

Wels Catfish, *Siluris glanis*



SIZE	Adult average length 1-2m in England and Wales, but can attain lengths of >2.5m in warm climates.
DISTRIBUTION	Native to Central and Eastern Europe, the species has been introduced into a number of European countries, including England and Wales, where it is mainly present in lakes. However, individuals are present in a small number of rivers.
KEY I.D. FEATURES	Large flat head with two long barbels on upper jaw. Long anal fin. No scales. Variable in colour, usually dark marbling & spotting on pale sides. Very distinctive species; it is rarely mis-identified.

Potential Impacts On Native Fisheries

COMPETITION	✓ Will compete with native predators for food
HABITAT DESTRUCTION	
DISEASE TRANSMISSION	✓ Can host non-native parasites, has been known to carry SVC, a viral disease
PREDATION	✓ Veracious predator of fish, can also take amphibians and crustaceans
NATURAL BALANCE	✓ Heavy predation may cause impacts on native species
FISHERY PERFORMANCE	

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