

Speleomantes ambrosii

Taxonomic Authority: (Lanza, 1954)

Synonyms:

Region: 10

Common Names:

Ambrosi's Cave Salamander English

geotritone di Ambrosi Italian

Spezia Cave Salamander English

Family: Plethodontidae

Order: Caudata

Notes on taxonomy:

General Information

Biome

Terrestrial

Freshwater

Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This species is restricted to scattered localities (at least 12 localities are known) in La Spezia Province, northwest Italy. The populations east of the Fiume river around Massa Carrara belong to a recently discovered subspecies, *S.a. bianchii*. It is found at altitudes ranging from near sea level to around 2,300m asl.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

It is known from humid rocky outcrops, caves, crevices, and forested areas in the vicinity of streams. Individuals may occasionally be found climbing in vegetation. The species reproduces through the direct development of a few terrestrial eggs.

Conservation Measures:

Prior to being considered a separate species *S. ambrosii* was listed on Appendix II of the Berne Convention under *S. italicus*, it is also listed on Annex IV of the EU Natural Habitats Directive. It is present in the Parco Nazionale delle Cinque Terre and the Parco Naturale delle Alpi Apuane. The species has a very restricted range and needs further conservation attention.

Threats:

There are no threats to this species other than a general localised loss of suitable habitat. However, these threats are limited, and it is not believed to be significantly threatened.

Species population information:

It is generally common within its limited range, with no evidence of decline.

Country Distribution

Italy

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

1.4	Forest - Temperate	1
6	Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	1
7.1	Caves and Subterranean Habitats (non-aquatic) - Caves	1
7.2	Caves and Subterranean Habitats (non-aquatic) - Other Subterranean Habitats	1

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

Cool Broadleaf Forest	1
Deciduous Broadleaf Wood	1
Forest and Field	1
Mixed Forest	1
Small Leaf Mixed Woods	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"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<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"/>
1.4.3	Tourism/recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Intrinsic factors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.2	Poor recruitment/reproduction/regeneration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.9	Restricted range	<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"/>
1.2.1.2	National 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"/>
1.2.2.2	National level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Research actions	<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"/>
3.5	Threats	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.2	Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Protected areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.1	Identification of new protected areas	<input 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"/>

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: Near Threatened (NT) Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria:

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Near Threatened since although its Extent of Occurrence is probably less than 5,000 km² and its habitat might be declining, thus making the species close to qualifying for Vulnerable, it probably occurs in more than ten locations, and its range is probably not severely fragmented.

Current Population Trend: Stable Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

Assessor(s): Franco Andreone, Paul Edgar, Claudia Corti

Notes on Red listing:

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