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## EDITORIAL 2015: EFFORTS TOWARDS BETTER QUALITY IN THE *Croatian Journal of Fisheries (Ribarstvo)*

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### ABSTRACT

By changing its editorial system, the *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* is moving toward more rigorous review which will subsequently strengthen its quality and impact. This editorial provides information on the published articles in 2014 as well as a list of reviewers who participated in the review process. Many papers were submitted as short communications to the Threatened Fishes of the World (TFW) series in 2014. To be more useful to the broader scientific community, guidelines about preparation of manuscripts for the TFW series based on *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™* is provided. Also, after having several years of experience in reviewing, processing and editing of manuscripts, it has been noted that authors repeat the same mistakes. Therefore, we present here a paper that discusses the most common mistakes encountered during manuscript preparation which can result in its rejection.

### Keywords:

review, referee, Threatened Fishes of the World, *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™*

### How to Cite

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## STATE OF THE JOURNAL

The *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* (CJF) is celebrating 77 years of publishing. We are pleased to mention that the quality of the Journal continues to improve as evident in Thomson Reuters accepting the CJF for SCI database evaluation in 2014. The decision from Thomson Reuters is awaited.

## GUIDELINES UPDATE - THREATENED FISHES OF THE WORLD

Many papers were submitted as short communications to the Threatened Fishes of the World (TFW) series, which has received great acceptance. To increase the impact and the visibility of TFW within the global conservation community, we modify the format in a way that all information required for the inclusion of a species to the official *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™* is incorporated. Papers published in TFW will not represent official IUCN Red List assessments but they will be a compilation of data to present them in a format usable for the IUCN Red List assessment. Additional reviews by the IUCN will be subsequently needed to translate TFW then into a formal IUCN assessment. This step forward will make TFW more useful to the broader scientific

community. Please see the IUCN Red List criteria at <http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/categories-and-criteria>. By doing so, we aim to increase the profile of the TFW papers towards the transfer of the data to *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™*. Papers in the TFW series must include details about species including a good quality image (photo or drawing) and a detailed distribution map and text. The publication of comprehensive, georeferenced, site scale records is strongly recommended for all species with limited geographical ranges. TFW will consider only global scale species assessments and not national or regional assessments. We call especially for papers pertaining to species that have not yet been assessed by *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™* as well as papers about species already assessed as being threatened (CR, EN or VU). Papers in the second category must help greatly improve the existing assessment by providing new information relevant to the conservation of the species. Minor additions or corrections will not be accepted as well as papers about species not qualifying for one of the threatened species categories (EX, CR, EN, VU). In Table 1, the structure of "Threatened Fishes of the World" type papers is given according to *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™*. Note that one of the author(s) should have previously published paper on the

species being presented. An example of paper based on this guideline will be compiled by dr. Jörg Freyhof, the Coordinator of the IUCN SSC Freshwater Fish Red List authority for freshwater fishes and the European Chair of the IUCN/SSC/WI Freshwater Fish Specialist Group (FFSG), and published in a forthcoming issue of the CJF.

**Table 1.** Structure of “Threatened Fishes of the World” papers based on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/>)

<b>Heading</b>
<b>Abstract</b>
<b>Synonyms</b>
<b>Common names</b>
<b>Taxonomic notes</b>
<b>Geographic Range Information</b>
Range Description
Countries with native/alien occurrence
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) - in km <sup>2</sup> (10 km river length is 20 km <sup>2</sup> )
Estimated extent of occurrence (EEO)- in km <sup>2</sup>
Range Map
<b>Populations</b>
Number of independent populations depending on major threats
Population trend(s)
Continuing decline in % within 3 generation or 10 years, whichever is longer (if assessed under criterion A)
<b>Habitat and Ecology</b>
Habitat type
Migration pattern
<b>Biology</b>
General biological information such as spawning time, food and feeding and others
Generation length
<b>Threats</b>
<b>Use and trade</b>
Use in livelihoods
Trend in level of total offtake from wild sources
National and/or international commercial value
<b>Conservation Actions</b>
Research in place
Research needed
Protection and monitoring in place
Protection and monitoring needed
Education in place or needed
<b>Rationale for the Red List Assessment</b>
<b>References</b>

## REVIEWERS

The greatest responsibility of a scientific journal is to ensure that all contributions accepted for publication are rigorously but fairly reviewed. We gratefully acknowledge the valued support of all scientists who reviewed papers for the Journal

in 2014. Individuals who reviewed for the Journal between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014 are listed in Appendix 1 at the end of the editorial.

