

# NEW YORK FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Scientific name: Misgurnus anguillicaudatus  
 Common names: Oriental Weatherfish, Pond Loach, Weatherloach, Dojo Loach  
 Native distribution: Eastern Asia from Siberia south to northern Vietnam, including Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar (Burma), Russian Federation, Taiwan, and Thailand  
 Date assessed: 7/5/2013  
 Assessors: Erin L. White  
 Reviewers: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Form version date: 3 January 2013

**New York Invasiveness Rank:** High (Relative Maximum Score 70.00-80.00)

<b>Distribution and Invasiveness Rank</b> (Obtain from PRISM invasiveness ranking form)		
Status of this species in each PRISM:	Current Distribution	PRISM Invasiveness Rank
1 Adirondack Park Invasive Program	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
2 Capital/Mohawk	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
3 Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
4 Finger Lakes	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
5 Long Island Invasive Species Management Area	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
6 Lower Hudson	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
7 Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario	Not Assessed	Not Assessed
8 Western New York	Not Assessed	Not Assessed

<b>Invasiveness Ranking Summary</b> (see details under appropriate sub-section)		Total (Total Answered*) Possible	Total
1	Ecological impact	30 (20)	14
2	Biological characteristic and dispersal ability	30 (30)	25
3	Ecological amplitude and distribution	30 (24)	22
4	Difficulty of control	10 (7)	4
	Outcome score	100 (81) <sup>b</sup>	65 <sup>a</sup>
	Relative maximum score <sup>†</sup>		80.25
	New York Invasiveness Rank <sup>§</sup>	High (Relative Maximum Score 70.00-80.00)	

\* For questions answered "unknown" do not include point value in "Total Answered Points Possible." If "Total Answered Points Possible" is less than 70.00 points, then the overall invasive rank should be listed as "Unknown."

<sup>†</sup> Calculated as 100(a/b) to two decimal places.

<sup>§</sup> Very High >80.00; High 70.00-80.00; Moderate 50.00-69.99; Low 40.00-49.99; Insignificant <40.00

### A. DISTRIBUTION (KNOWN/POTENTIAL): Summarized from individual PRISM forms

A1.1. Has this species been documented in NY? (reliable source; voucher not required)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes – continue to A1.2	
<input type="checkbox"/>	No – continue to A2.1; Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NA; Yes <input type="checkbox"/> USA	
A1.2. In which PRISMs is it known (see inset map)?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adirondack Park Invasive Program	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capital/Mohawk	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Finger Lakes	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Long Island Invasive Species Management Area	

## NEW YORK FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lower Hudson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Western New York

**Documentation:**

Sources of information:

(The Nature Conservancy, 2013; U.S. Geological Survey, 2013)

A2.0. Is this species listed on the Federal Injurious Fish and Wildlife list?

Yes – the species will automatically be listed as Prohibited, no further assessment required.

No – continue to A2.1

A2.1. What is the likelihood that this species will occur and persist given the climate in the following PRISMs?

(obtain from PRISM invasiveness ranking form and/ or Climatch score)

- Very Likely            Adirondack Park Invasive Program
- Very Likely            Capital/Mohawk
- Very Likely            Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership
- Very Likely            Finger Lakes
- Very Likely            Long Island Invasive Species Management Area
- Very Likely            Lower Hudson
- Very Likely            Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario
- Very Likely            Western New York

**Documentation:**

Sources of information (e.g.: distribution models, literature, expert opinions):

***If the species does not occur and is not likely to survive and reproduce within any of the PRISMs, then stop here as there is no need to assess the species.***

A2.2. What is the current distribution of the species in each PRISM? (obtain rank from PRISM invasiveness ranking forms)

	Distribution
Adirondack Park Invasive Program	Not Assessed
Capital/Mohawk	Not Assessed
Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership	Not Assessed
Finger Lakes	Not Assessed
Long Island Invasive Species Management Area	Not Assessed
Lower Hudson	Not Assessed
Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario	Not Assessed
Western New York	Not Assessed

