



Assessing of genetic resource of coldwater fishes in Iran for the conservation

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Abstract

Identification and classification of coldwater fishes in water resources of Iran is scientifically and economically very important. The study of biological traits, geographical distribution, species diversity, ecological status and abundance of species groups in inland water resources and cultured systems are considered as base of programming for the conservation and sustainable exploitation of the genetic resources of these fish. According to the most reliable references, the most important indigenous cold water species in Iran with high economic value include several species of fish from salmonidae (*Salmo caspius* and *trutta*, cyprinidae (*Leuciscus cephalus*) and percidae (*Squalius turcius*). Problems such as genetic disorders and subsequent adverse and unfavorable their effects on rainbow trout, reduced stock of caspian salmon (spring salmon), over-exploitation and smuggling (*Salmo trutta*, *Squalius turcius*), the lack of biological information from other species (*Squalius turcius*) have caused the genetic reserves of these species to be critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable. Rainbow trout, *Salmo caspius* (because of their economic and nutritional importance) and *Salmo trutta*, *Squalius turcius* are protected and exploited in the priority due to their vulnerability.

Keywords: Coldwater fish, Resources, Exploitation, Protection, Iran.