



## Metadata

# Freshwater Fishes of Colombia

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## General information

### name of the dataset:

full name of the dataset: *Freshwater Fishes of Colombia*

**type of dataset ([more information](#)):** *species distribution data*

data type: *descriptive data*

short description of the dataset/summary:

*Fish database used in the paper: J.A. Maldonado-Ocampo, Vari, R.P., Usma, J.S. (2008) Checklist of the Freshwater Fishes of Colombia. Biota Colombiana 9 (2) 143 - 237. This paper includes a checklist of the native freshwater fishes of Colombia by river basin.*

*Paper abstract: Data derived from the literature supplemented by examination of specimens in collections show that 1435 species of native fishes live in the freshwaters of Colombia. These species represent 14 orders and 47 families. Orders with the largest numbers of species in the Colombian continental ichthyofauna are the Characiformes (637 species), Siluriformes (524 species), Perciformes (124 species), and Gymnotiformes (74 species), with the remaining 10 orders having from 1 to 35 species. At the family level, the Characidae has the greatest number of species (399 species), with this followed by the Loricariidae (166 species), Cichlidae (114 species), Pimelodidae (54 species), and Trichomycteridae (54 species); the remaining 42 families having 1 to 52 species. Present data indicate that 311 of the species occur solely at locations within Colombia. Continued descriptions of new species from the continental waters of Colombia demonstrate that the present total underestimates the species-level diversity of the ichthyofauna. The 1435 species living in Colombian freshwaters represent approximately 5% of all freshwater and marine fish species now recognized worldwide and approximately 29% of the freshwater fish species known to inhabit the drainages across the expanse from the southern border of Mexico through to Chile and Argentina. Various historical and ecological factors potentially contributing to the species-level richness of the Colombian freshwater fish fauna are discussed (e.g. geology, climate, physiography, water chemistry).*

**science keywords according to [GCMD](#):**

topic: *Biosphere, Biological Classification*

keywords: *Diversity, distribution, NW South America, ichthyofauna, Colombia, Fish*

**ISO topic category according to [ISO 19115](#):**

*Biota, Inland Waters*

## Technical and administrative specifications

**data format:** *Excel*  
**operating system:** *Apple Mac*  
**data language:** *Spanish*  
**current access level:** *restricted access*  
**update level:** *continuously updated*

**documentation:**  
type: *scientific paper*  
language: *English*

**Do you plan to publish the data on the Freshwater Biodiversity data portal:**

**contact details:**

metadata contact person:  
first, last name: *Javier Alejandro Maldonado-Ocampo*  
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web address: *<https://sites.google.com/site/javieramalonadoocampo/>*

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first, last name: *Javier Alejandro Maldonado-Ocampo*  
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## Intellectual property rights and citation

(if the database is already published):

**dataset creator (data compiler):**

**data contributors to/owners of this dataset:**

*single*

criteria for using the data in a publication/scientific analysis:

*Other/Additional criteria*

other/additional criteria:

*Data provider must be offered co-authorship for publications using this dataset. Data must be publicly acknowledged and cited correctly.*

**citation of this dataset:**

author(s):

*Maldonado-Ocampo, J.A., Vari, R.P., Usma, J.S.*

title:

*Checklist of the Freshwater Fishes of Colombia. Biota Colombiana 9 (2)  
143 - 237.*

year:

*2008*

**citation of the metadata:**

## **General data specifications**

### **regional coverage of the dataset:**

scale of the dataset:	<i>national</i>
continents:	<i>South America</i>
countries:	<i>South America: Colombia</i>

## Site specifications

**coordinate system/grid data:**

**comments:**

*according to abstract data were derived from literature survey and collections; seems that no site info is available*

## **Biological data**

### **biological data origin:**

specify method:	<i>general compilation</i>
organism group addressed:	<i>literature survey and collections</i> <i>fish</i>

## Sample resolution

fish:

**taxonomic resolution:** *species*

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**taxonomic coding:**

## **Other specifications**

**GIS layers, shapes related to the dataset:**

*no data available*

**quality control procedures:**