

## AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

### Other Proposals

#### A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Gymnocharacinus bergi in Appendix I.

#### B. PROPONENT

Argentina.

#### C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

##### 1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Osteichthyes
12. Order: Cypriniformes
13. Family: Characidae
14. Species: Gymnocharacinus bergi Steindachner, 1903
15. Common Names: English: Naked characid  
French:  
Spanish: Mojarra desnudam

##### 16. Code Numbers:

##### 2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: This species is microendemic to the Arroyo Valcheta (Valcheta: town located North of the plateau of Somuncurá, East of the Province of Río Negro, Argentina).

The historical distribution was in the Arroyo Valcheta; at present, the range is limited to the spring.

22. Population: Neither the abundance or the trend of the population is known.
23. Habitat: The temperature of the stream, where it rises, is approximately 23°C; this temperature remains constant through the whole year and gradually decreases as one goes downstream. The site has an abundant vegetation. It lacks effective protection against cattle or man.

Recently, the Salmonidae Salvelinus fontinalis and Oncorhynchus mykiss have been introduced into the stream.

##### 3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Unknown.

32. Legal International Trade: Unknown. A case of removal and transfer of naked characid to Germany has been recorded (works of Luling, 1978), and breeding in captivity was achieved there.

33. Illegal Trade: Unknown.

34. Potential Trade Threats:

341. Live Specimens: Like other members of the Characidae, the naked characid shows an excellent natural disposition for aquaria, where its breeding in captivity is successful.

342. Parts and Derivatives: Unknown.

4. Protection Status

41. National:

42. International: "Vulnerable", Red Data Book, 1986, IUCN.

43. Additional Protection Needs

An effective control of the area is recommended.

5. Information on Similar Species

The Characidae family is one of the most important in the aquarian field.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

7. Additional Remarks

The recent introduction of Salmonidae in the stream restricts the distribution of the species and threatens its survival. At the moment, it is shielded by a thermic barrage and by a physical barrier (a waterfall) which should prevent Salvelinus fontinalis from travelling upstream. There is a risk that exotic fish will move up to the springs. In the neighbouring lagoons, two species of Cyprinodontiformes have been introduced, which might be potential competitors of the naked characid, if they were to move to the stream. In terms of aquaria, the breeding in captivity of the species has proven to be very successful (S. Ortubay, Dir. Pesca, Deleg. Bariloche, Río Negro y E. Morzán, I.B.M., Río Negro). Many samples have been collected with a view to studying them; these were kept in national collections or left the country. It should be mentioned that this species is one of those covered by the recommendations of Resolution Conf. 2.19 of the Conference of the Parties (1979) as suitable for inclusion in Appendix I, being a species, the scarcity of which in the wild is such that any kind of exploitation would immediately threaten it with extinction.

8. References