

**CONSPECTUS COBITIDUM*:
AN INVENTORY OF THE LOACHES OF THE WORLD
(TELEOSTEI: CYPRINIFORMES: COBITOIDEI)**

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CONTENTS

Abstract	1
Introduction	3
Name-bearing types	6
Ending and spelling of species names	8
Abbreviations used	12
Family Gyrinocheilidae	14
Family Botiidae	14
Family Vaillantellidae	21
Family Cobitidae	21
Family Ellopostomatidae	43
Family Barbuccidae	43
Family Balitoridae	44
Family Gastromyzontidae	57
Family Serpenticobitidae	73
Family Nemacheilidae	74
Appendix: New genus-group and family-group names	137
Acknowledgements	141
Bibliography	142
Index	175

ABSTRACT. — The taxonomy and nomenclature of the fishes of the superfamily Cobitoidea (suborder Cobitoidei minus Catostomidae) are reviewed. Original descriptions of all 1499 recorded species-group names and 185 genus-group names have been checked for correct spelling, types and bibliographic references. The bibliography includes about 1010 titles. 1043 valid species in 111 valid genera are recognised. Synonymies are given, based on published information as well as unpublished observations. Endings consistent with the three possible Latin grammatical

* Cobitidum is formed on the common name *cobites* or *cobitis*, meaning loaches in general, and not on the formal name of the suborder Cobitoidei.