

12.6 FISH

There are about 60 species of British fish of which about half have been recorded from Derbyshire. Many of these are widespread nationally and in Derbyshire, but seven species are believed to be uncommon in Derbyshire. Of these Salmon, Barbel and Bleak are expanding their range or maintaining established populations and are therefore not considered under these guidelines.

Fish Selection Guidelines

Sites that meet one or more of the following guidelines will be eligible for designation as a Local Wildlife Site.

Fi1 Any stretch of watercourse that supports a native population of fish listed in Annex 2 of the EC Habitats Directive that is either

- a) recorded from 5 or fewer sites in Derbyshire or**
 - b) from more than 5 sites in Derbyshire where the site makes a significant contribution to the distribution of the species or the total population size in the county.**
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Application

This guideline should be applied to all watercourses that regularly support these species. The boundaries of the designated area should include these sections of the river important for the development of fry, migration and spawning. The determination of a 'site' requires further data analysis. Sites should be designated in consultation with the Environment Agency.

Justification

These species are noted as of importance in the European context in the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations. Consequently, populations of these species should be protected, especially where they are sparsely located.

Fi2 Any stretch of watercourse that regularly supports a native population of one of the following species: -

Brook Lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*)

Silver Bream (*Abramis bjoerkna*)

Spined Loach (*Cobitis taenia*)

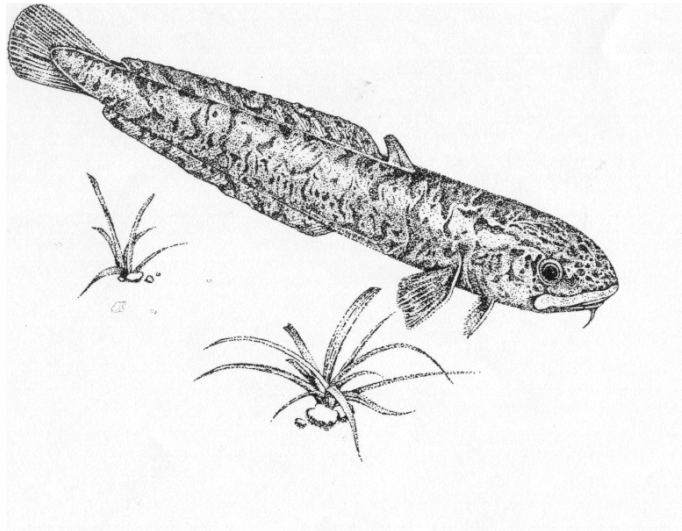
Nine-spined Stickleback (*Pungitius pungitius*)

Application

The boundaries of the site should attempt to include key areas of habitat required for feeding, spawning, migration and the development of fry. The Nine-spined Stickleback is thought to be under-recorded and up to date information on its conservation status and national and local distribution should be sought as part of any designations related to this species.

Justification

These fish are nationally or locally rare and merit protection to avoid further declines.



Burbot (Extinct in the UK. Once present in River Trent)