

## Diversity, distribution, threats and conservation action of fish fauna in Chinnar Reservoir, Tamil Nadu

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**ABSTRACT:**

The freshwater fish fauna of the Chinnar reservoir/Chinnar River a tributary of the Cauvery River system in the Tamil Nadu at the Eastern part of Ghats was studied. A total of thirty two (32) species of freshwater fish belonging to seven (7) orders, ten (10) families and twenty four (24) genera were recorded. Out of the 32 species, the present study recorded the presence of three (3) threatened, one (1) vulnerable and twenty eight (28) least concerned species. The highest species diversity was recorded in Chinnar Reservoir (n=22) and lowest diversity was found in the Gujjarahalli (n=9). The fish fauna of the Chinnar reservoir is threatened due to anthropogenic activities such as deforestation leading to siltation, sand mining, over fishing by using dynamite, organic and inorganic pollution. Hence, there is an urgent need to develop and implement conservation plans that are needed.

**Keywords:**

Chinnar reservoir, Eastern Ghats, biodiversity status, sand mining, threats.