## NEW ASSOCIATE EDITORS AND PROOF-READER

Last year, and at the beginning of this year, for maintaining and developing specific topics, we expanded our editorial board and subject editors for assistance in the peer-review and editorial process by including Jörg Freyhof, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig, IUCN SSC/WI Freshwater Fish Specialist Group; Rajeev Raghavan, Conservation Research Group (CRG), St. Albert's College, India, IUCN SSC/WI Freshwater Fish Specialist Group; Ivančica Ternjej, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science, Croatia; Danilo Mrdak, University of Montenegro, Faculty of Science, Montenegro; Kai Lorenzen, University of Florida, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, SAD. Also, there is a new proofreader, a native English speaker, Kyleisha Foote, Massey University, Institute of Agriculture and Environment, New Zealand.

## ISSUES IN 2014

In 2014, 13 original scientific papers, two preliminary and 18 short communications, one review paper and one professional paper were published. The manuscripts mostly continued to cover topics in freshwater aquaculture and inland waters. Other topics covered include mariculture, water ecology, economics, ichthyology, parasitology, fish processing, marine fishing and genetics (Table 2). A total of 78 manuscript submissions were received in 2014.

## OVERVIEW OF THE MOST COMMON MISTAKES IN MANUSCRIPTS

The process that the CJF adopts after manuscript submission was explained last year (Piria and Pranjčić, 2013). This time we would like to draw your attention to the mistakes commonly encountered during submission and those seen in submitted manuscripts. To avoid some of the problems listed below, authors should consult recently published papers.

### List of the most common mistakes during submission:

1. Using old instructions for authors. Updated instructions for authors can be found at [http://ribarstvo.agr.hr/editors/author\\_instructions.php?lang=en](http://ribarstvo.agr.hr/editors/author_instructions.php?lang=en)
2. Manuscript not submitted initially as a single Word document file online
3. Manuscript exceeds 10 Mb
4. Copyright release form not filled out properly and submitted according to instructions for authors

### List of the most common mistakes in manuscripts:

1. Title page incomplete or of incorrect format. Running title missing.

**Table 2.** Topics covered by the *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* and titles of published papers in 2014 (Original scientific paper – OS; Preliminary communication – PC; Review article – RA; Short communication – SC; Professional paper – PP)

