

ENDANGERED AND VULNERABLE FRESHWATER FISH SPECIES IN MYANMAR

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SPECIES



Systomus compressiformis

Cyprinidae

Common name: N/A
ငါးစုံမေးအုပ်စု

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. The species is threatened by pollution, harvesting and introduction of invasive species in the lake. It is possibly extinct since the last record was in 1994. *Systomus compressiformis* is "Critically endangered" because of a very small distribution, a decline of more than 80 % of its population, as well as a reduced suitable habitat area and declining habitat quality.

Invalid synonyms: *Barbus compressiformis*, *Puntius compressiformis*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/181025
CITES: not listed

Photo: Sven Kullander

Inle LAKE, MYANMAR

The Inle Lake in Myanmar is home to 17 endemic fish species. The lake is located in a limestone area in the Shan plateau at an elevation of 830 m. It is 22km long and 10km wide. Around 70,000 people live on its shores. The lake fish species are under threat due to sedimentation, water pollution (eutrophication) and loss of aquatic habitats. Thus, the open water area decreased from 69km² to 47km² in 65 years. Invasive species constitute another threat; in particular the water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) is expanding rapidly and reduces the area of open water, while rohu and grass carp compete with endemic species. In recent years, fishing has also become intensive, in particular with the use of monofilament nets and motor boats.

Protecting the Inle Lake remains an important challenge and a priority not only for its biological diversity, but also for the health and well-being of its population.

ENDANGERED SPECIES



Danio erythromicron

Cyprinidae

Common name: Emerald dwarf rasbora
ငါးသုငယ်ကြယ်ဖြောက်

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. This fish is found at the margins of the lake or in mid-waters and is associated with vegetation. This species is threatened by invasive species - in particular tilapias - and by *Parambassis* sp., both predators and direct competitors, as well as by pollution. *Danio erythromicron* is also actively harvested for the aquarium trade.

Invalid synonym: *Microrasbora erythromicron*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/181072
CITES: not listed

Photo: Michael Noren



Cyprinus intha

Cyprinidae

Common name: Inle carp
ငါးမိန်း

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. *Cyprinus intha* inhabits shallow areas of the lake characterized by an important vegetation cover. It constitutes an important resource for local people. The Inle carp is mainly threatened by overfishing and invasive species (due to competition and hybridization).

Invalid synonym: *Cyprinus carpio intha*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/180896
CITES: not listed

Photo: Chavalit Vidthayanon



Devario auropurpureus

Cyprinidae

Common name: Golden rasbora
ငါးညောင်ရှည်၊ ငါးပြားသစ်ရွက်

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. *Devario auropurpureus* inhabits the margins of the lake with submerged vegetation or mid-water, and generally moves in schools. It is harvested for aquarium trade, and is also impacted by invasive species and human activities around the lake.

Invalid synonym: *Barilius auropurpureus*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/180822
CITES: not listed

Photo: Johnny Jensen



Bangana horai

Cyprinidae

Common name: N/A
ငါးလူး

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. *Bangana horai* is considered threatened by invasive species, overfishing and human activities around the lake. However, there is very limited information about species, whose population is considered decreasing but without enough data to prove it.

Invalid synonyms: *Crossocheilus horai*, *Gymnostomus horai*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/168449
CITES: not listed

Photo: Tyson Roberts



Microrasbora rubescens

Cyprinidae

Common name: Red dwarf rasbora
ငါးနီစိမ်း၊ ငါးသုငယ်စိမ်း

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. *Microrasbora rubescens* aggregates in schools and is found in particular in the margins of the lake associated with submerged vegetation. It is subject to aquarium trade but is mainly threatened by introduced species such as *Parambassis* spp. and tilapias.

Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/181058
CITES: not listed

Photo: Siegfried Baesler



Sawbwa resplendens

Cyprinidae

Common name: Sawbwa barb, Burmese rammy nose
ငါးမြီးနီ၊ ခေါင်းနီ

Species endemic to the Inle Lake. This common Inle fish inhabits open waters and the swamps that surround the lake. It generally moves in schools. The Sawbwa barb is impacted by aquarium trade, human activities around the lake causing habitat degradation and by introduced species. There is evidence of a population decline.

Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/180647
CITES: not listed

Photo: Michael Noren



Mastacembelus oatesii

Mastacembelidae

Common name: N/A
ငါးမြေမည်း

Species endemic to Myanmar (Inle Lake and its surrounding). This demersal fish species found in the open water has been reported in less than 5 locations overall. The main threat is habitat degradation. There is no information about the population trend and its distribution.

Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/169514
CITES: not listed

Drawing: Ma Aye Thant

VULNERABLE SPECIES



Barilius dogarsinghi

Cyprinidae

Common name: Manipur baril
ငါးလခါအုပ်စု

Species found in India and Myanmar. This species is found in hill streams with sandy and gravelly bottom. Its habitat area is inferior to 15,000 km². There is a lack of data to confirm its population trend but it is not common. The Manipur baril is impacted by different degradations caused by human activities.

Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/166631
CITES: not listed

Photo: Gerhardt Ott



Garra flavatra

Cyprinidae

Common name: N/A
ငါးမွှေး

Species endemic to Myanmar. This fish inhabits in small forest streams with stagnant or slow water current. There is no data on the population trend. *Garra flavatra* is currently known from three localities only in Rakhine state, and these habitats are subject to damming and agricultural pollution.

Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/168282
CITES: not listed

Photo: Andy Taylor



Devario yuensis

Cyprinidae

Common name: N/A
Dánio manipurské (ငါးမော့တော့)

Species found in India and Myanmar in three localities only. Threats in these locations consist in pollution, damming and logging. More research is needed to confirm the population trend.

Invalid synonym: *Danio yuensis*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/168550
CITES: not listed

Photo: Sanjabihari Sukham et al.



Puntius ornatus

Cyprinidae

Common name: N/A
ငါးစုံမေးအုပ်စု

Species found in India and Myanmar, in mountain rivers and streams. This species is known only two locations only, and these habitats are subject to pollution and human development. Limited information is available about its biology and ecology.

Invalid synonyms: *Pethia ornatus*
Red List assessment: www.iucnredlist.org/details/168481
CITES: not listed

Photo: Vishwanath Waikhom