

## SUMMARY

### **Lake minnow *Eupallasella perenurus* (Pallas, 1814) in Poland – status and prospects of protection**

Lake minnow is a cyprinid fish species, which is critically endangered in Poland and protected by law, and also included in the *Polish Red Data Book of Animals*. This species is an inhabitant of small and shallow, isolated water bodies, vulnerable to the total destruction mainly due to swamp draining and amelioration. In recent decades, the rapid disappearance of Polish lake minnow populations has been observed, from about 80 described in literature ever to as little as 19 at present; most of them (13) known from Kaszuby region in northern Poland (Fig. 1). It is therefore considered necessary to urgently begin the active protection of this species, including either protection *in situ* or *ex situ*. The latter is now possible due to good knowledge of the techniques of lake minnow captive breeding and production of stocking material under controlled conditions. The strictly limited, local translocations of this species, based on the results of preliminary studies on genetic variability of Polish populations, are planned to be performed in the Mazowsze region (central Poland) in the nearest future, in order to increase there the number of existing populations from 2 to 4. Long-term monitoring will enable to evaluate efficiency of such activities as concerns the most endangered lake minnow populations in other regions in Poland.