

Rana kurtmuelleri

Taxonomic Authority: Gayda, 1940

Region: 10

Synonyms:

Rana balcanica

Schneider, Sinsch and Sofianidou,

Common Names:

Balkan Water Frog

English

rana dei Balcani

Italian

Order: Anura

Family: Ranidae

Notes on taxonomy: The name *Rana balcanica* is occasionally used, but this is a junior synonym of *Rana kurtmuelleri* (Dubois and Ohler 1995). P.-A. Crochet (pers. comm.) mentions that there is no genetic divergence between *Rana kurtmuelleri* and *Rana ridibunda*, and so the status of this species is doubtful (Crochet and Dubois in press).

General Information

Biome

Terrestrial

Freshwater

Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This species is distributed throughout much of Greece and Albania. In 1941 the species was also introduced to Imperia province, Liguria, northwestern Italy where it is currently expanding its range (Lanza, 1962; Lanza and Corti, 1993). It has an altitudinal distribution of sea level to a maximum of 1,000m asl.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It is a largely aquatic species, generally found in areas close to suitable open water wetland habitats. It breeds in various stagnant and slow-moving waterbodies. Introduced populations of this species in Italy do not form hybridogenetic hybrids with native species (T. Uzzell, pers. comm.).

Conservation Measures:

This species is listed on Appendix III of the Berne Convention. It is not protected by national legislation in Yugoslavia. The species is present in the Lake Skadar protected area, on the border of Montenegro (Yugoslavia) and Albania, and presumably in several other protected areas.

Threats:

This species is threatened in its native range by drainage of wetland habitats and aquatic pollution of many waterways caused by agrochemical and industrial (including mining) contaminants. In northern parts of its native range (e.g., Lake Skadar) it is significantly threatened by over collection for commercial purposes. The species is additionally threatened by accidental introductions of commercially transported non-native water frogs. However, it remains abundant in many places.

Species population information:

It was considered by Gasc et al. (1997) to be common throughout its range. More recent reports suggest that it is declining in Yugoslavia (Ljubisavljevic et al. 2003).

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Albania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greece	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Italy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FAO Marine Habitats

Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced
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Major Lakes

Major Rivers

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

Score

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

3.8 Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	1	Marsh Wetland	2
5.1 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)	1	Mire, Bog, Fen	2
5.2 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent/Irregular Rivers/Streams/Creeks	2		
5.4 Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands	2		
5.5 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Lakes (over 8ha)	1		
5.6 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Lakes (over 8ha)	2		
5.7 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1		
5.8 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	2		
11.2 Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	2		
12.1 Artificial/Aquatic - Water Storage Areas (over 8ha)	1		
12.2 Artificial/Aquatic - Ponds (below 8ha)	1		

12.7 Artificial/Aquatic - Irrigated Land (includes irrigation channels) 1
 12.9 Artificial/Aquatic - Canals and Drainage Channels, Ditches 1

Major threats

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1	Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1.3	Agro-industry farming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4	Livestock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4.3	Agro-industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3	Extraction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.1	Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.1	Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.2	Human settlement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Invasive alien species (directly affecting the species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.1	Competitors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.3	Hybridizers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Harvesting (hunting/gathering)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1	Food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1.2	Sub-national/national trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1.3	Regional/international trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Pollution (affecting habitat and/or species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3	Water pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.2	Domestic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.3	Commercial/Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
1	Policy-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1	Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.1	International level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2	Implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.1	International level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Research actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1	Taxonomy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Habitat status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.6	Uses and harvest levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.8	Conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.9	Trends/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Protected areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.2	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4.3	Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Species-based actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.3	Sustainable use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.3.1	Harvest management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.3.2	Trade management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:		
1. Food - human	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Primary forms removed from the wild	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50%	<25%	Other forms removed from the wild:
1. Whole animal/plant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50%	<25%	Other source of specimens:
Wild	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:	Unknown					
Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:						
CITES:	Not listed					

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Least Concern (LC)

Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria:

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Least Concern in view of its wide distribution, tolerance of a broad range of habitats, presumed large population, and because it is unlikely to be declining fast enough to qualify for listing in a more threatened category.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

Assessor(s): Thomas Uzzell, Franco Andreone, Petros Lymbakis, Milan Vogrin, Idriz Haxhiu

Notes on Red listing:

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