MAIN SUBJECT CATEGORY	PAPER TITLE	PEER REVIEW	REFERENCES	Type of article	Full text Language (E-english, C-Croatian)
Sport fishing	Social, economic, fishery and conservational issues featuring fly fishing community in Serbia	Yes	Simonović et al., 2014	OS	E
Freshwater Aquaculture	A comparative study of the gonado-somatic index (gsi) and gonad gross morphology of African catfish ( <i>Clarias gariepinus</i> ) fed unical aqua feed and coppens commercial feed	Yes	Eyo et al., 2014	OS	E
	Over-wintering growth performance of mixed-sex and mono-sex Nile tilapia <i>Oreochromis niloticus</i> in the northeastern Bangladesh	Yes	Siddik et al., 2014	OS	E
	Growth and length-weight relationship of <i>Trichopodus trichopterus</i> (Pallas, 1770) fed a supplemented diet with different concentrations of probiotic	Yes	Jafaryan et al., 2014	PC	E
	Effects of dietary commercial yeast glucan on innate immune response, hematological parameters, intestinal microbiota and growth performance of white fish ( <i>Rutilus frisii kutum</i> ) fry	Yes	Rufchaie and Hoseinifar, 2014	OS	E
Fish processing	Lipid peroxidation in smoke-dried African catfish treated with <i>Moringa oleifera</i> marinade, salt or butylated hydroxyl anisole	Yes	Adeyemi et al. 2014	SC	E
Water Ecology	Multivariate analysis of fish species and environmental factors in marine coastal waters of the Gulf of Guinea, southwest Nigeria	Yes	Odulate et al., 2014	OS	E
Economics	Perception of impact of donor agencies on the socioeconomic wellbeing of fisher folks in southeast Nigeria	Yes	Udoh and Okoko, 2014	PC	E
	Commercial freshwater fisheries in the Republic of Croatia in the year 2011 and 2012	Yes	Suić et al., 2014	PP	C
	Comparative evaluation of economic benefits of earthen fish ponds and concrete tanks in aquaculture enterprises in Oyo state, Nigeria	Yes	Olaoye et al., 2014	OS	E
Ichthyology	Age and growth of the silver carp ( <i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i> Val.) in Tudakul reservoir, Uzbekistan	Yes	Kamilov, 2014	OS	E
	Length weight relationships of the European eel <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> (linnaeus, 1758) from six karst catchments of the Adriatic basin, Croatia	Yes	Piria et al., 2014	SC	E
Parasitology	Parasitofauna of five freshwater fishes in a Nigerian freshwater ecosystem	Yes	Ejere et al., 2014.	OS	E
	Occurrence and intensity of parasites in European catfish, <i>Silurus glanis</i> L., 1758 from the Anzali wetland, southwest of the Caspian sea, Iran	Yes	Roohi et al., 2014	OS	E
	<i>Jainus amazonensis</i> (monogenea: dactylogyridae) parasites of <i>Brycon cephalus</i> (Günther, 1869) cultured in the lowland of the Peruvian Amazon	Yes	Delgado et al., 2014.	SC	E
Genetics	Genetic variability in cultured and wild populations of <i>Carias gariepinus</i> (Osteichthys: Clariidae) using random amplified polymorphic DNA (RAPD) marker	Yes	Popoola et al., 2014.	OS	E
Marine fishing	Blackspotted croaker, <i>Protonibea diacanthus</i> (Lacepède, 1802): a new dimension to the fishing pattern in west Bengal, India	Yes	Dutta et al., 2014	SC	E
	Analysis of purse-seine catches in the Adriatic sea	Yes	Kraljević et al., 2014	OS	C
Inland water	Sock assessment of freshwater mullet, <i>Liza abu</i> (heckel, 1843) populations in three restored southern marshes, Iraq	Yes	Mohamed, 2014	OS	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Knipowitscia mermere</i> Ahnelt, 1995 (Gobiidae)	Yes	İlhan, 2014	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Telestes turskyi</i> (heckel, 1843) (Cyprinidae)	Yes	Mihinjač et al., 2014a	SC	E
	New record of blue runner, <i>Caranx crysos</i> (Mitchill, 1815), in the Adriatic sea	Yes	Pavičić et al., 2014	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Achondrostoma salmantinum</i> Doadrio and Elvira, 2007 (Cyprinidae)	Yes	Sousa-Santos et al., 2014a	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Cottus aturi</i> Freyhof, Kottelat and Nolte 2005 (Cottidae)	Yes	Sousa-Santos et al., 2014b	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Cottus hispaniolensis</i> Bacescu-Mester, 1964 (Cottidae)	Yes	Sousa-Santos et al., 2014c	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Squalius castellanus</i> Doadrio, Perea and Alonso 2007 (Cyprinidae)	Yes	Sousa-Santos et al., 2014d	SC	E
	Reproduction biology of <i>Capoeta trutta</i> (Heckel, 1843) in the Shour river, south west of Iran	Yes	Javaheri Baboli and Taghavi Niya, 2014	OS	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Squalius malacitanus</i> Doadrio and Carmona 2006 (Cyprinidae)	Yes	Sousa-Santos et al., 2014e	SC	E
	A review of the impact of Great cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i> ) on the fish stock	Yes	Piria, 2014	RA	C
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Cobitis vettonica</i> Doadrio & Perdices, 1997 (Cobitidae)	Yes	Sousa-Santos et al., 2014e	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Hucho taimen</i> (Pallas, 1773)	Yes	Wang et al., 2014	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> Bogutskaya & Zupančič, 2003 (Cyprinidae)	Yes	Mihinjač et al., 2014b	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Cobitis levantina</i> Krupp & Moubayed, 1992 (Cobitidae)	Yes	Ekmekçi and Yoğurtçuoğlu, 2014	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Mystus vittatus</i> (Bloch, 1794) (Siluriformes: Bagridae)	Yes	Hossain, 2014	SC	E
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Aphanius transgrediens</i> Ermin, 1946 (Cyprinodontidae)	Yes	Yoğurtçuoğlu and Ekmekçi, 2014	SC	E
Supplement to fishing profession	Congress note	No	Marčić et al., 2014		E
		No	Treer, 2014		E
	Fisheries	No	Ukić et al., 2014	-	C

