

Ichthyofaunal Diversity of Haranbari Dam, Maharashtra, India

*Rakesh B. Patil¹, and Vitthal R. More²

¹Department of Zoology, Maulana Azad College, Chatrapati Sambhajnagar, Deola, M.S., India

²Department of Zoology, Govt. College of Arts & Science, Chatrapati Sambhajnagar, Deola, M.S., India

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ABSTRACT

The fish fauna of Haranbari Dam, Baglan (Nashik) was studied for the period August 2023 to February 2024. Haranbari Dam is an earth fill dam on the Mosam River near Satana, in Baglan Tehsil. The height of the dam above its lowest foundation is 34 m while the length is 1419 m and the gross storage capacity is 34780.00 km³. During the present investigation, fish were collected and identified. The study revealed the presence of 18 species of fish belonging to 7 different families. The predominant families in this reservoir are Cyprinidae, Siluridae, and Percidae. The highest number of species (8) was recorded from family Cyprinidae. The fishes recorded were found present in good numbers in the Haranbari Dam.

Key words: Haranbari, Mosam, Cyprinidae, Siluridae, Percidae.

Introduction

Freshwater reservoirs are important for various purposes such as Agriculture, Water Supply, Recreation and Aquaculture. Though most of the Dams are constructed for Agriculture they also serve other purposes mentioned above. Fishes constitute a major part of diet for people living along the water bodies such as Rivers, Dams, etc. They are rich in protein and calcium. Diversity of fishes are an indicator of good ecosystem and quality of water.

Haranbari Dam present near Mulher in Baglan Tehsil of Nashik district in North Maharashtra, India. Built on River Mosam primarily to serve as source of water for Irrigation along the Mosam River, feeding water to unique system of Irrigation called "Phad system". Mosam River is an important tributary of River Girana. The Ichthyofaunal diversity of Haranbari Dam has not been studied so far. Considering the Ecological and Economical impor-

tance of fishes a study was undertaken to record the Ichthyofaunal diversity of Haranbari Dam.

Materials and Methods

Haranbari Dam is located at Vade Digar, Near Mulher in Baglan Tehsil of Nashik District in Northern Maharashtra, India, at 74°029' E Longitude and 20°79' N Latitude. The catchment areas of The Dam are hills between the Dholbari and Shelbari ranges (an off shoot of North-Western Ghats). The height of the dam above its lowest foundation is 34 m, while the length is 1419 m. The volume content is 2375 km³ and gross storage capacity is 34780.00 km³.

Fishes were collected from the dam during the period of six months between August 2023 to February 2024. For collection various nets like gill net, cast net, traps were used at various locations in the reservoir. The collected fish specimen was studied and identified using morphological features like, colour,

pattern of scales, mouth patterns, identification marks, blotch on operculum, fins and compared with those in standard literature.

Results and Discussion

Eighteen species belonging to fifteen genera and



Fig. 1. Sample Fish specimens



Fig. 2. Catchment Area

seven families were collected during the study. The details of which are summarized in Table 1.

Out of the eighteen species Six species viz. *Labeo rohita*, *Catla catla*, *Cirrhinu smrigala*, *Ctenopharyngodon idella*, *Acanthocobitis mooreh* and *Channa murulus* are local species. Whereas twelve are introduced for aquaculture. The introduced species seem to be well adapted to the environment of Harnbari Dam and they have outnumbered the local species of fish. Though this may be economically good but ecologically it is bad. From amongst the introduced species those belonging to family Cyprinidae, Siluridae and Percidae with Eight and Three species each are dominant ones.

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Table 1. Fish fauna of Haranbari Dam.

Sr. No.	Local Name	Common Name	Family	Scientific Name
1	Rita	Rita	Bagridae	<i>Rita rita</i>
2	Mangur	Mangur	Clariidae	<i>Clarias batrachus</i>
3	Korati	Karati	Clupeidae	<i>Gundusia chapra</i>
4	Catla	Catla	Cyprinidae	<i>Catla catla</i>
5	Rohu	Rohu	Cyprinidae	<i>Labeo rohita</i>
6	Kolashi	Kolashi	Cyprinidae	<i>Puntius kolus</i>
7	Combda	-	Cyprinidae	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
8	Mahya	-	Cyprinidae	<i>Garra mullya</i>
9	Mrigal	Mrigal	Cyprinidae	<i>Cirrhinus mrigala</i>
10	Gavtya	Grasscarp	Cyprinidae	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>
11	Kanashi	Kalbasu	Cyprinidae	<i>Labeo kalbasu</i>
12	Ghogrya	Catfish	Siluridae	<i>Eutropiichthys vacha</i>
13	Wanz	Catfish	Siluridae	<i>Ompok binotatus</i>
14	Shingtya	Catfish	Siluridae	<i>Mystus seengtee</i>
15	Mooree	-	Nemacheilidae	<i>Acanthocobitis mooreh</i>
16	Dokrya	Dwarf murrel	Percidae	<i>Channa orientalis</i>
17	Kalamasa	Murrel	Percidae	<i>Channa punctatus</i>
18	Maral	Murrel	Percidae	<i>Channa murulus</i>

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