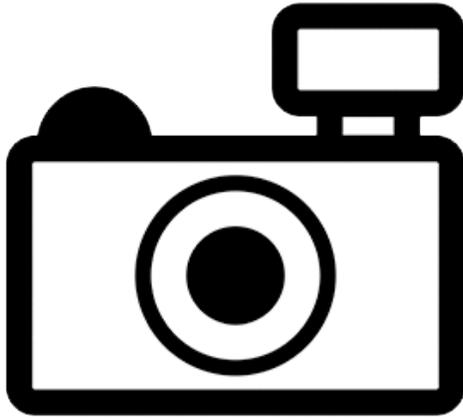


# Ornate Ctenopoma (*Microctenopoma ansorgii*)

## Ecological Risk Screening Summary

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, May 2011  
Revised, April 2019  
Web Version, 5/1/2020

Organism Type: Fish  
Overall Risk Assessment Category: Uncertain



No Photo Available

## 1 Native Range and Status in the United States

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### Native Range

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Africa: verified from the Chiloango River [Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo], and widespread in the central Congo basin [Democratic Republic of the Congo]; possibly also in the Nyong in Cameroon [Norris 2008]. Report from tropical West Africa [Robins et al. 1991] unconfirmed [Norris 2003].”

From Moelants (2010):

“*Microctenopoma ansorgii* is known from the Lower Congo, Pool Malebo (Stanley Pool) and the Central Congo basin [Democratic Republic of the Congo]. Elsewhere, it is known from the Lower Guinea region, verified from the Chiloango River (type locality) [Angola]. It has also been reported from the Nyong River drainage by aquarium fish importer P. Blowers (multiple sites in the general vicinity of Eseka, Cameroon; D.M. Armitage, pers. comm.), although no

specimens have been verified. There is one record from the Niair-Kouilou system [Republic of the Congo] and one from the Lower Congo [Republic of the Congo]; these records need to be checked though.”

## Status in the United States

There are no records of *Microctenopoma ansorgii* in the wild or in trade in the United States.

## Means of Introductions in the United States

There are no records of *Microctenopoma ansorgii* in the wild in the United States.

## Remarks

No additional remarks.

# 2 Biology and Ecology

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## Taxonomic Hierarchy and Taxonomic Standing

From Fricke et al. (2019):

“**Current Status:** Valid as *Microctenopoma ansorgii* (Boulenger 1912).”

From ITIS (2019):

Kingdom Animalia  
Subkingdom Bilateria  
Infrakingdom Deuterostomia  
Phylum Chordata  
Subphylum Vertebrata  
Infraphylum Gnathostomata  
Superclass Actinopterygii  
Class Teleostei  
Superorder Acanthopterygii  
Order Perciformes  
Suborder Anabantoidei  
Family Anabantidae  
Genus *Microctenopoma*  
Species *Microctenopoma ansorgii* (Boulenger, 1912)

## Size, Weight, and Age Range

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Max length : 5.4 cm SL male/unsexed; [Norris 2008]”

“Maximum total length reported 8.0 cm [Gosse 1986].”

## Environment

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Freshwater; benthopelagic; pH range: 6.0 - 8.0; dH range: 5 - 19. [...] 26°C - 28°C [Riehl and Baensch 1991] [assumed to be the recommended aquarium temperature]”

## Climate

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Tropical; [...]”

## Distribution Outside the United States

Native

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Africa: verified from the Chiloango River [Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo], and widespread in the central Congo basin [Democratic Republic of the Congo]; possibly also in the Nyong in Cameroon [Norris 2008]. Report from tropical West Africa [Robins et al. 1991] unconfirmed [Norris 2003].”

From Moelants (2010):

“*Microctenopoma ansorgii* is known from the Lower Congo, Pool Malebo (Stanley Pool) and the Central Congo basin [Democratic Republic of the Congo]. Elsewhere, it is known from the Lower Guinea region, verified from the Chiloango River (type locality) [Angola]. It has also been reported from the Nyong River drainage by aquarium fish importer P. Blowers (multiple sites in the general vicinity of Eseka, Cameroon; D.M. Armitage, pers. comm.), although no specimens have been verified. There is one record from the Nair-Kouilou system [Republic of the Congo] and one from the Lower Congo [Republic of the Congo]; these records need to be checked though.”

Introduced

According to Froese and Pauly (2019), *Microctenopoma ansorgii* has been introduced into Madagascar and was recorded in the River Mangoro.

