

## Threatened fishes of the world: *Micropterus treculii* (Vaillant and Bocourt 1874) (Centrarchidae)

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**Common name:** Guadalupe bass. **Conservation status:** Considered threatened (Edwards 1980; Hubbs et al. 1991) and of conservation concern (Johnson 1987; USDI 1989). **Identification:** Medium-sized centrarchid (maximum TL=463 mm) with an elongated body. Ten to 12 dark, lateral bands 1/2 to 2/3 of body depth in height over yellowish brown to greenish olive background (Hubbs and Bailey 1942). D 9–11 (ten), 11–13 (12), A 3–4 (three), 9–11 (ten), P 14–16 (15–16). Photograph of 81 mm (TL) individual by Chad Thomas. **Distribution:** Endemic to the Brazos, Colorado, Guadalupe, and San Antonio river drainages of the Edwards Plateau and introduced in the Nueces drainage (Hubbs et al. 1991). **Abundance:** Historically up to 7% of fish assemblages (Edwards 1980). **Habitat and ecology:** Found in small to moderate size streams and rivers, except headwaters (Guillory 1978). Associated with runs and riffle tail-races (Boyer et al. 1977). Diet primarily of Ephemeroptera, Megaloptera, crayfish, and fish (Edwards 1980; Farquhar 1995). **Reproduction:** Spawns from March to August, but primarily April through June (Edwards 1980). Nest guarders, depositing eggs in silt-free cobble and gravel depressions (Boyer et al. 1977). Fecundity, on average, 4,200 eggs (Edwards 1980).



Males mature by age 1 and females mature at age 2 (Edwards 1980). **Threats:** Introgressive hybridization with *Micropterus dolomieu* is the greatest threat to *Micropterus treculii* (Edwards 1979; Whitmore 1983; Morizot et al. 1991; Littrell et al. 2007). It has been extirpated from the Blanco River (Littrell et al. 2007) despite restorative stocking efforts. Reduced stream flow also threatens *M. treculii* (Edwards 1980; Bowles and Arsuffi 1993). **Conservation action:** Texas Parks and Wildlife Department established a stocking program in the Guadalupe drainage to decrease hybridization and no longer stocks *M. dolomieu* within the range of *M. treculii*. Data on the status of introgressed *M. treculii* populations is needed to effectively allocate restoration efforts.

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