

BRONZE FEATHERBACK

Notopterus notopterus
Pallas, 1769



CLASSIFICATION

Class: Actinopterygii
Order: Osteoglossiformes
Family: Notopteridae

No recognized subspecies



NOT LISTED

UNCOMMON



LEAST CONCERN

Identification: Maximum length is 60 cm. Body is an elongated oval with small round head. Small feather-like dorsal fin. Ventral fin merged with anal fin. Coloration dark grey to almost black.

Range: Asian species occurring in most major coastal river basins from India to Indochina, south to Sumatra and Java.

Habitat: Clear streams with slow flowing or standing water, also floodplains.

Behavior: The species is almost completely nocturnal. It feeds on fishes, crustaceans, mollusks, insects. Breeds during rainy season.

Status in the wild: The species is still locally common throughout its very large range. Some populations are declining because of water pollution and overfishing.

In captivity: This species is less common than species from genus *Chitala* because it's less impressive and has a duller coloration. It's mostly displayed in Asian aquariums and sometimes sold in aquarium fish markets. Kept in 3 European zoos.