## Means of Introduction Outside the United States

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“unknown”

## Short Description

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Dorsal spines (total): 16 - 19; Dorsal soft rays (total): 6-10; Anal spines: 10-12; Anal soft rays: 7 - 10; Vertebrae: 26 - 27. Diagnosis: dorsal fin with 16-19 spines and 6-8 soft rays; anal fin with 10-12 spines and 7-10 soft rays; subopercle rarely serrated (in adults); caudal fin rounded in adults; caudal peduncle very short; flanks barred, breeding males marked with orange on flanks [Norris 2008].”

## Biology

From Moelants (2010):

“This is a benthopelagic species.”

## Human Uses

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Fisheries: aquarium: commercial”

## Diseases

There was no information found for diseases of *Microctenopoma ansorgii*. **No records of OIE-reportable diseases (OIE 2019) were found for *M. ansorgii*.**

## Threat to Humans

From Froese and Pauly (2019):

“Harmless”

## 3 Impacts of Introductions

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Although *Microctenopoma ansorgii* has been introduced and has become established in parts of Madagascar, impacts of its introduction remain unknown.

## 4 History of Invasiveness

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The history of invasiveness for *Microctenopoma ansorgii* is Data Deficient. *M. ansorgii* has been introduced outside its native range, but no information is available on impacts of its introduction in Madagascar. The species is found in the aquarium trade, but no numerical data on trade volume were available.

## 5 Global Distribution

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**Figure 1.** Known global distribution of *Microctenopoma ansorgii*. Observations are reported from central Africa (Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo) and Madagascar. Map from GBIF Secretariat (2019).

## 6 Distribution Within the United States

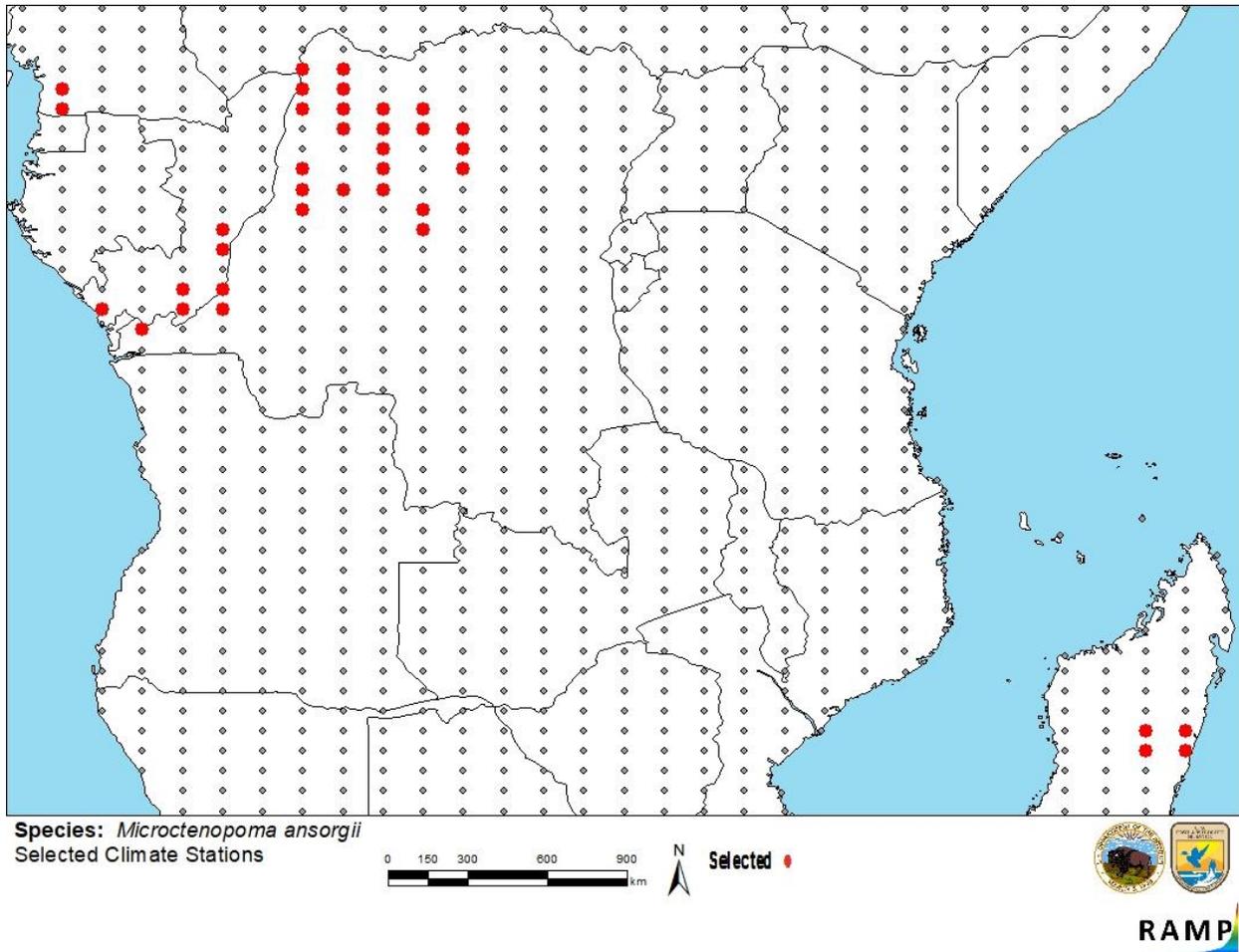
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There are no records of a wild or established population of *Microctenopoma ansorgii* in the United States.

