



2nd International Mahseer Conference Schedule and Program

Pasaknoi Conference Room, Pang Suan Kaew Hotel • Chiang Mai, Thailand

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

- 14:00 - 17:00 Tour at Maejo University, Fisheries Department and Natural History Museum
- 16:00 - 18:00 Registration Open, 1st floor, Lotus Pang Hotel
- 18:00 - 21:00 Opening Reception, Pasaknoi Room, Lotus Pang Hotel

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 8:00 - 9:00 Registration Table Open

CONFERENCE OPENING

- 09:00 Welcome by Conference Hosts
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Weerapon Thongma, Acting President, Maejo University
Welcome by Conference Hosts
Address by Dignitaries:
Dr. Tashi Samdup, *Director General, Department of Livestock, Bhutan*
Dr. Sanga Lee-sanga, *Director of Inland Fisheries Research and Development Division, Department of Fisheries, Thailand*
Dr. David Philipp, *Fisheries Conservation Foundation*
Group Photo
Special Presentations:
- Biodiversity and Research of Thailand's River Fishes - Dr. Apinun Suvarnaraksha, *Maejo University*
 - Current Research on Thailand Mahseer - Dr. Aaron Koning, *Cornell University*
 - Plenary Session on Migratory Fishes - Dr. Zeb Hogan, *University of Nevada- Reno*
- 12:30 Lunch

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 12

SESSION 1 THEME: Emerging advances in Mahseer taxonomy, biology and research

Chairperson: Steve Lockett

- 14:00 KEYNOTE: Current status of Mahseer taxonomy: 200 years and still confused
Presenter: Rajeev Raghavan
- 14:30 Environmental DNA (eDNA) as a novel genetic tool for the detection of fish species: Tracing the Golden Mahaseer (*Tor putitora*) in the Trishuli river of Nepal.
Presenter: Dibesh Karmacharya
- 14:50 Distribution, abundance and conservation of Mahseer (*Tor*) in Periyar Tiger Reserve, Southern Western Ghats, Kerala, India
Presenter: Sanjayan Kumar
- 15:10 Taxonomic Revision of Thai Mahseer (*Tor* spp.) by Using Morphological and Molecular Characteristics.
Presenter: Vatthanachai Phanklam



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15:30 Tea Break

Moderator: Dr. Hoek Hui Tan

15:50 The Movement and Habitat Utilisation of *Neolissocheilus soroides* in Tembat River System, Malaysia

Presenter: Shazana Sharir

16:10 A study on phylogeography of Indochinese Mahseer species

Presenter: Hoang Duc-Huy

16:30 Mahseer of Malaysia: its biology, culture and conservation strategic plans and how population genetics can help manage this population effectively

Presenter: Rajewec Raghavan for Subha Bhasu

17:30 Introduction of Poster Presenters

Poster Presentation Session

Wine and Cheese Reception

Conference Dinner at Lotus Pang

THURSDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 13

SESSION 2 THEME: Threats to Mahseer, Mitigation & Conservation

Chairperson: Dr. Hoang Duc-Huy

9:00 KEYNOTE: Threats and opportunities for Asian rivers, fish and people

Presenter: Mark Everard

9:30 River Basin Planning for Mahseer Conservation in Nepal

Presenter: Kalanidhi Paudyal

9:50 Shoal Organization: Focus on Freshwater Fish Conservation

Presenter: Michael Baltzer

10:10 Potential impacts of non-native fish on the threatened Mahseer (*Tor*) species of the Indian Himalayan biodiversity hotspot

Presenter: Mark Everard* for Nishikant Gupta

10:30 Research into Action: Developing evidence-based conservation programs for Mahseer

Presenter: Julie Claussen

10:50 Tea Break

Chairperson: Ian Pett

11:10 Poonch River Mahseer National Park –Emerging Challenges and Way Forward

Presenter: Anisur Rahman

11:30 KEYNOTE: Holistic Environmental Flow Modeling to Design a Basin-wide Protection Program for Golden Mahseer

Presenter: Vaqar Zakaria

11:50 Conserving the last giant Mahseer from the coastal rivers of Maharashtra, India

Presenter: Unmesh Katwate

12:10 Habitat use by young Golden Mahseers (*Tor putitora*) in Kosi and Kohlu rivers of Uttarakhand, India

Presenter: Bhawna Dhawan

12:30 The World Fish Migration Day

Presenter: Ruben van Treeck

13:00 LUNCH



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THURSDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 13

SESSION 3 THEME: Recreational Angling and Community-Based Conservation

Chairperson: Julie Claussen.

- 14:00 KEYNOTE: Current status of Mahseer rec fisheries across the region
Presenter: Derek Dsouza
- 14:30 Promotion of Mahseer Conservation through Pescatourism and Recreational Catch-and-Release Angling
Presenter: Bryant Dunn
- 14:50 Recreational Fishing, Ecotourism and Community Conservation in Northern Thailand.
Presenter: Tatravee Harikul
- 15:10 Building a Recreational Fishing program in Myanmar
Presenter: Vincent Jalabert
- 15:30 Golden Mahseer Angling: A tool for Conservation and Sustainable Development
Presenter: Atul Borgohain
- 15:50 From scientific obscurity to conservation priority: contributions of recreational anglers to saving the hump-backed Mahseer *Tor remadevii* from extinction.
Presenter: Adrian Pinder

16:10 Tea Break

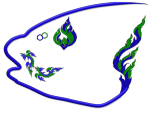
Chairperson: Dr. Adrian Pinder

- 16:30 Empowering local communities towards conservation of Mahseers in Nayar river valley, Uttarakhand, India
Presenter: Saurabh Dewan
- 16:50 River stretch co-management approach for conserving Mahseer and aquatic biodiversity resources in Karnali and Rapti Rivers, Nepal
Presenter: Suresh Wagle
- 17:10 Understanding and conserving the Cauvery Mahseer
Presenter: Naren Sreenivisan

