

CHECKLIST OF FISHES FOUND ON THE NYIKA PLATEAU AND IN VWAZA MARSH WILDLIFE RESERVE

This checklist is compiled from sampling by Denis Tweddle, supplemented by collections by W. Kadye for the slopes of the Nyika Plateau. Species are listed in accepted scientific order under family (in bold). Nomenclature follows Bill Eschmeyer, Catalog of Fishes (www.calacademy.org/scientists/projects/catalog-of-fishes).

The four columns reflect the different localities and habitats. Only two species occur on top of the plateau, but other species penetrate the boundaries of the Nyika National Park on the lower slopes in the tributaries of the North Rukuru River and South Rukuru River flowing from the plateau. The two rivers have marked differences in species composition and are therefore presented in separate columns. The Vwaza Marsh is on the South Rukuru system but has very different slow-flowing streams, in contrast to the fast flowing tributaries of the Nyika slopes.

Abundance is indicated as follows: + = present, ++ = common, +++ = abundant, ? = absent from the marsh streams and Lake Kazuni but likely to be present in the fast-flowing outflow from the lake.

Scientific name	English name	Nyika Plateau streams	N Rukuru upland tributaries	S Rukuru upland tributaries	Vwaza Marsh
SALMONIDAE					
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Rainbow trout	++			
MORMYRIDAE					
<i>Hippopotamyrus cf. ansorgii</i>	Nyika stonebasher		+		
CYPRINIDAE					
<i>Opsaridium tweddleorum</i>	Dwarf sanjika		+		
<i>Labeobarbus johnstonii</i>	Malawi short-barbel yellowfish		++		
<i>Labeobarbus nthuwa</i>	Nthuwa, South Rukuru yellowfish			+	?
' <i>Barbus</i> ' <i>trimaculatus</i>	Threespot barb		+	+	+
' <i>Barbus</i> ' <i>kerstenii</i>	Redspot barb			++	+++
' <i>Barbus</i> ' <i>lineomaculatus</i>	Linespot barb			++	++
' <i>Barbus</i> ' sp. (new species, small spotted)				++	++
' <i>Barbus</i> ' <i>paludinosus</i>	Straightfin barb			++	++
' <i>Barbus</i> ' <i>radiatus</i>	Beira barb			++	++
' <i>Barbus</i> ' <i>seymouri</i>	Seymour's barb			+	+
<i>Labeo cylindricus</i>	Redeye labeo			++	++

Scientific name	English name	Nyika Plateau streams	N Rukuru upland tributaries	S Rukuru upland tributaries	Vwaza Marsh
MASTACEMBELIDAE	Malawi spiny eel		+		
<i>Mastacembelus shiranus</i>					
AMPHILIIDAE					
<i>Amphilius cf. uranoscopus</i>	Mountain catfish	++	++	+++	?
<i>Zaireichthys maravensis</i>	Malawi sand catlet			+	+
<i>Zaireichthys monomotapa</i>	Monomotapa sand catlet			+	+
MOCHOKIDAE					
<i>Chiloglanis</i> sp. (new species)	Suckermouth catfish		++	++	?
CLARIIDAE					
<i>Clarias gariepinus</i>	Sharptooth catfish			+	+
<i>Clarias liocephalus</i>	Smoothhead catfish			+	?
CICHLIDAE					
<i>Astatotilapia calliptera</i>	Eastern river bream			+	+
<i>Pseudocrenilabrus philander</i>	Southern mouthbrooder			++	++
<i>Oreochromis shiranus shiranus</i>	makumba			++	++