**Documentation:**

Sources of information:

A2.3. Describe the potential or known suitable habitats within New York. Natural habitats include all habitats not under active human management. Managed habitats are indicated with an asterisk.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Aquatic Habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Marine</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Salt/ brackish waters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater tidal</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rivers/streams</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural lakes and ponds</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Vernal pools</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reservoirs/ impoundments*</li> </ul> | <p><b>Wetland Habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Salt/brackish marshes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater marshes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Peatlands</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shrub swamps</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forested wetlands/riparian</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ditches*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Beaches/or coastal dunes</li> </ul> | <p><b>Upland Habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cultivated*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Grasslands/old fields</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shrublands</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forests/woodlands</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Alpine</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Roadsides*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Cultural*</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|

Other potential or known suitable habitats within New York:

Agricultural lands requiring ditches

**Documentation:**

# NEW YORK

## FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Sources of information:

(Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), 2013; Nico et al., 2012; Talwar & Jhingran, 1991)

### B. INVASIVENESS RANKING

#### 1. ECOLOGICAL IMPACT

1.1. Impact on Ecosystem Processes and System-wide Parameters (e.g., water cycle, energy cycle, nutrient and mineral dynamics, light availability, or geomorphological changes (erosion and sedimentation rates).

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| A. | No perceivable impact on ecosystem processes based on research studies, or the absence of impact information if a species is widespread (>10 occurrences in minimally managed areas), has been well-studied (>10 reports/publications), and has been present in the northeast for >100 years. | 0  |
| B. | Influences ecosystem processes to a minor degree, has a perceivable but mild influence  | 3  |
| C. | Significant alteration of ecosystem processes   | 7  |
| D. | Major, possibly irreversible, alteration or disruption of ecosystem processes   | 10 |
| U. | Unknown   |    |

Score 7

**Documentation:**

Identify ecosystem processes impacted (or if applicable, justify choosing answer A in the absence of impact information)

Misgurnus anguillicaudatus has been shown to elevate levels of ammonia, nitrate/nitrite (NOx), and turbidity in lentic mesocosm environments (Keller and Lake 2007), adversely affecting water quality.

Sources of information:

ISSG, 2013; Keller & Lake, 2007)

1.2. Impact on Natural Habitat/ Community Composition

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| A. | No perceived impact; causes no apparent change in native populations  | 0  |
| B. | Influences community composition (e.g., reduces the number of individuals of one or more native species in the community)   | 3  |
| C. | Significantly alters community composition (e.g., produces a significant reduction in the population size of one or more native species in the community)   | 7  |
| D. | Causes major alteration in community composition (e.g., results in the extirpation of one or several native species, reducing biodiversity or change the community composition towards species exotic to the natural community) | 10 |
| U. | Unknown   |    |

Score U

**Documentation:**

Identify type of impact or alteration:

Rather than demonstrative, the literature is speculative about the impact of M. anguillicaudatus as an introduced fish in non-native habitat. However, due to what is known about this fish and similar fish as non-natives, scientists suggest that it could reduce aquatic invertebrate populations, which native fishes depend on as a food source (Freyhof & Korte, 2005). Keller & Lake (2007) documented this fish reducing macroinvertebrate numbers significantly in mesocosm situations. In addition, Wilson (2005) suggests this species could displace native fishes in situations where they have high localized abundance. More research is called for by many to determine the degree of impact to native species.

Sources of information:

(Freyhof & Korte, 2005; Keller & Lake, 2007; Wilson, 2005)

1.3. Impact on other species or species groups, including cumulative impact of this species on other organisms in the community it invades. (e.g., interferes with native predator/ prey dynamics; injurious components/ spines; reduction in spawning;

**NEW YORK  
FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

hybridizes with a native species; hosts a non-native disease which impacts a native species)

- A. Negligible perceived impact 0
- B. Minor impact (e.g. impacts 1 species, <20% population decline, limited host damage) 3
- C. Moderate impact (e.g. impacts 2-3 species and/ or 20-29% population decline of any 1 species, kills host in 2-5 years, ,) 7
- D. Severe impact on other species or species groups (e.g. impacts >3 species and/ or ≥30% population decline of any 1 species, kills host within 2 years, extirpation) 10
- U. Unknown

