



7th ESENIAS Workshop with Scientific Conference

*Networking and Regional Cooperation
Towards Invasive Alien Species Prevention
and Management in Europe*

28–30 March 2017
SOFIA, BULGARIA

Book of Abstracts

Sofia, Bulgaria
2017

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Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (**IBER-BAS**)
East and South European Network for Invasive Alien Species (**ESENIAS**)
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**East and South European Network for Invasive
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Editors:

**Teodora Trichkova, Rumen Tomov, Vladimir Vladimirov
Hristina Kalcheva, Yuriy Vanev, Ahmet Uludağ,
Violeta Tyufekchieva**

**Reviews were made by the Members
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Has the racer goby *Babka gymnotrachelus* (Kessler, 1857) failed to invade the Croatian tributaries of the Danube River?

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In the Croatian tributaries of the Danube River, three Ponto Caspian gobies: the bighead goby *Ponticola kessleri*, the monkey goby *Neogobius fluviatilis*, and the round goby *Neogobius melanostomus*, have recently expanded their ranges. The species reported last in the Croatian Danube River tributaries was the racer goby *Babka gymnotrachelus*, which was found in the Drava River, in 2011. During recent years of intensive monitoring and inventory programmes in the Croatian inland waters, no changes in the racer goby's population density or range expansion were recorded. In this paper we present: (i) the distribution of the racer goby in the Danube River basin of Croatia; (ii) past and recent records; and (iii) the habitat preferences. Furthermore, a critical discussion on the possibilities of future expansion of the racer goby in the Danube River tributaries in Croatia is given.

Key words: Gobiidae, alien species, Danube River, distribution, habitat, future expansion.