Neoarius paucus, Fork-tailed Catfish

Assessment by: Kennard, M.

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Actinopterygii	Siluriformes	Ariidae

Taxon Name: *Neoarius paucus* (Kailola, 2000)

Synonym(s):

- *Ariopsis paucus* (Kailola, 2000)
- *Arius paucus* Kailola, 2000
- *Sciades paucus* (Kailola, 2000)

Common Name(s):

- English: Fork-tailed Catfish, Carpentaria Catfish, Shovel-nose Catfish

Taxonomic Source(s):

Ferraris, C.J., Jr. 2007. Checklist of catfishes, recent and fossil (Osteichthyes: Siluriformes), and catalogue of siluriform primary types. *Zootaxa* 1418: 1-628.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2019

Date Assessed: February 12, 2019

Justification:

Listed as Least Concern because it is widespread, common and there are no major threats.

Geographic Range

Range Description:

This species is widely distributed across northern Australia from the Roper River eastwards to Cape York Peninsula (Pusey *et al.* 2017). In eastern Cape York Peninsula it occurs as far south as the Endeavour River (Pusey *et al.* 2017).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Australia (Northern Territory, Queensland)

Distribution Map

Neoarius paucus

Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

Lintermans, M. and colleagues 2019 IUCN Red List assessment for Australian freshwater fish.

Population

It is considered to be common and widespread throughout its range.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species occurs in a range of habitats from rivers, wetlands and brackish estuaries.

Systems: Freshwater

Use and Trade

It is part of commercial fishery bycatch.

Threats

There are no major threats to this species.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species occurs in several protected areas.

Credits

Assessor(s): Kennard, M.

Reviewer(s): Hammer, M.

**Facilitators(s) and
Compiler(s):** Chanson, J.S.

Bibliography

Hermaso, V., Ward, D.P., and Kennard, M.J. 2013. Prioritizing refugia for freshwater biodiversity conservation in highly seasonal ecosystems. *Diversity and Distributions* 19: 1031-1042.

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Kailola, P.J. 2000. Six new species of fork-tailed catfishes (Pisces, Teleostei, Ariidae) from Australia and New Guinea. *Beagle* 16(12).

Kennard, M.J. 2011. Priorities for identification and sustainable management of high conservation value aquatic ecosystems in northern Australia. Final Report for the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities and the National Water Commission. Tropical Rivers and Coastal Knowledge (TRaCK) Commonwealth Environmental Research Facility. Darwin University, Darwin.

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.1. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)	-	Suitable	-
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.2. Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent/Irregular Rivers/Streams/Creeks	-	Suitable	-
9. Marine Neritic -> 9.10. Marine Neritic - Estuaries	Resident	Suitable	-

Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Research, Monitoring and Planning
Action Recovery plan: No
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Occur in at least one PA: Yes

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