

Ichthyosaura alpestris

System: Freshwater_terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Amphibia	Caudata	Salamandridae

Common name Alpine Newt (English), Bergmolch (German), Bjergsalamander (Danish), Alpenwatersalamander (Dutch), Bergvattensalamander (Swedish), Dearc-luachrach Ailpeach (Scottish Gaelic), Dearcan-luachrach Ailpeach (Scottish Gaelic), Tritón Alpino (Spanish), Tritón Alpino (Catalan), Tritone Alpino (Italian), Планински мрморец (Macedonian), Traszka Gorska (Polish), Alpiiskii Triton (Russian)

Synonym *Mesotriton alpestris* ,(Laurenti, 1768)
Triton alpestris ,Laurenti, 1768
Triturus alpestris ,(Laurenti, 1768)
Proteus tritonius ,Laurenti, 1768
Triton wurfbainii ,Laurenti, 1768
Triton salamandroides ,Laurenti, 1768
Lacerta gyrinoides ,Merrem, 1789
Gecko gyrinoides ,(Merrem, 1789)
Salamandra alpestris ,(Laurenti, 1768)
Ichthyosaura tritonius ,(Laurenti, 1768)
Salamandra rubriventris ,Daudin, 1803

Similar species

Summary The Alpine Newt *Ichthyosaura alpestris* is found through much of Europe and widely distributed in the Balkans. Sub-populations are found in parts of northern Italy and northern Spain but the species is not present in Portugal. Introduced populations have been recorded in the United Kingdom, central Spain and in New Zealand. It has been introduced in other parts of Europe, outside of its native range, e.g. in the United Kingdom and in the Sierra de Guadarrama (Madrid Province, central Spain), and has also been introduced to New Zealand (Arntzen et al. 2016). The origin of the isolated population of Alpine Newt in Guadarrama National Park, central Spain is not clear. However, an expansion of the populations has been reported, reaching as many as 57 water bodies in the time line of 15 years. A generalist predator, there are concerns of predation on native species such as the larvae of the dragonfly *Aeshna juncea* (listed as Vulnerable at the Spanish Invertebrate Red List) and native anuran egg masses.



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

Habitat Description

"This is a mostly aquatic species that is generally found close to water. It is widespread in both alpine and lowland habitats including wet, shaded coniferous, mixed and deciduous forests, sub-alpine meadows and pastureland. It can be found in slightly modified habitats, although it is less common in large cultivated fields. The species breeds, and larval development takes place, in stagnant waters (except large lakes) including shallow ponds, temporary pools, lakes, bogs, ditches, drinking troughs, ruts and sometimes slow-moving streams." (IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group, 2022).

Principal source:

Compiler: Shyama Pagad (IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group)

Review:

Publication date:

ALIEN RANGE

[1] NEW ZEALAND

[1] SPAIN

[1] UNITED KINGDOM

BIBLIOGRAPHY

6 references found for *Ichthyosaura alpestris*

Management information

Bell B.D (2016) A review of potential alpine newt (*Ichthyosaura alpestris*) impacts on native frogs in New Zealand. *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand* 46(3-4): 214-231.

Cunningham AA, Minting P (2008) National survey of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* infection in UK amphibians. Final report

Fisher MC, Garner TW (2017) The relationship between the emergence of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, the international trade in amphibians and introduced amphibian species. *Fungal Biology Reviews* 21 (1): 2-9.

General information

Arntzen JW, King TM, Denoël M, Martínez-Solano I, Wallis GP (2016) Provenance of *Ichthyosaura alpestris* (Caudata: Salamandridae) introductions to France and New Zealand assessed by mitochondrial DNA analysis. *The Herpetological Journal* 26(1): 49-56.

[IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group. *Ichthyosaura alpestris*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2022: e.T59472A89702213.](#)

[Palomar, Gemma & Vörös, Judit & Bosch, Jaime. \(2017\). Tracking the introduction history of *Ichthyosaura alpestris* in a protected area of Central Spain. *Conservation Genetics*. 18. 10.1007/s10592-017-0934-x.](#)