Score 7

**Documentation:**

Identify type of impact or alteration:

Keller & Lake (2007) documented this fish reducing macroinvertebrate numbers significantly in mesocosm situations and there is speculation that they could have a significant impact on native fish populations by outcompeting them for this food source. In addition, Wilson (2005) notes this species is host to protozoans, cestodes, and trematodes and has been attributed as responsible for the introduction of a non-native parasite (the fluke *Gyrodactylus macracanthus*) to Australia.

Sources of information:

(Keller & Lake, 2007; Wilson, 2005)

Total Possible 20  
Section One Total 14

**2. BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND DISPERSAL ABILITY**

2.1. Mode and rate of reproduction (provisional thresholds, more investigation needed)

- A. No reproduction (e.g. sterile with no sexual or asexual reproduction). 0
- B. Limited reproduction (e.g., intrinsic rate of increase <10%, low fecundity, complete one life cycle) 1
- C. Moderate reproduction (e.g., intrinsic rate of increase between 10-30%, moderate fecundity, complete 2-3 life cycles) 2
- D. Abundant reproduction (e.g., intrinsic rate of increase >30%, parthenogenesis, large egg masses, complete > 3 life cycles) 4
- U. Unknown

Score 4

**Documentation:**

Describe key reproductive characteristics:

*M. anguillicaudatus* is an external fertilizer with high reproductive capacity, with one seasonal reproductive peak per year.

Sources of information:

(ISSG, 2013; Talwar & Jhingran, 1991)

2.2. Migratory behavior

- A. Always migratory in its native range 0
- B. Non-migratory or facultative migrant in its native range 2
- U. Unknown

Score 0

**Documentation:**

Describe migratory behavior:

In their native range, *M. anguillicaudatus* are known to migrate from streams to paddy fields (lentic habitats) for spawning (Fujimoto et al. 2008).

Sources of information:

(Fujimoto, Ouchi, Hakuba, Chiba, & Iwata, 2008)

**NEW YORK  
FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

2.3. Biological potential for colonization by long-distance dispersal/ movement (e.g., veligers, resting stage eggs, glochidia)

- A. No long-distance dispersal/ movement mechanisms 0
- B. Adaptations exist for long-distance dispersal, but studies report that most individuals (90%) establish territories within 5 miles of natal origin or within a distance twice the home range of the typical individual, and tend not to cross major barriers such as dams and watershed divides 1
- C. Adaptations exist for long-distance dispersal, movement and evidence that offspring often disperse greater than 5 miles of natal origin or greater than twice the home range of typical individual and will cross major barriers such as dams and watershed divides 2
- U. Unknown

Score 1

**Documentation:**

Identify dispersal mechanisms:

Misgurnus anguillicaudatus can travel to new areas to establish through connected aquatic habitats (streams, drainages, irrigation systems), and Nishida et al. (2006) documented dispersal at a distance less than 5 miles. However, this species can survive dry periods (of at least 80 days) and can move across land to establish in new areas, so they would not be as limited as many other fish in dispersal (Koetsier & Urquhart 2012).

Sources of information:

(Koetsier & Urquhart, 2012; Nishida, Fujii, Minagawa, & Senga, 2006)

2.4. Practical potential to be spread by human activities, both directly and indirectly – possible vectors include: commercial bait sales, deliberate illegal stocking, aquaria releases, boat trailers, canals, ballast water exchange, live food trade, rehabilitation, pest control industry, aquaculture escapes, etc.)

- A. Does not occur 0
- B. Low (human dispersal to new areas occurs almost exclusively by direct means and is infrequent or inefficient) 1
- C. Moderate (human dispersal to new areas occurs by direct and indirect means to a moderate extent) 2
- D. High (opportunities for human dispersal to new areas by direct and indirect means are numerous, frequent, and successful) 4
- U. Unknown

Score 2

**Documentation:**

Identify dispersal mechanisms:

Potential vectors of spread include the live food trade and the aquarium trade (ISSG 2013).