19:00 Conference Banquet at Lotus Pang

Banquet Speakers

- Dr. Chavalid Vidthayanon
- Dr. Tuantong Jutagate



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FRIDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 14

SESSION 4 THEME: Human Dimensions of Mahseer

Chairperson: Dr. David P. Philipp

- 9:00 KEYNOTE: Mahseer as a commodity
Presenter: Steve Lockett
- 9:30 Application of automatic control recirculating aquaculture system coupled with pure oxygen for a super-intensive culture of *Tor douronensis*
Presenter: Dome Adoonsook
- 9:50 Present Scenario of Mahseer Resources (*Tor* and *Neolissocheilus* Spp.) in Indian Himalaya: Innovative Strategies for its Rehabilitation and Conservation by ICAR-DCFR
Presenter: Neetu Shahi for Debajit Sarma*
- 10:30 Sundaic Mahseers
Presenter: Hoek Hui Tan, National University of Singapore
- 10:50 **Tea Break**

Chairperson: Dr. Mark Everard

- 11:10 The Myth Behind Hatcheries and the Need for a National Fish Stocking Policy
Presenter: David Philipp
- 11:30 Developing Fish Sampling and Monitoring Protocols in the face of Hydropower
Presenter: Leanne Alonso
- 11:50 Hydropower Development and E-Flows: Policies, Issues and Future Perspectives
Presenter: Prakash Gaudel
- 12:10 Balancing the needs for hydropower and migratory fish: new developments in fish passage
Presenter: Michael Spolum
- 12:30 Closing Remarks: Apinun Suvarnaraksha
Roundtable Introduction
- 13:00 **LUNCH**
- 14:00 **ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP**
- 18:00 Dinner on your own

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15

Field Trips: *Optional - Additional fee and pre-registration required*

7:00am Departure for Inthanon National Park

7:00am Departure for Rafting on the Mae Tang River

19:00pm. Evening Option: Viewing of "Power of the River" Movie @ The Hub Chiang Mai

SUNDAY FEB 16 - TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18

7:30am Departure Field Excursion to Mae Ngao National Park

**All field trips will leave from the Lotus Pang Hotel*



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POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Postprandial histological changes in digestive tract of Golden Mahseer (*Tor putitora*) juveniles

Authors: Prakash Sharma*, M. S. Akhtar and Debajit Sarma

RNA-Sequencing revealed differentially expressed reproduction related genes in the brain of matured Golden Mahseer, *Tor putitora*

Authors: Neetu Shahi* and Sumanta Kumar Mallik

Length-Weight Relationship and Relative Condition Factor of *Neolissochilus soroides* (Duncker, 1904) (PISCES, Cyprinidae) in Tembat Reservoir, Terengganu, Peninsular Malaysia: Indication of Environmental Health

Authors: Azhari Mohamad*, Shazana Sharir, Farah Ayuni Farinordin, Nurfatim Zulkipli, Shukor Md. Nor

Length-weight relationship and abundance of three species of Mahaseer (*Tor putitora*, *Tor tor* and *Neolissochilus hexagonolepis*) in the Gandaki River Basin, Nepal

Authors: Anjana Shrestha

Genetic Diversity and Population Structure of *Tor douronensis* (CYPRINIDAE) from Sabah, Malaysia using Microsatellite Markers

Authors: Helena Biun

Does river dam matter in the longitudinal movement of Mahseer and other fish species?

Authors: Ram Devi Tachamo Shah

Mahseer of western Nepal - an assessment of morphology, habitat, distribution, and length-weight relations in the Karnali River basin

Authors: Deep Narayan Shah

Study of suitable feed for 60-90 days Brook trout (*Neolissochilus stracheyi*)

Authors: Thapanee Pholdee, Rottapol Wattanasiriserekul, Apinun Suvarnaraksha

The Optimal Number of Meals for 60-90 days Brook trout (*Neolissochilus stracheyi*)

Authors: Apinun Suvarnaraksha, Rottapol Wattanasiriserekul, Thapanee Pholdee

Illegal Fishing and the Potential Effects on Mahseer

Authors: Julie Claussen, Tshering Dorji, Deo Kumar Gurung

Diversity of Fishes in Rangsit Marsh, Pathum Thani Province, Thailand

Author: Kochakorn Moonsatan



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Molecular Characterisation of genus *Tor* (Pisces: Cyprinidae) from Southern Western Ghats India, using mitochondrial DNA genes

Authors: Vijaya Lakshmi Nagaraj*, T.R. Ambili, A. Manimekalan

Mahseer (*Tor* spp.) of the world: current taxonomy, distribution and IUCN Red List status

Authors: Andrew J. Harrison, Adrian C. Pinder*, Rajeev Raghavan, Unmesh Katwate, Neelesh Dahanukar

Design of Smart Aquaculture System for Mahseer Fish,

Authors: Danai Phaoharuhansa, Amornrat Kaewpradap, Apinun Suvarnaraksha.

The movement and habitat utilization of *Neolissochilus soroides* in the Tembat River System, Malaysia: A preliminary study

Authors: Shazana Sharir*^{1,2}, Nurfatin Zulkifli^{2,3}, Azhari Mohamad³, Farah Ayuni Farinordin³, Shafiq Zakeyudin⁵, Abdullah Samat³, Amir Shah Ruddin Md Sah⁶, Paul Close⁴ And Shukor Md Nor²

Conserving Mahseer: Nepal River Conservation Trust

Authors: Mausam Khanal