

Esox lucius

System: Freshwater

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Actinopterygii	Esociformes	Esocidae

Common name

great northern pike (English), hecht (French), northern pike (English), grand brochet (French), American pike (English), great northern pickerel (English), Great Lakes pike (English), common pike (English), snake (English), pike (English), pickerel (English), jack (English), jackfish (English), brouchet (French), hauki (Finnish), wolf (English), brouchetta (French), brochet du nord (French), bec de canard (French), brochet (French), poignard (French), lanceron (French), sifflet (French), schnuck (German), grashecht (German), schnock (German), bunthecht (German), heichit (German), hecht (German), schnöck (German), heekt (German), hechten (German), scheckhecht (German), hengste (German), snook (German), lucio (Spanish), luccio (Italian), lúcio (Portuguese), Europäischer hecht (German), brouché (French), höcht (German)

Synonym

Esox boreus , Agassiz 1850
Esox estor , Lesueur 1818
Esox lucioides , Agassiz & Girard 1850
Esox lucius atrox , Anikin 1902
Esox lucius bergi , Kaganowsky 1933
Esox reichertii baicalensis , Dybowski 1874
Luccius vorax , Rafinesque 1810
Lucius lucius , L.
Trematina foveolata , Trautschold 1884

Similar species

Summary

The northern pike, *Esox lucius*, is a predatory freshwater fish that is an opportunistic feeder. It is common in lakes, basins and rivers in the United States, Canada, central Asia, Siberia and many places in Europe. It is also present in the Aral, Arctic, Baltic, Barents, Black, Caspian, North and White seas and Atlantic basins. *E. lucius* exhibits genetic differentiation among its worldwide populations.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

General Impacts

Esox lucius can cause the alteration of fish community species composition, by both predation and competition. As *E. lucius* is an opportunistic feeder, it is able to adapt to whatever prey fish are present. *E. lucius* may also hybridise with native fish species, e.g. *E. masquinongy* in the United States and Canada. (Fuller 2010; Harvey 2009).

Management Info

Common management techniques used for controlling *E. lucius* populations include culling and poisoning with rotenone. (Harvey 2009).

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-10-07

ALIEN RANGE

[1] ALGERIA	[1] ETHIOPIA
[1] IRELAND	[1] ISLE OF MAN
[1] MADAGASCAR	[1] MOROCCO
[2] PORTUGAL	[1] SPAIN
[1] TUNISIA	[1] UGANDA

Red List assessed species 4: CR = 1; VU = 3;

[Iberocypris alburnoides](#) **VU**

[Pseudochondrostoma willkommii](#) **VU**

[Salvelinus fimbriatus](#) **VU**

[Salvelinus grayi](#) **CR**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

8 references found for *Esox lucius*

Managment information

[Harvey, B. 2009. A biological synopsis of northern pike \(*Esox lucius*\). Can. Manuscr. Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 2885: v + 31 p.](#)

Summary: Available from: http://dsp-psd.pwgsc.gc.ca/collection_2010/mpo-dfo/Fs97-4-2885-eng.pdf [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group \(ISSG\), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.](#)

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

General information

[Cowx, I.G., Nunn, A.D., Harvey, J.P., Noble, R.A., Bolland, J.D. & Taylor R. 2008. Investigation into the distribution and abundance of coarse fish populations in still waters in the Isle of Man. Unpublished draft report to Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry](#)

[FishBase, 2010. *Esox lucius* Linnaeus, 1758 Northern pike](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://www.fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?id=258> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Freyhof, J. & Kottelat, M. 2008. *Esox lucius*. In: IUCN 2010. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2010.3.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/apps/redlist/details/135631/0> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Fuller, P., 2010. *Esox lucius*. USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database, Gainesville, FL.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=676> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Integrated Taxonomic Information System \(ITIS\), 2010. *Esox lucius* Linnaeus, 1758](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=162139 [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Varnham, K 2006. Non-native species in UK Overseas Territories: a review JNCC Report No. 372](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.caymanbiodiversity.com/wp-content/uploads/2007/10/jncc372_web.pdf [Accessed 9 April 2010]