This species is used as a bait fish in Australia and introductions to new locations there have been attributed to this method (Lintermans 2004).

Sources of information:

(ISSG, 2013; Lintermans, 2004; Nico et al., 2012)

2.5. Non-living chemical and physical characteristics that increase competitive advantage (e.g., tolerance to various extremes, pH, DO, temperature, desiccation, fill vacant niche, charismatic species)

- A. Possesses no characteristics that increase competitive advantage 0
- B. Possesses one characteristic that increases competitive advantage 4
- C. Possesses two or more characteristics that increase competitive advantage 8
- U. Unknown

Score 8

**Documentation:**

Evidence of competitive ability:

**NEW YORK  
FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

Oriental weatherfish can survive extended periods of dessication (at least 80 days, Koetsier & Urquhart 2012). They have also been described as tolerant of low oxygen levels and a wide range of temperatures (Nico et al. 2012).

Sources of information:

(Koetsier & Urquhart, 2012; Lintermans, 2004; Nico et al., 2012)

2.6. Biological characteristics that increase competitive advantage (e.g., high fecundity, generalist/ broad niche space, highly evolved defense mechanisms, behavioral adaptations, piscivorous, etc.)

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| A. | Possesses no characteristics that increase competitive advantage          | 0 |
| B. | Possesses one characteristic that increases competitive advantage         | 4 |
| C. | Possesses two or more characteristics that increase competitive advantage | 8 |
| U. | Unknown   |   |

Score 8

**Documentation:**

Evidence of competitive ability:

Keller & Lake (2007) documented this fish reducing macroinvertebrate numbers significantly in mesocosm situations and there is speculation that they could have a significant impact on native fish populations by outcompeting them for this food source. They are described as living of a wide variety of habitat types (generalist) as well as having a high competitive ability, high reproductive capacity, and high survivorship.

Sources of information:

(ISSG, 2013; Keller & Lake, 2007; Lintermans, 2004)

2.7. Other species in the family and/ or genus invasive in New York or elsewhere?

- |    |         |   |
|----|---------|---|
| A. | No      | 0 |
| B. | Yes     | 2 |
| U. | Unknown |   |

Score 2

**Documentation:**

Identify species:

Misgurnus mizolepis, Pangio kuhlii

Total Possible	30
Section Two Total	25

**3. ECOLOGICAL AMPLITUDE AND DISTRIBUTION**

3.1. Current introduced distribution in the northern latitudes of USA and southern latitude of Canada (e.g., between 35 and 55 degrees).

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| A. | Not known from the northern US or southern Canada.   | 0 |
| B. | Established as a non-native in 1 northern USA state and/or southern Canadian province.   | 1 |
| C. | Established as a non-native in 2 or 3 northern USA states and/or southern Canadian provinces.  | 2 |
| D. | Established as a non-native in 4 or more northern USA states and/or southern Canadian provinces, and/or categorized as a problem species (e.g., “Invasive”) in 1 northern state or southern Canadian province. | 3 |
| U. | Unknown  |   |

Score 3

**Documentation:**

Identify states and provinces:

CA, ID, IL, MI, NJ, NY, OR, and WA

Sources of information:

- See known introduced range at [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov), and update with information from

## NEW YORK FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

states and Canadian provinces.  
(Nico et al., 2012)

### 3.2. Current introduced distribution of the species in natural areas in the eight New York State PRISMs (Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management)

- |    |                                   |   |
|----|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. | Established in none of the PRISMs | 0 |
| B. | Established in 1 PRISM            | 1 |
| C. | Established in 2 or 3 PRISMs      | 3 |
| D. | Established in 4 or more PRISMs   | 5 |
| U. | Unknown                           |   |

Score 5

**Documentation:**

Describe distribution:

Found in Western NY, Finger Lakes, Lower Hudson, CRISP, LISMA

Sources of information:

