

# Discoglossus nigriventer

**Taxonomic Authority:** Mendelssohn and Steinitz, 1943

**Synonyms:**

**Order:** Anura

**Notes on taxonomy:**

**Region:** 10

**Common Names:**

Hula Painted Frog English

**Family:** Discoglossidae

## General Information

**Biome**

Terrestrial

Freshwater

Marine

### **Geographic Range of species:**

This species was known only from two localities on the eastern shore of Lake Huleh, Israel. It is possible that it occurred in adjacent parts of Syria. The map indicates the possible former range of this species.

### **Conservation Measures:**

This species is protected by national legislation in Israel. Surveys of the Aammiq marsh in southeast Lebanon in April 2004 and April 2005 failed to find any individuals. This marsh is the only remaining wetland fragment of the Bekaa valley, which was once a major wetland of the Middle East but has been drastically reduced by agriculture and urban development.

### **Habitat and Ecology Information:**

It was recorded from marginal habitats in the Lake Huleh freshwater wetland area of Israel. It is presumed to have bred in wetland habitat and have larval development as in other members of the genus.

### **Threats:**

The Hula swamp areas were drained in the 1950s in an attempt to eradicate malaria and to make the land suitable for agriculture. Of the original 6,000ha of swampland, only 300ha remained and this area was set aside as a nature reserve (a considerable distance from the recorded localities) in 1964, but it seems that this action was too late to save the species. It is presumed to be extinct due to swamp drainage and agricultural development.

### **Species population information:**

It is known only from a few specimens; an adult was collected in 1955, this is the last known record of the species.

## Country Distribution

Israel

Native -  
Presence  
Confirmed

Native -  
Presence  
Possible

Extinct

Reintroduced

Introduced

Vagrant



## FAO Marine Habitats

Native -  
Presence  
Confirmed

Native -  
Presence  
Possible

Extinct

Reintroduced

Introduced

## Major Lakes

## Major Rivers

## Upper Level Habitat Preferences

**Score**

## Lower Level Habitat Preferences

**Score**

5.4 Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands 1

Marsh Wetland 1

5.5 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Lakes (over 8ha) 1

Mire, Bog, Fen 1

## Major threats

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1	Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1.3	Agro-industry farming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.2	Human settlement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
7	None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Utilisation of Species

**Purpose/Type of Use**

**Subsistence**

**National**

**International**

**Other purpose:**

**Primary forms removed from the wild**

100%

>75%

51-75%

26-50%

<25%

**Other forms removed from the wild:**

**Source of specimens in commercial trade**

100%

>75%

51-75%

26-50%

<25%

**Other source of specimens:**

**Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:**

**Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:**

**CITES:** Not listed

## Red Listing

**Red List Assessment:** Extinct (FX)

Possibly Extinct

**Red List Criteria:**

**Rationale for the Red List Assessment:** Listed as Extinct because extensive searches over the almost 50 years have failed to locate this species.

**Current Population Trend:**

**Date of Assessment:** 4/5/2004

**Assessor(s):** Theodore Papenfuss, Ahmad Disi, Steven Anderson, Sergius Kuzmin, Avital Gasith, Riyad A. Sadek, Yehudah Werner

**Notes on Red listing:**

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