

Swamp galaxias

Galaxias parvus



Marshes, swamps and some stream of the Lake Pedder area and the headwaters of the Huon and Gordon rivers.

Description: A small fish with a chunky build and a blunt head. The body is tubular and the upper and lower jaws are about equal. The tail is rounded and. As with all Galaxias they don't have scales.

Colour: A light brown colour on the back with irregular small spots and flecks over the body. The belly area often appears pale orange to yellow with a light belly.

Size: Known to reach 105 mm, but rarely more than 70 mm in length.

Habitat: Occurs in swamps, pools, backwaters of streams among rocks and vegetation.

Diet: Diet consists of terrestrial insects and aquatic insects and crustaceans.

Life Cycle: The swamp galaxias completes its life cycle in freshwater. Spawning occurs during Spring with eggs taking 26 to 30 days to hatch. Hatchlings are around 7 mm long with metamorphosis to young fish taking place when they are 30 to 45 days old and about 20 mm in length. Males may mature at around one year old, whilst females do not mature until two years of age and about 55 mm in length.

Distribution status: Endemic.

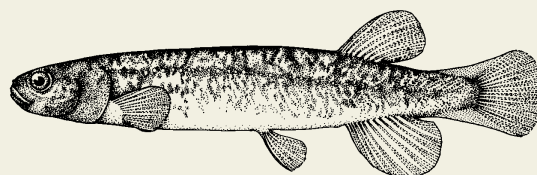
Original range: Known only from Lake Pedder area and the headwaters of the Gordon and Huon rivers, Tasmania.

Reasons for change to distribution: Loss of original habitat; ongoing predation and competition from brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) and climbing galaxias (*Galaxias brevipinnis*).

Legal status: **Endangered, Vulnerable** (State and Commonwealth lists respectively).

Can it be taken? This species is totally protected and may not be taken without a permit.

Other names: N/A.



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