(The Nature Conservancy, 2013; U.S. Geological Survey, 2013)

### 3.3. Number of known, or potential (each individual possessed by a vendor or consumer), individual releases and/ or release events

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| A. | None  | 0 |
| B. | Few releases (e.g., <10 annually).                    | 2 |
| C. | Regular, small scale releases (e.g., 10-99 annually). | 4 |
| D. | Multiple, large scale (e.g., ≥100 annually).          | 6 |
| U. | Unknown   |   |

Score U

**Documentation:**

Describe known or potential releases:

The live food trade and pet trade are potential release methods. While the number of annual releases is unknown, introduction from these methods could be great.

Sources of information:

(ISSG, 2013)

### 3.4. Current introduced population density, or distance to known occurrence, in northern USA and/ or southern Canada.

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| A. | No known populations established.   | 0 |
| B. | Low to moderate population density (e.g., ≤1/4 to < 1/2 native population density) with few other invasives present and/ or documented in 1 or more non-adjacent state/ province and/ or 1 unconnected waterbody. | 1 |
| C. | High or irruptive population density (e.g., ≥1/2 native population density) with numerous other invasives present and/ or documented in 1 or more adjacent state/ province and/ or 1 connected waterbody.         | 2 |
| U. | Unknown   |   |

Score 1

**Documentation:**

Describe population density:

Populations have established in at least eight states in the northern US, with two examples of adjacent states being occupied (NY and NJ, and OR and WA).

Sources of information:

(Nico et al., 2012)

**NEW YORK  
FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

---

**3.5. Number of habitats the species may invade**

- A. Not known to invade any natural habitats given at A2.3. 0
- B. Known to occur in 2 or 3 of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least 1 or 2 natural habitat(s). 2
- C. Known to occur in 4 or more of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least 3 natural habitats. 3
- U. Unknown.

Score 

2
---

**Documentation:**

Identify type of habitats where it occurs and degree/type of impacts:

Oriental weatherfish are known to use habitats including streams, lakes and ponds, and swamps, as well as agricultural lands requiring ditches or standing water (this last one in their native range).

Sources of information:

(ISSG, 2013; Nico et al., 2012; Talwar & Jhingran, 1991)

**3.6. Role of anthropogenic (human related) and natural disturbance in establishment (e.g. water level management, man-made structures, high vehicle traffic, major storm events, etc).**

- A. Requires anthropogenic disturbances to establish. 0
- B. May occasionally establish in undisturbed areas but can readily establish in areas with natural or anthropogenic disturbances. 2
- C. Can establish independent of any known natural or anthropogenic disturbances. 3
- U. Unknown.

Score 

3
---

**Documentation:**

Identify type of disturbance:

There is no mention in literature searched of an anthropogenic disturbance requirement for this species to establish in new locations.

Sources of information:

**3.7. Climate in native range (e.g., med. to high,  $\geq 5$ , Climatch score; within 35 to 55 degree latitude; etc.)**

- A. Native range does not include climates similar to New York (e.g.,  $< 10\%$ ). 0
- B. Native range possibly includes climates similar to portions of New York (e.g., 10-29%). 4
- C. Native range includes climates similar to those in New York (e.g.,  $\geq 30\%$ ). 8
- U. Unknown.

Score 

8
---

**Documentation:**

Describe known climate similarities:

83% of NY stations are  $> 5$  on Climatch.

Sources of information:

(Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry (ADAFF), 2013)

Total Possible	24
Section Three Total	22

**4. DIFFICULTY OF CONTROL**

**4.1. Re-establishment potential, nearby propagule source, known vectors of re-introduction (e.g. biological supplies, pets, aquaria, aquaculture facilities, connecting waters/ corridors, mechanized transportation, live wells, etc.)**

- A. No known vectors/ propagule source for re-establishment following removal. 0
- B. Possible re-establishment from 1 vector/ propagule source following removal and/ or viable 1



**NEW YORK  
FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

---

- <24 hours.
- C. Likely to re-establish from 2-3 vectors/ propagule sources following removal and/ or viable 2-7 days. 2
- D. Strong potential for re-establishment from 4 or more vectors/ propagule sources following removal and/or viable >7 days. 3
- U. Unknown.

