prespa which is treated as a single location due to threat of introduced alien species with a likely lakewide impact.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Date of Assessment: 31/10/2004

Assessor(s): A.J. Crivelli

Evaluator: Kottelat, M. & Freyhof, J.

Bibliography

Perdices, A. & Doadrio, I., 2001, The molecular systematics and biogeography of the European Cobitids based on mitochondrial DNA sequences., *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, , , 19, 468-478, ,

Crivelli, A.J. & Lee, T-W, 2000, Observations on age, growth and fecundity of *Cobitis meridionalis*, an endemic loach of Prespa lake (Greece)., *Folia Zoologica*, , , 49 (Suppl. I), 121-127, ,