

عنوان مقاله:

Habitat suitability index of *Barbus cyri* (Heckel, ۱۸۴۳) in Tootkabon River, the South Caspian Sea basin, Iran

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خلاصه مقاله:

Knowledge of habitat requirements of aquatic animals plays an important role in fisheries and protection programs of aquatic ecosystems. Hence, this study was conducted to investigate the suitability indexes of habitat use and habitat suitability index (HSI) of *Barbus cyri* in its distribution range in Tootkabon River. A number of environmental variables, including elevation, water depth, river width, river slope, velocity, substrate type, and average diameter of bed stone, riparian vegetation type and the relative abundance of *B. cyri* at ۱۳ stations and three replications from the downstream to upstream were examined during November ۲۰۱۳. The results showed that *B. cyri* mostly selects upper stretches of the river with higher velocity, middle depth, lower width and bed rock substrate i.e. bed with boulder cover and grasslands and also its residential area is of riparian type compared with the available ranges. Habitat selectivity index for *B. cyri* showed that the elevation is ۱۳۰-۲۲۰ m, water depth ۱۸-۷۵ cm, channel width less than ۱۲ m, channel slope ۰.۵-۲.۳%, water velocity less than ۰.۸ m.s<sup>-۱</sup>, bed rock substrate, average diameter of bed stone larger ۱۵-۵۰ cm. Presence of these conditions with HSI of ۰.۷۹۸ indicates that Tootkabon River is an excellent habitat for *B. cyri*.

کلمات کلیدی:

Habitat selection, Suitability index, *Barbus cyri*, Tootkabon River

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