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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	<b>&lt; ENDANGERED &gt;</b>	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Geographical range

## Amazing Species: Golden Mahseer

The **Golden Mahseer**, *Tor putitora*, is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. One of the largest freshwater fish in Asia, it inhabits rivers of the Indian subcontinent, including the Himalayan foothill region of the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra river basins in India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Golden Mahseer is a potadromous fish, migrating from lakes and lower reaches of rivers and ascending to fast-flowing waters of Himalayan foothills. Threats to this species include pollution and sedimentation due to logging, sand mining, agriculture and urbanization, which have degraded spawning and rearing habitats. Hydroelectric power and irrigation projects have also modified and fragmented critical habitats for the Mahseer. Unsustainable subsistence fishing practices and poaching have also depleted many populations.

Recently catch-and-release angling has gained popularity as a conservation tool and collaboration is being encouraged between anglers, scientists and managers as a way to study and better protect existing mahseer populations. In sites of religious significance, the belief that mahseers are the 'fish of gods' have historically protected local populations.

Celebrate World Fish Migration Day, 24 May, 2014



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