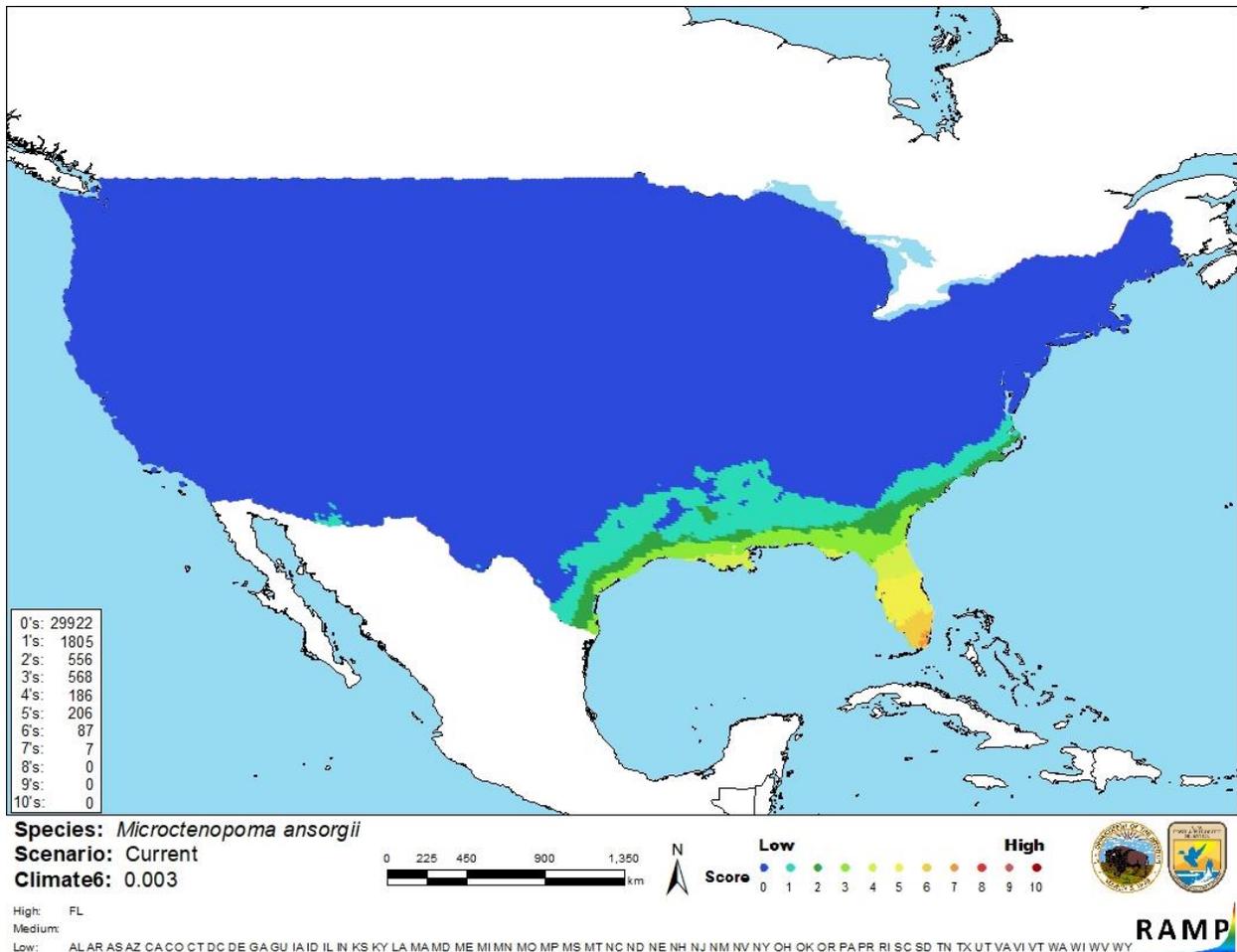
# 7 Climate Matching

## Summary of Climate Matching Analysis

The climate match for the contiguous United States was consistently low across all States with portions of peninsular Florida having medium match and the very southern tip of Florida having high match. The Climate 6 score (Sanders et al. 2018; 16 climate variables; Euclidean distance) for the contiguous United States was 0.003, low. (Scores of 0.005 and below are classified as low.) All States received low individual climate scores except for Florida, which had a high climate score.



