

Zander

Sander lucioperca

Description

Introduced in the late 1970s in New York for sport fishing.

Identification

Elongate and pointed snout. Upper jaw extends past eye level, small teeth with several large fangs in front. 2 dorsal fins, the first spiny and separated by a narrow space from the second. Anal fin with 2-3 spines and 11-13 soft rays. Greenish-grey or brown on the back and sides becoming lighter on the lower sides and white on belly. 30-70 cm long and 12-18 kg.

Habitat

Native from Europe to western Siberia. Prefers freshwater lakes, moderately running waters and brackish coastal waters.

Reproduction

Males are territorial and excavate shallow depressions about 50 cm in diameter and 5-10 cm deep in sand or gravel. or among exposed





plant roots on which eggs are deposited, usually in turbid water and at 13 m depth. Spawn in pairs at dawn or night. Females spawn once a year, laying all eggs at once.

Impact

Reduction in populations of prey fish and competitor fish, as well as trophic changes, and in some cases, extirpation of endemic species.

Similar

Credits

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