

Western paragalaxias

Paragalaxias julianus



Known only from the upper Ouse, James and Little Pine rivers and nearby lakes and lagoons.

Description: A small, stout bullet-shaped species. Head tapering to a long blunt snout. Eyes sit high on the head and are raised slightly above head profile. The dorsal fin is small; the tail slightly forked. As with all Paragalaxias they don't have scales.

Colour: Usually dark brown to black on the upper surface with dark blotches or bars extending down the sides. The belly is silvery-olive and fins are not coloured.

Size: The largest of the paragalaxias species, it grows up to about 100 mm in length and is commonly more than 60 mm.

Habitat: Found among and beneath rocks on lake bed and associated streams.

Diet: Eats a wide range of aquatic insects, crustaceans and molluscs.

Life Cycle: Life cycle is completed in freshwater. Prefers to spawn in shallow rocky bays. Eggs are laid under rocks and guarded till larvae emerge.

Distribution status: Endemic.

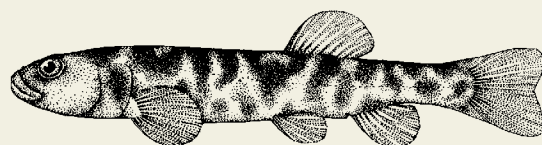
Original range: Known only from the upper Ouse, James and Little Pine rivers. Also present in some lakes and lagoons near those rivers.

Reasons for change to distribution: Trout predation and water level fluctuations have an effect on localised distribution.

Legal status: **Rare** (State listing).

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

Other names: Julians galaxias.



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