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## **Fish distribution and diversity in the streams at eastern part of Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)**

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In Korea, Demilitarized zone (DMZ) along with the Civilian Control Line (CCL) was established at the end of the Korean War in 1953. Even though this area in the middle of Korean peninsula is well known for its protection from the human disturbances, overall biodiversity has not been investigated. In this study, fish fauna of mountain streams in the eastern part of DMZ and CCL of S. Korea (length: 100km, width: 20km) was investigated at 23 sites from October 2001 to February 2002 and the results were compare with the middle and western DMZ area. A total of 3,450 fish individuals were collected and classified into 19 families 52 species. *Rhynchocypris steindachneri* (RA, 41.5%) was dominant and superior species were *Pungitius sinensis* (21.5%), *Zacco temmincki* (RA, 5.1%), and *Zacco platypus* (RA, 4.0%). 15 species were found to be Korean endemic species (28.8%). While the endemism of the fish was similar to other protected area (e.g., national parks, 29.4%), fish diversity was significantly higher than other streams in S. Korean. From this study, we believed that DMZ and CCL would be very important for the protection of endangered and endemic species and maintenance of fish biodiversity in Korea peninsula.

**Key words** : DMZ, freshwater fish diversity, endemic species