



Australian Government



Native Fish Strategy

FISH FACTSHEET: LAGOON GOBY (SCARY'S TASMAN GOBY)



Scientific Name

Tasmanogobius lasti Hoese, 1991

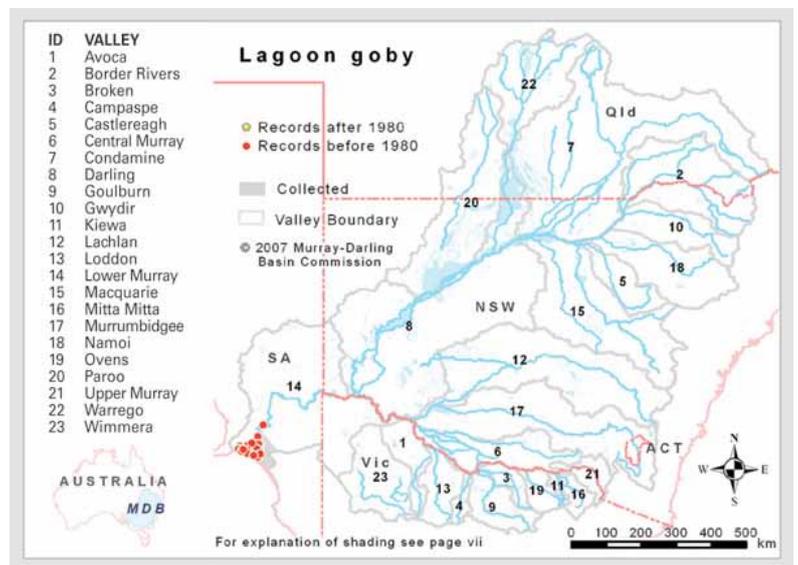
photo by Michael Hammer

CONSERVATIONS STATUS

Restricted.

DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE

The Lagoon goby is a common and widespread estuarine species in coastal streams of Vic, SA and Tas. In the Basin it is known only from the Lower Lakes (Alexandrina and Albert) and Coorong, where it is widely distributed but not abundant. Its distribution extends a small distance upstream into the main channel and wetlands of the Lower Murray.



IDENTIFICATION

A small, slender fish with a medium sized head and mouth, and a gape that extends to below the middle of the eye. Maximum size 55mm. There are two dorsal fins, almost joined together, with the second dorsal fin long-based like the anal fin. The caudal fin is rounded, and the pelvic fins are joined to form a cup-shaped disc. There are no scales on the head or nape in front of the first dorsal fin. The head and body is tan to pale brown or grey/white, with scattered small dark brown blotches. There is a thin vertical black bar from each eye to the end of the gape. Five or six small brown blotches are present along the sides, often connected with white dashes. There is sometimes a black to blue spot apparent at the base of the first dorsal fin.

BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

This is really an estuarine species in areas of freshwater discharge, but is also found and can complete its lifecycle in freshwater streams and lakes. It is usually recorded in still or slow-flowing habitats with mud or silty sand substrates. It is a benthic, burrowing species.

POTENTIAL THREATS

None known.

GENERAL REFERENCES

- DPI 2006;
- Higham et al . 2005;
- Hoese 1991;
- Wedderburn & Hammer 2003;

PDF LINKS

Fishes of the Murray-Darling Basin: An introductory Guide;

<http://mdba.gov.au/files/publications/MDBA-Fish-species-book.pdf>



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