**Figure 2.** RAMP (Sanders et al. 2018) source map showing weather stations in Africa selected as source locations (red; Madagascar, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Cameroon) and non-source locations (gray) for *Microctenopoma ansorgii* climate matching. Source locations from GBIF Secretariat (2019). Selected source locations are within 100 km of one or more species occurrences, and do not necessarily represent the locations of occurrences themselves.



**Figure 3.** Map of RAMP (Sanders et al. 2018) climate matches for *Microctenopoma ansorgii* in the contiguous United States based on source locations reported by GBIF Secretariat (2019). Counts of climate match scores are tabulated on the left. 0/Blue = Lowest match, 10/Red = Highest match.

The High, Medium, and Low Climate match Categories are based on the following table:

Climate 6: (Count of target points with climate scores 6-10)/ (Count of all target points)	Overall Climate Match Category
$0.000 \leq X \leq 0.005$	Low
$0.005 < X < 0.103$	Medium
$\geq 0.103$	High

## 8 Certainty of Assessment

Limited information is available for *Microctenopoma ansorgii*. It has been introduced outside of its native range into Madagascar, but how it got there and any impacts it may have had are yet to be reported. The certainty of this assessment is low.

## 9 Risk Assessment

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### Summary of Risk to the Contiguous United States

*Microctenopoma ansorgii* is a fish native to Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and possibly Cameroon in central Africa. *Microctenopoma ansorgii* has been introduced outside of its native range into Madagascar, but it is unknown what impacts this introduction has had and there is not sufficient trade information available for this species. The history of invasiveness is Data Deficient. The climate match for the contiguous United States is low, with areas of medium match located in peninsular Florida and areas of high match located in the very southern portion of Florida. All States received low individual climate scores except for Florida, which had a high individual climate score. The certainty of this assessment is low. The overall risk assessment category for *Microctenopoma ansorgii* is uncertain.

### Assessment Elements

- **History of Invasiveness (Sec. 4): Data Deficient**
- **Overall Climate Match Category (Sec. 7): Low**
- **Certainty of Assessment (Sec. 8): Low**
- **Remarks, Important additional information:** No additional information.
- **Overall Risk Assessment Category: Uncertain**

## 10 Literature Cited

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**Note: The following references were accessed for this ERSS. References cited within quoted text but not accessed are included below in Section 11.**

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<http://researcharchive.calacademy.org/research/ichthyology/catalog/fishcatmain.asp>  
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[ITIS] Integrated Taxonomic Information System. 2019. *Microctenopoma ansorgii* (Boulenger, 1912). Reston, Virginia: Integrated Taxonomic Information System. Available: [https://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search\\_topic=TSN&search\\_value=638695#null](https://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=638695#null) (April 2019).

Moelants T. 2010. Orange Ctenopoma *Microctenopoma ansorgii*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2010: e.T181678A7703128. Available: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/181678/7703128> (April 2019).

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## 11 Literature Cited in Quoted Material

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**Note: The following references are cited within quoted text within this ERSS, but were not accessed for its preparation. They are included here to provide the reader with more information.**

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Norris SM. 2003. Anabantidae. Pages 691–707 in Lévêque C, Paugy D, Teugels GG, editors. Faune des poissons d'eaux douces et saumâtres de l'Afrique de l'Ouest. Volume 2. Collection Faune et Flore tropicales 40. Tervuren, Belgium: Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale; Paris: Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle; Paris: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement.

Norris SM. 2008. Anabantidae. Pages 251–268 in Stiassny MLJ, Teugels GG, Hopkins CD, editors. The fresh and brackish water fishes of Lower Guinea, West-Central Africa. Volume II. Collection Faune et Flore tropicales 42. Paris: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement; Paris: Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle; Tervuren, Belgium: Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale.

Riehl R, Baensch HA. 1991. Aquarien atlas. Volume 1. Melle, Germany: Mergus, Verlag für Natur-und Heimtierkunde.

Robins CR, Bailey RM, Bond CE, Brooker JR, Lachner EA, Lea RN, Scott WB. 1991. World fishes important to North Americans. Exclusive of species from the continental waters of the United States and Canada. Bethesda, Maryland: American Fisheries Society. Special Publication 21.