Score

**Documentation:**

Identify source/ vectors:

Known vectors include the live food trade, pet trade as well as connectivity of aquatic corridors.

Sources of information:

ISSG 2013

**4.2. Status of monitoring and/ or management protocols for species**

- A. Standardized protocols appropriate to New York State are available. 0
- B. Scientific protocols are available from other countries, regions or states. 1
- C. No known protocols exist. 2
- U. Unknown

Score

**Documentation:**

Describe protocols:

A draft management strategy for a watershed in Australia exists, which presumably includes protocols, although I could not locate it online (Koster et al. 2002). Chang et al. (year) suggest management actions to reduce risk of invasions from the pet/aquarium trade for a number of non-native species, including Oriental Weatherfish. Wilson (2010) suggests that removal or exclusion from habitats would have little success for eradication. Instead, he suggests allowing prolonged drying of habitats or genetic manipulation of populations to control this species in introduced areas. It is important to note that Kano et al. (2010) outline conservation management strategies for this species in Japan, where there is concern for declining populations. The causes for decline there include habitat alteration, barriers to movement between habitats, and agricultural chemicals.

Sources of information:

(Chang et al., 2009; Kano, Kawaguchi, Yamashita, & Shimatani, 2010; Koster, Raadik, & Clunie, 2002; Wilson, 2005)

**4.3. Status of monitoring and/ or management resources (e.g. tools, manpower, travel, traps, lures, ID keys, taxonomic specialists, etc.)**

- A. Established resources are available including commercial and/ or research tools 0
- B. Monitoring resources may be available (e.g. partnerships, NGOs, etc) 1
- C. No known monitoring resources are available 2
- U. Unknown

Score

**Documentation:**

Describe resources:

These resources are presumed to be available.

Sources of information:

**4.4. Level of effort required**

- A. Management is not required. (e.g., species does not persist without repeated human mediated action.) 0
- B. Management is relatively easy and inexpensive; invasive species can be maintained at low abundance causing little or no ecological harm. (e.g., 10 or fewer person-hours of manual effort can eradicate a local infestation in 1 year.) 1

## NEW YORK FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

- C. Management requires a major short-term investment, and is logistically and politically challenging; eradication is difficult, but possible. (e.g., 100 or fewer person-hours/year of manual effort, or up to 10 person-hours/ year for 2-5 years to suppress a local infestation.) 2
- D. Management requires a major investment and is logistically and politically difficult; eradication may be impossible. (e.g., more than 100 person-hours/ year of manual effort, or more than 10 person hours/year for more than 5 years to suppress a local infestation.) 3
- U. Unknown

Score 

U
---

### Documentation:

Identify types of control methods and time required:

A draft management strategy for a watershed in Australia exists, which presumably includes protocols, although I could not locate specific tasks online (Koster et al. 2002). Chang et al. (year) suggest management actions to reduce risk of invasions from the pet/aquarium trade for a number of non-native species, including Oriental Weatherfish. Wilson (2010) suggests that removal or exclusion from habitats would have little success for eradication. Instead, he suggests allowing prolonged drying of habitats or genetic manipulation of populations to control this species in introduced areas. It is important to note that Kano et al. (2010) outline conservation management strategies for this species in Japan, where there is concern for declining populations. The causes for decline there include habitat alteration, barriers to movement between habitats, and agricultural chemicals.

Sources of information:

(Chang et al., 2009; Kano et al., 2010; Koster et al., 2002; Wilson, 2005)

Total Possible	7
Section Four Total	4

<b>Total for 4 sections Possible</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Total for 4 sections</b>	<b>65</b>

### C. STATUS OF GENETIC VARIANTS AND HYBRIDS:

At the present time there is no protocol or criteria for assessing the invasiveness of genetic variants independent of the species to which they belong. Such a protocol is needed, and individuals with the appropriate expertise should address this issue in the future. Such a protocol will likely require data on cultivar fertility and identification in both experimental and natural settings.