2. Abstract exceeds 300-word limit.
3. Incorrect presentation of scientific names.
4. Use of active voice (usually first-person plural). The passive voice must be used.
5. Inclusion of footnotes in the main text. This must be avoided.
6. The quality of figures is not adequate (clarity and font sizes), especially when reduced for publication.
7. Guidelines relating to tables, figures and their respective legends are not followed. Tables are not created using the table function. Common faults in excel graphs include boxes around the graph, scrappy symbols, poor joining lines between symbols, poorly labelled axes, title text in excel graph.
8. References are not prepared as given in the instructions for authors. In some cases authors may prepare manuscripts for other journals and then decide to submit them to the CJF without following the specific guidelines (e.g. in the text, "etal" should not be in italics).
9. Omission of date of the latest access when citing websites.

## Sažetak

### UVODNIK 2015: NAPORI PREMA BOLJOJ KVALITETI ČASOPISA *Croatian Journal of Fisheries (Ribarstvo)*

Promjenom uredničkog sustava i načina rada časopis se kreće u pravcu rigoroznijih recenzija te sukladno, jačanju kvalitete i utjecaja. Ovaj uvodnik daje podatke objavljenih članaka u 2014. godini prema tematskim cjelinama kao i popis recenzenata koji su sudjelovali u recenzijskom postupku. Mnogo kratkih članaka je pristiglo iz tematike ugroženih ribljih vrsta u svijetu u 2014. Stoga su ovdje date detaljne upute za pripremu takvih članaka, baziranih na podacima navedenim u *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™*, kako bi bili korisniji za širu znanstvenu zajednicu. Također, nakon više godina praćenja pridošlih članaka, autori često i kontinuirano griješe u oblikovanju samog članka. Stoga je dat i prikaz najčešćih pogrešaka kod prijavljenih radova što može rezultirati istovremenim odbijanjem rada kao potencijalnog članka za publiciranje.

**Ključne riječi:** recenzije, recenzenti, ugrožene riblje vrste, IUCN crvena lista ugroženih vrsta

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**Appendix 1.** List of reviewers for the Croatian Journal of Fisheries between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014

Øystein Aas	Milorad Mrakovčić
Zdenek Adamek	Danilo Mrdak
Josip Barišić	Anđelko Opačak
Vlasta Bartulović	Gaygusuz Ozcan
Ivana Buj	Müfit Özüluğ
Xiaojuan Cao	Anabel Perdices
José A. Carmona	Silvia Perea
Miguel Clavero	Marina Piria
Marko Čaleta	Md. Mosaddequr Rahman
Vesna Djikanović	Joana I. Robalo
Aljoša Duplić	Hamed Mousavi Sabet
Rafael Miranda Ferreira	Jasmine Saleha
Jörg Freyhof	Guillaume Salze
Jonathan Gardner	Pal Sandipan
Ana Gavrilović	Carla Santos Sousa
Mathias Geiger	Predrag Simonović
Emil Gjurčević	Sanja Skoko
Adrian Grozea	Merica Slišković
Aysun Gümüş	Marija Smederevac
Md. Yeamin Hossain	Radek Šanda
Boris Hrašovec	Maja Šrut
Laith Jawad	Anamaria Štambuk
Gorana Jelić Mrčelić	Ali Serhan Tarkan
Gao Jian	Dag Tave
Pavel Jurajda	Ivančica Tjernež
Luka Jurinović	Tea Tomljanović
Damir Kapetanović	Natalija Topić Popović
Goran Klobučar	Tomislav Treer
Istvan Lehocsky	Craig Tucker
Duje Lisičić	Pero Tutman
Dragana Ljubojević	Robert L. Vadas Jr.
Zoran Marčić	Damir Valić
Daniel Matulić	Irena Vardić Smrzlić
Ewen McLean	Lorenzo Vilizzi
Branislav Mičković	Davor Zanella
Tanja Mihinjač	Qiong Zhou
Ivana Miletić	