

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**


**Second Report by the United Kingdom under  
Article 17  
on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2001 to December 2006**

**Conservation status assessment for  
Species:  
S1149 - *Cobitis taenia* - Spined loach.**

The information in this assessment corresponds to the "species fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

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**Species Name: *Cobitis taenia***

<b>1. National level</b>	
Species Code	S1149
Member State	United Kingdom
Biogeographic regions concerned within the Member state	ATL
1.1 Range map	

## 1.2 Distribution map



## 2. Biogeographic level

### 2.1 Biogeographic region

ATL

### 2.2 Published sources and/or websites

DAVIES, C. E., SHELLEY, J., HARDING, P. T., MCLEAN, I. F. G., GARDINER, R. & PEIRSON, G., eds. 2004. Freshwater fishes in Britain - the species and their distribution. Colchester: Harley Books

MAITLAND, P. S. & CAMPBELL, R. N. 1992. Freshwater Fishes of the British Isles. London: HarperCollins

PERROW M.R. & JOWITT A.J.D. 2000. On the trail of the spined loach: developing a conservation plan for a poorly known species. British Wildlife 11, 390-397.

PHILLIPS, R. & Rix, M. 1985. A Guide to the Freshwater Fish of Britain, Ireland and Europe. Treasure Press, London.

MANN, R. H. K. 1996. Species Action Plan: spined loach *Cobitis taenia*.

	Report to English Nature in association with the Environment Agency			
	PERROW, M. R. & JOWITT, A. J. D. 1997. The habitat and management requirements of spined loach <i>Cobitis taenia</i> . English Nature Research Report No 244			
	Map Data Sources			
	Database for the Atlas of Freshwater Fishes (via the NBN Gateway)			
<b>2.3 Range of species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>				
2.3.1 Surface range of the species (sq km)	23655			
2.3.2 Date of range determination	1990-2003			
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Moderate			
2.3.4 Range trend	Stable (=)			
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude (%)	Not applicable			
2.3.6 Range trend period	1994-2003			
2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable			
<b>2.4 Population</b>				
2.4.1 Population size estimation	Minimum	Unknown	Maximum	Unknown
	Units			
2.4.2 Date of population estimation	05/2007			
2.4.3 Method used for population estimation	1 - Based on expert opinion			
2.4.4 Quality of population data	Poor			
2.4.5 Population trend	Unknown (X)			
2.4.6 Population trend magnitude (%)	Not applicable			
2.4.7 Population trend period	1994-2006			
2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable			
2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)	Not applicable			
2.4.10 Main pressures	290 - Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above; 701 - water pollution; 852 - modifying structures of inland water courses; 952 - eutrophication;			
2.4.11 Threats	290 - Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above; 701 - water pollution; 852 - modifying structures of inland water courses; 952 - eutrophication;			
<b>2.5 Habitat for the species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>				
2.5 Habitats for the species	Perrow & Jowitt (1997) conclude that the optimal habitat for a <i>C. taenia</i> consists of a sandy substrate with patchy, dense macrophytes; they use a complex branchial apparatus to filter-feed in fine but well-oxygenated sediments.			

2.5.2 Area estimation (sq km)	Unknown
2.5.3 Date of estimation	05/2007
2.5.4 Quality of data	Poor
2.5.5 Trend of the habitat	Stable (=)
2.5.6 Trend period	1994-2006
2.5.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable
<b>2.6 Future prospects</b>	
2.6 Future prospects for the species	Good prospects_Species expected to survive and prosper
<b>2.7 Complementary information</b>	
2.7.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	23655
2.7.2 Favourable reference population	
2.7.3 Suitable Habitat for the species	Unknown
2.7.4 Other relevant information	
<b>2.8 Conclusions</b> <i>(assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</i>	
(2.3) Range	(FV) - Favourable
(2.4) Population	(XX) - Unknown
(2.5) Habitat for the species	(XX) - Unknown
(2.6) Future prospects	(FV) - Favourable
Overall assessment	(XX) - Unknown