

Fauna fact sheet

Mary River Cod

Scientific Name: *Maccullochella peelii mariensis*

Common Name: Mary River Cod

Status: EPBC Act (1999): Endangered

Distribution: Mary River.

Habitat: Slow flowing freshwater streams in lowland areas and rocky upland streams. Favours deep pools, overhanging vegetation, boulders, logs and undercut banks.

Description: Large, elongated fish, slightly concave head profile with protruding lower jaw. Golden-yellow to green or dark brown with black to dark green mottling. Has been recorded at 23.5kg but usually less than 10kg.

Habits: Ambush predator. Lays eggs on wood surfaces, preferably hollow logs.

Comments: Critically endangered fish. Declines in population due to loss of riparian vegetation and de-snagging of waterways.



Photo courtesy of Gunther Schmida