Genetic variants of the species known to exist:

Hybrids (crosses between different parent species) should be assessed individually and separately from the parent species wherever taxonomically possible, since their invasiveness may differ from that of the parent species. An exception should be made if the taxonomy of the species and hybrids are uncertain, and species and hybrids can not be clearly distinguished in the field. In such cases it is not feasible to distinguish species and hybrids, and they can only be assessed as a single unit.

Hybrids of uncertain origin known to exist: *Paramisgurnus dabryanus*

### References for species assessment:

Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry (ADAFF). (2013). Climatch Mapping Tool. Retrieved January 23, 2013, from <http://adl.brs.gov.au:8080/Climatch/>

## NEW YORK FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

---

- Chang, A. L., Grossman, J. D., Spezio, T. S., Weiskel, H. W., Blum, J. C., Burt, J. W., ... Grosholz, E. D. (2009). Tackling aquatic invasions: risks and opportunities for the aquarium fish industry. *Biological Invasions*, 11(4), 773–785.
- Freyhof, J., & Korte, E. (2005). The first record of *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* in Germany. *Journal of Fish Biology*, 66(2), 568–571.
- Fujimoto, Y., Ouchi, Y., Hakuba, T., Chiba, H., & Iwata, M. (2008). Influence of modern irrigation, drainage system and water management on spawning migration of mud loach, *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* C. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*, 81(2), 185–194.
- Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG). (2013). Global Invasive Species Database. Retrieved January 11, 2013, from <http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=217&fr=1&sts=sss&lang=EN>
- Kano, Y., Kawaguchi, Y., Yamashita, T., & Shimatani, Y. (2010). Distribution of the oriental weatherloach, *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*, in paddy fields and its implications for conservation in Sado Island, Japan. *Ichthyological research*, 57(2), 180–188.
- Keller, R., & Lake, P. (2007). Potential impacts of a recent and rapidly spreading coloniser of Australian freshwaters: Oriental weatherloach (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*). *Ecology of Freshwater Fish*, 16(2), 124–132.
- Koetsier, P., & Urquhart, A. N. (2012). Desiccation tolerance in a wild population of the invasive oriental weatherfish *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* in Idaho, USA. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society*, 141(2), 365–369.
- Koster, W. M., Raadik, T. A., & Clunie, P. (2002). Scoping study of the potential spread and impact of the exotic fish Oriental weatherloach in the Murray-Darling Basin, Australia: a draft management strategy. (p. 15). Melbourne: Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research.
- Lintermans, M. (2004). Human - assisted dispersal of alien freshwater fish in Australia. *New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research*, 38(3), 481–501.
- Nico, L., Fuller, P., Neilson, M., Larson, J., Fusaro, A., & Loftus, B. (2012). *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*. USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database, Gainesville, FL. Retrieved July 2, 2013, from <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=498>
- Nishida, K., Fujii, C., Minagawa, A., & Senga, Y. (2006). Research on Migration and Dispersal Range of Freshwater Fish that Reproduce in Temporary Water Area—Case study of Mukojima-channel in Hino-city and Fuchu-channel in Kunitachi-city, Tokyo. *TRANSACTIONS-JAPANESE SOCIETY OF IRRIGATION DRAINAGE AND RECLAMATION ENGINEERING*, 74(4), 151.
- Talwar, P. K., & Jhingran, A. G. (1991). Talwar, P.K. and A.G. Jhingran, 1991. Inland fishes of India and adjacent countries. vol 1. A.A. Balkema, Rotterdam. 541 p.
- The Nature Conservancy. (2013). iMapInvasives: An Online Mapping Tool for Invasive Species Locations. Retrieved January 3, 2013, from [iMapInvasives.org](http://iMapInvasives.org)
- U.S. Geological Survey. (2013). Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database. Gainesville, Florida. Retrieved January 3, 2013, from <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=214>
- Wilson, G. G. (2005). Impact of invasive exotic fishes on wetland ecosystems in the Murray–Darling Basin (pp. 7–8). Presented at the 2006) Native fish and wetlands of the Murray–Darling Basin: action plan, knowledge gaps and supporting papers Proceedings of a workshop held in Canberra ACT.

