

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Deletion of Ptychocheilus lucius from Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

The Swiss Confederation.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Pisces
12. Order: Cypriniformes
13. Family: Cyprinidae
14. Species: Ptychocheilus lucius
15. Common Names: English: Colorado River squawfish
French: poisson squaw du Colorado
Spanish: Pez squaw del Colorado
16. Code Numbers: 516.011.146.001 (ID Manual)

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: USA: Colorado River basin, States of Utah and Colorado.
22. Population: Nationally recognized as endangered at the time of listing. Had declined in the lower Colorado River basin in the 1930's. Today main concentrations in the Green, Yampa and White Rivers. Artificially reproduced at Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery.
23. Habitat: Deteriorating due to water development (construction of dams, alteration of historic flow regime which hampers the migration of the fish (a spawning migration of up to 205 km one-way was documented).

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: None.
32. Legal International Trade: Has never been recorded in trade since 1975.
33. Illegal Trade: No evidence.
34. Potential Trade Threats: None

4. Protection Status

Protected under national law.

CITES history: Listed at Washington, D.C., 1973, following a proposal by the United States of America to list it in Appendix I.

5. Information on Similar Species

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

Solicited but not received. In 1978, the US Fish and Wildlife Service stated that the information available does not meet the standard of the Berne Criteria, but that the species should be reclassified because of its trade status. "However, the lack of evidence for, and the unlikelihood of, trade in these species suggests that their listing in the appendices serves no useful purpose in a Convention intended to regulate international movement of wildlife and plants. Any reduction in protection afforded by the Convention is not expected to harm these species" (Federal Register, Wednesday, May 3, 1978, Part V, pp. 19189-19190).

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

Tyus, H.M and Ch.W. McAda, 1984. Migration, movements and habitat preferences of Colorado Squawfish, Ptychocheilus lucius, in the Green, White and Yampa Rivers, Colorado and Utah. The Southwestern Naturalist 29 (2): 289-299.