

Aphanius sirhani

Taxonomic Authority: Villwock, Scholl & Krupp, 1983
Synonyms:

Order: Cyprinodontiformes
Notes on taxonomy:

Region: 1

Common Names:

Family: Cyprinodontidae

General Information

Biome ☐ Terrestrial ☒ Freshwater ☐ Marine

Geographic Range of species:
Restricted to Azraq Oasis in Jordan

Conservation Measures:
Occurs in Azraq Wetland Reserve. Some research is going on.

Habitat and Ecology Information:
The species still lives in pools of the Azraq Wetland Reserve.

Threats:
Water extraction for irrigation. The water level dropped to 12 m below ground from surface level and in 1992 the marshland dried up totally, because water pumping from the Azraq oasis in the last 30 years. According to Bianco pers observ in 2000 (Bianco joined the Amman IUCN Congress in 2000 and visited the Oasis and observed the species) the water area in the Oasis Reserve is very scarce, about less than one hectare, and maintained by artificially spilling of water. The species is nearly disappeared mainly as result of introduced tilapia, Sarotherodon galileus, which dominate in the Oasis. The species was maintained in the Reserve by captive breeding and tentatively reintroduced in the wild. It is now probably extinct in the wild, and for a success restocking, aliens species should be previously eradicated.

Species population information:
Decreasing

Country Distribution

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

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

5.9 Wetlands (inland) - Freshwater Springs and Oases

Score

1

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

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"/>
7	Natural disasters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.1	Drought	<input checked="" 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"/>
3.5	Threats	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<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"/>
4.4.1	Identification of new protected areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.2	Establishment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Species-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.1	Re-introductions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.4	Recovery management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:
				None
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:

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

CITES:

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Critically Endangered (CR)

☒ Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria: A2ace; B1ab(iii,v)+2ab(iii,v); C2a(i,ii); D

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: The population has been observed to have declined by at least 80% over the last ten years as a result of declining habitat quality. It is now restricted to one location with the remaining wetland area being less than 100 km² and the area occupied by the species estimated to be less than 10 km². A recent survey (2000) showed that there were ca. 45 adult fish remaining within the Azraq wetland. A captive breeding program has been ongoing over the last 2-3 years aimed at reintroducing captive fish back into the wild.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Date of Assessment: 31/10/2004

Assessor(s): A.J. Crivelli

Evaluator: M. Goren, N. Bogutskaya, F. Erk'akan & A. Karataş

Notes on Red listing:

Bibliography

Krupp, F. & Schneider, W., 1989, The fishes of the Jordan river drainage basin and the Azraq Oasis., Fauna of Saudi Arabia, , , 10, 347-416, ,
Weisenbacher, A. & Horst, Z., 2001, Report on the current situation of *Aphanius sirhani*., , , , 33 pp, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria