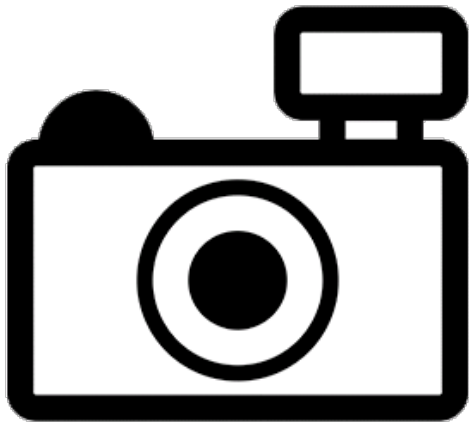


***Pterygoplichthys scrophus* (a catfish, no common name)**

Ecological Risk Screening Summary

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, April 2012
Revised, November 2018
Web Version. 2/4/2021

Organism Type: Fish
Overall Risk Assessment Category: Uncertain



No Photo Available

1 Native Range and Status in the United States

Native Range

From Orfinger and Goodding (2018):

“Native Distribution: Marañon and Ucayali River basins, Peru (Weber 2003).”

Status in the United States

No records of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* in the wild or in trade in the United States were found.

P. scrophus falls within Group I of New Mexico’s Department of Game and Fish Director’s Species Importation List (New Mexico Department of Game and Fish 2010). Group I species “are designated semi-domesticated animals and do not require an importation permit.”

Means of Introductions in the United States

No records of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* in the wild in the United States were found.

Remarks

No additional remarks.

2 Biology and Ecology

Taxonomic Hierarchy and Taxonomic Standing

According to Fricke et al. (2018), *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* (Cope 1874) is the current valid name of this species. *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* was originally described as *Liposarcus scrophus* Cope 1874.

From Froese and Pauly (2018):

“Actinopterygii (ray-finned fishes) > Siluriformes (Catfish) > Loricariidae (Armored catfishes) > Hypostominae Etymology: Pterygoplichthys: [...]”

Size, Weight, and Age Range

From Froese and Pauly (2018):

“Max length : 27.5 cm SL male/unsexed; [Weber 2003]”

Environment

From Froese and Pauly (2018):

“Freshwater; demersal.”

Climate

From Froese and Pauly (2018):

“Tropical”

Distribution Outside the United States

Native

From Orfinger and Goodding (2018):

“Native Distribution: Marañon and Ucayali River basins, Peru (Weber 2003).”

Introduced

No records of introductions of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* were found.

Means of Introduction Outside the United States

No records of introductions of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* were found.

Short Description

From Froese and Pauly (2018):

“Dorsal spines (total): 2; Dorsal soft rays (total): 12; Anal spines: 1; Anal soft rays: 4”

Biology

Information on the biology of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* was not found.

Human Uses

Information on human uses of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* was not found.

Diseases

No information on diseases of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* was found. **No records of OIE-reportable diseases (OIE 2021) were found for *P. scrophus*.**

Threat to Humans

From Froese and Pauly (2018):

“Harmless”

3 Impacts of Introductions

No records of introductions of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* were found, therefore, there is no information on impacts of introductions.

4 History of Invasiveness

No records of introductions of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* were found, therefore the history of invasiveness is classified as “no known nonnative population.”

5 Global Distribution

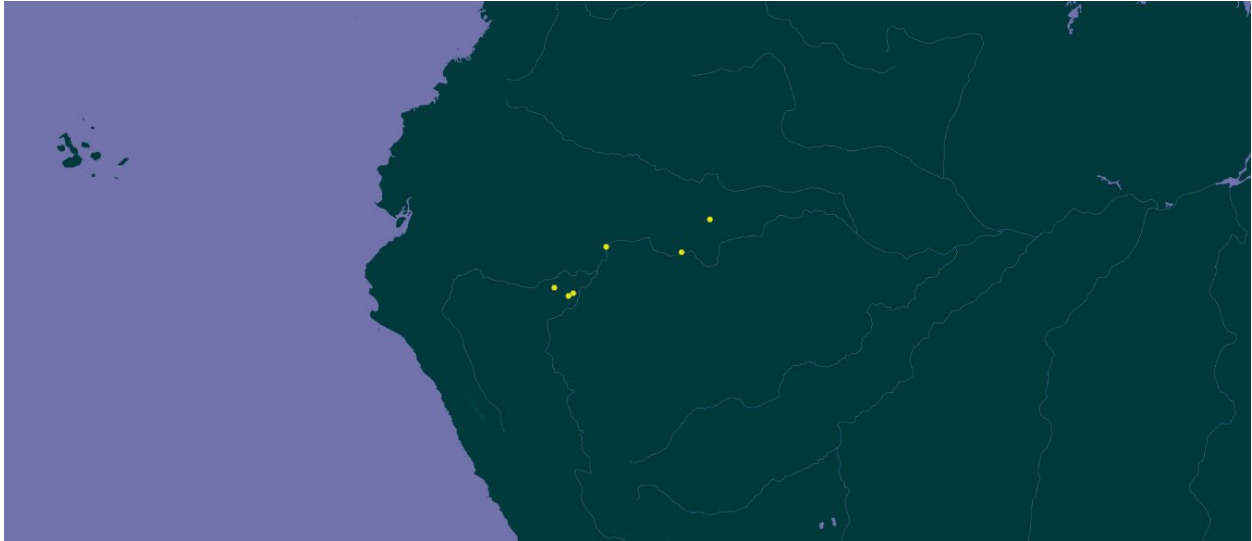


Figure 1. Map of northern South America showing locations where *Pterygoplichthys scrophi* has been reported. Locations are in Peru. Map from GBIF Secretariat (2018).

6 Distribution Within the United States

No records of *Pterygoplichthys scrophi* in the wild in the United States were found.

7 Climate Matching

Summary of Climate Matching Analysis

The climate match for *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* was low for the entire contiguous United States. There were no areas of high or medium match. The Climate 6 score (Sanders et al. 2018; 16 climate variables; Euclidean distance) for the contiguous United States was 0.000, low (scores between 0.000 and 0.005, inclusive, are classified as low). All States had low individual climate scores.

