

BLUE RIDGE outdoors

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Outdoor Updates: NC species are being considered for the Endangered Species Act



A North Carolina species of fish and salamander are being considered for the Endangered Species Act

Kim Dinan 24 May 19 EnvironmentNewswire

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed the Carolina madtom catfish and the Neuse River waterdog salamander for protection under the Endangered Species Act. The Carolina madtom is described as a “small but feisty” catfish by the Center for Biological Diversity, which filed a petition and lawsuits to have the animals protected. Both species are only found in North Carolina. The madtom lives in the Tar River basin and has already disappeared from 75 percent of its range. The Neuse River waterdog is found only in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico river basins and has disappeared from 35 percent of its range. Both the Carolina madtom and the Neuse River waterdog are threatened by water pollution from development, logging and factory farms.