**Citation:** The New York Fish & Aquatic Invertebrate Invasiveness Ranking Form is an adaptation of the New York Plant Invasiveness Ranking Form. The original plant form may be cited as: Jordan, M.J., G. Moore and T.W. Weldy. 2008. Invasiveness ranking system for non-native plants of New York. Unpublished. The Nature Conservancy, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY; The Nature Conservancy, Albany, NY.

**Acknowledgments:** The New York Fish and Aquatic Invertebrate Invasiveness Ranking Form incorporates components and approaches used in several other systems, cited in the references below. Valuable contributions by

## NEW YORK

# FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

---

members of the Invasive Species Council and Invasive Species Advisory Committee were incorporated in revisions of this form. Members of the Office of Invasive Species Coordination's Four-tier Team, who coordinated the effort, included representatives of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation\* (Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, Division of Lands and Forests, Division of Water); The Nature Conservancy; New York Natural Heritage Program; New York Sea Grant\*; Lake Champlain Sea Grant\*; New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (Division of Plant Industry and Division of Animal Industry); Cornell University (Department of Natural Resources and Department of Entomology); New York State Nursery and Landscape Association; New York Farm Bureau; Brooklyn Botanic Garden; Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council\*; Trout Unlimited\*; United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (Plant Protection and Quarantine and Wildlife Services); New York State Department of Transportation; State University of New York at Albany and Plattsburgh\*; and Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. Those organizations listed with an asterisk comprised the Fish and Aquatic Invertebrate Working Group.

### References for ranking form:

Bomford, M. 2008. Risk Assessment Models for Establishment of Exotic Vertebrates in Australia and New Zealand. Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, Canberra.

Broken Screens: The Regulation of Live Animal Imports in the United States. 2007. Defenders of Wildlife, Washington, DC.

Copp, G. H., R. Garthwaite and R. E. Gozlan. 2005. Risk Identification and Assessment of Non-native Freshwater Fishes: Concepts and Perspectives on Protocols for the UK. Sci. Ser. Tech Rep., Cefas Lowestoft, 129: 32pp.

Cooperative Prevention of Invasive Wildlife Introduction in Florida. 2008. The Environmental Law Institute, Washington, DC.

Generic Nonindigenous Aquatic Organisms Risk Analysis Review Process. 1996. Risk Assessment and Management Committee, Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.

International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions. 2007. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Jordan, M.J., G. Moore and T.W. Weldy. 2008. Invasiveness ranking system for non-native plants of New York. Unpublished. The Nature Conservancy, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY; The Nature Conservancy, Albany, New York.

Long Island Sound Interstate Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan. 2007. Balcom, N. editor, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission.

Molnar, J., R. Gamboa, C. Revenga, and M. Spalding. 2008 Assessing the Global Threat of Invasive Species to Marine Biodiversity. Front. Ecol. Environ.

Natural Resources Board Order No. IS-34-06, Invasive Species Identification, Classification and Control. 2008. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison Wisconsin.

Preventing Biological Invasions: Best Practices in Pre-Import Risk Screening for Species of Live Animals in International Trade. 2008. Convention of Biological Diversity, Global Invasive Species Programme and Invasive Species Specialist Group of IUCN's Species Survival Commission. University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

Standard Methodology to Assess the Risks From Non-native Species Considered Possible Problems to the Environment. 2005. DEFRA.

Trinational Risk Assessment Guidelines for Aquatic Alien Invasive Species. 2009. Commission for Environmental Cooperation. Montreal, Canada.

**NEW YORK**  
**FISH & AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

---

Witmer, G., W. Pitt and K. Fagerstone. 2007. Managing Vertebrate Invasive Species. USDA National Wildlife Research Center Symposia, Fort Collins, Colorado.