

SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET

Gobio gobio

English name: Gudgeon	Scientific name: <i>Gobio gobio</i>	
Taxonomical group: Class: Actinopterygii Order: Cypriniformes Family: Cyprinidae	Species authority: Linnaeus, 1758	
Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms: –	Generation length: 3.5 years	
Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): –	Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes): –	
IUCN Criteria: –	HELCOM Red List Category:	NA Not Applicable
Global / European IUCN Red List Category: LC/LC	Habitats Directive:	
Previous HELCOM Red List Category (2007): NT		
Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries: Denmark –/LC, Estonia –/DD, Finland –/LC, Germany –/D (Data deficient, Baltic Sea), Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/LC		

Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region

The gudgeon is a freshwater species which occurs rarely in brackish water. It is reported from some shallow sea areas in Estonia, in the Russian part of the Gulf of Finland and in the Curonian Lagoon but it is believed that reproduction is restricted to freshwater. There might be some misreporting of other species as gudgeon, such as the invasive alien species whitefinned gudgeon (*Romanogobio alpinus*). This makes the distribution within the HELCOM area somewhat uncertain.



Gudgeon. Photo by Vivica von Vietinghoff, Deutsches Meeresmuseum.

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Habitat and ecology

The gudgeon prefers river and lake habitat with sand or gravel substrate. It is a bottom dwelling, gregarious fish feeding on benthic invertebrates. It reaches maturity at 1–3 years at a size of 10 cm and is reported to live for a maximum of 8 years reaching a maximum size of 20 cm. Spawning takes place during early summer in shallow areas. This is a morphological very versatile species and concern has been raised that *G. gobio* might be a complex of several species.

Description of major threats

No major threats known.

Assessment justification

There is no indication of reproduction within the Baltic Sea or Kattegat. Furthermore, the species does not have a significant part of the population spending a significant part of their lifetime within the HELCOM saline area and hence this species is considered Not Applicable for the assessment.

Recommendations for actions to conserve the species

No protection actions currently needed in the HELCOM area but species identity should be verified in different areas and the existence of reproducing gudgeon with the saline area should be investigated. Finally, information on habitats and population size in the basin of the Gulf of Finland should be collected.

Common names

D -Gründling; ES -rünt; GB -Gudgeon ; DK -Grundling; FIN -Törö; LV -Grundulis ; LT -Gružlys; PL -Kiełb krótkowąsy; RU -Obyknovennij peskar'; S -Sandkrypare

References

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