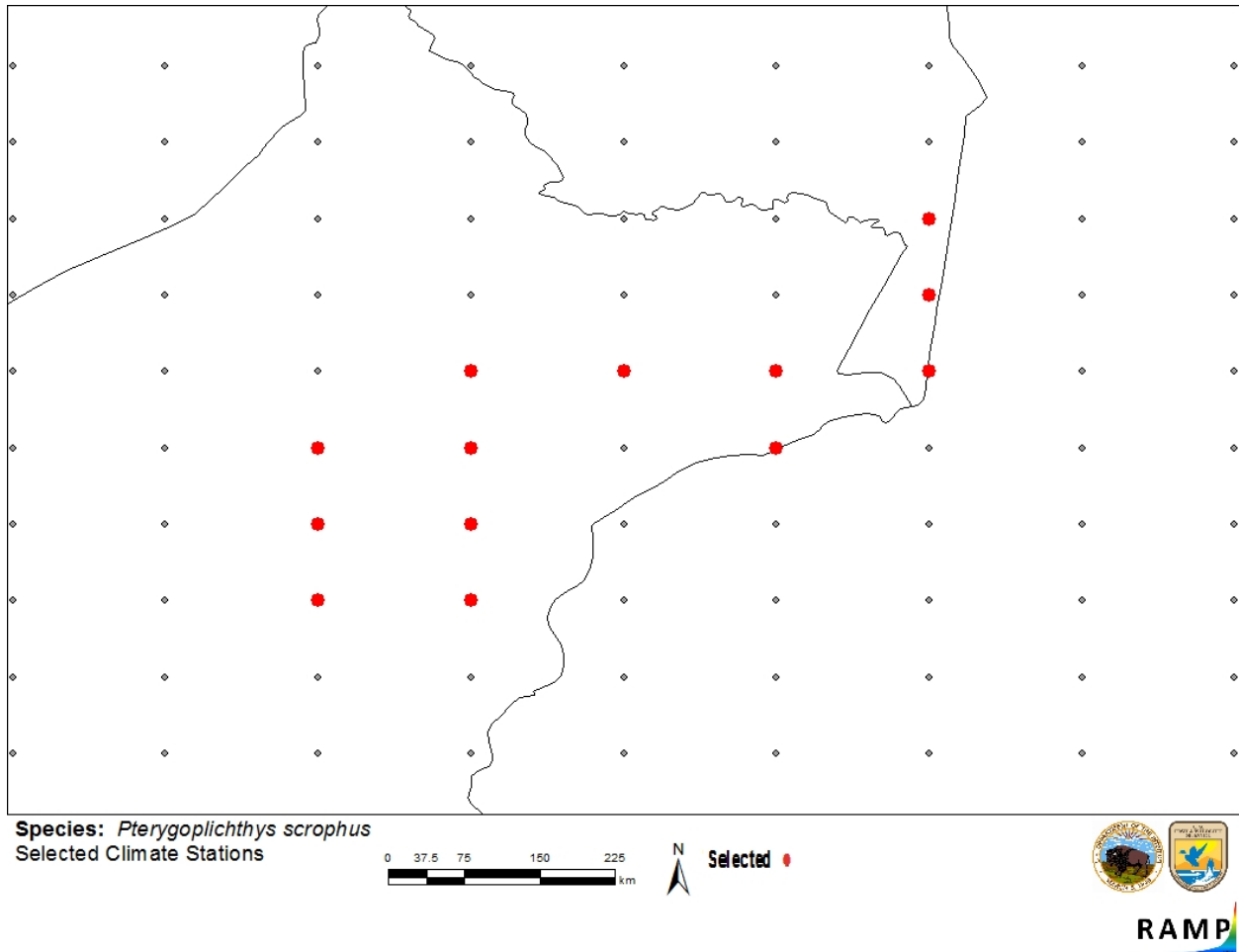


Figure 2. RAMP (Sanders et al. 2018) source map showing weather stations in northern South America selected as source locations (red; Peru, Colombia) and non-source locations (gray) for *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* climate matching. Source locations from GBIF Secretariat (2018). Selected source locations are within 100 km of one or more species occurrences, and do not necessarily represent the locations of occurrences themselves.

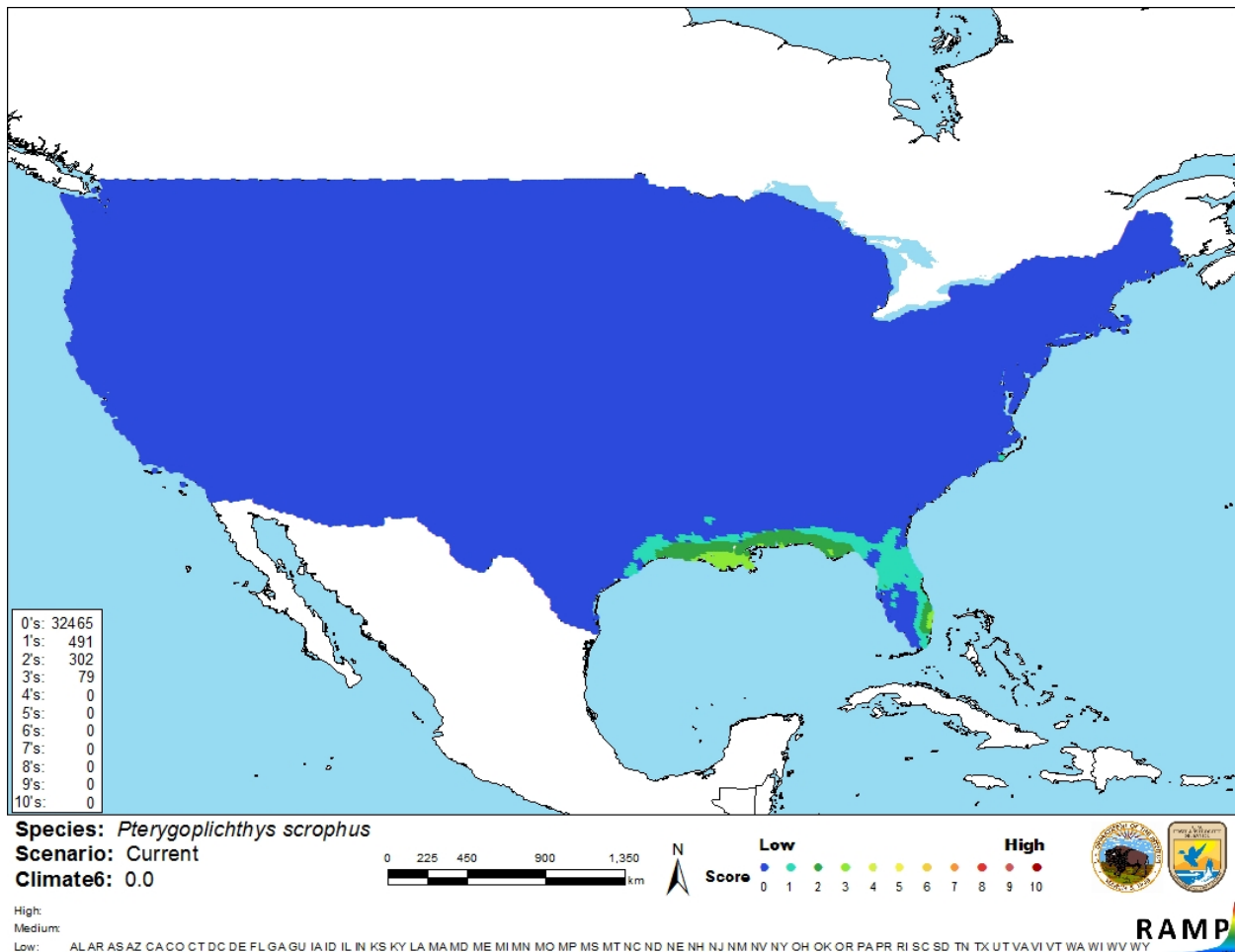


Figure 3. Map of RAMP (Sanders et al. 2018) climate matches for *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* in the contiguous United States based on source locations reported from GBIF Secretariat (2018). Counts of climate match scores are tabulated on the left. 0/Blue = Lowest match, 10/Red = Highest match.

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
≥ 0.103	High

8 Certainty of Assessment

The certainty of assessment for *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* is low. There is minimal information available for this species. No information on introductions of *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* was found.

9 Risk Assessment

Summary of Risk to the Contiguous United States

Pterygoplichthys scrophus is a South American freshwater armored catfish native to Peru. Limited information is available on *Pterygoplichthys scrophus*. The history of invasiveness is classified as “no known nonnative population.” It has not been reported as introduced or established anywhere in the world. The climate match for the contiguous United States was low. The certainty of assessment is low. The overall risk assessment category is uncertain.

Assessment Elements

- **History of Invasiveness (Sec. 4): No Known Nonnative Population**
- **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

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

- Fricke R, Eschmeyer WN, van der Laan R, editors. 2018. Catalog of fishes: genera, species, references. California Academy of Science. Available: <http://researcharchive.calacademy.org/research/ichthyology/catalog/fishcatmain.asp> (November 2018).
- Froese R, Pauly D, editors. 2018. *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* Cope, 1874. FishBase. Available <http://www.fishbase.org/summary/Pterygoplichthys-scrophus.html> (November 2018).
- GBIF Secretariat. 2018. GBIF backbone taxonomy: *Pterygoplichthys scrophus* Cope, 1874. Copenhagen: Global Biodiversity Information Facility. Available: <https://www.gbif.org/species/2339990> (November 2018).
- Orfinger AB, Goodding DD. 2018. The global invasion of the suckermouth armored catfish genus *Pterygoplichthys* (Siluriformer: Loricariidae): annotated list of species, distributional summary, and assessment of impacts. *Zoological Studies* 57:117.
- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. 2010. Director’s species importation list. Santa Fe, New Mexico: New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Available: http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/download/enforcement/importation/information/Director-s-Species-Importation-List-08_03_2010.pdf (November 2020).
- [OIE] World Organisation for Animal Health. 2021. OIE-listed diseases, infections and infestations in force in 2021. Available: <http://www.oie.int/animal-health-in-the-world/oie-listed-diseases-2021/> (February 2021).

Sanders S, Castiglione C, Hoff M. 2018. Risk Assessment Mapping Program: RAMP. Version 3.1. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

11 Literature Cited in Quoted Material

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.

Cope ED. 1874. On some Batrachia and Nematognathi brought from the upper Amazon by Prof. Orton. Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia 26:120–137.

Weber C. 2003. Loricariidae - Hypostominae (armored catfishes). Pages 351–372 in Reis RE, Kullander SO, Ferraris CJ Jr, editors. Checklist of the freshwater fishes of South and Central America. Porto Alegre, Brazil: EDIPUCRS.