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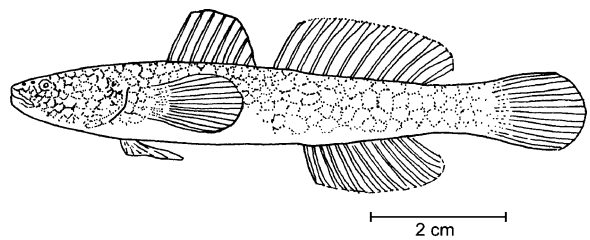
Common name: Gobio (Spanish). *Conservation status*: Rare (according to Glade 1993 conservation criteria). *Identification*: Elonged body, totally naked. Head depressed with numerous pores. Pelvic rays connected to form a disc. No barbels. Tongue bilobed. Eight dorsal spines. In adults the body is covered with small faint spots, forming a reticulated color pattern. Maximum length 8.5 cm. Drawing by Fernando Burgos. *Distribution*: Distributed along the Chilean coast, having been reported from Valparaiso (33º 05′ S, 71º 40′ W) to Punta Arenas (53º 08′ S, 70º 55′ W) (De Buen 1963; Hoese 1976; Navarro and Pequeño 1979). *Habitat and ecology*: It is a quite rare goby inhabiting the rocky intertidal zone of Chile. It may be classified as a microcarnivore that consumes small crustaceans, in particular copepods, amphipods, and ostracods (Muñoz and Ojeda 1998). No substantial dietary changes through ontogeny are evident with respect to prey taxa consumed, although larger specimens consume larger amphipods. A diet comparison between *O. jenynsi* and 13 sympatric species of intertidal fishes showed that this species overlaps substantially with all other microcarnivorous species, viz. the tripterygids *Helcogrammoides cunninghami,* and *H. chilensis,* the clinid *Myxodes viridis* and the labrisomid *Calliclinus geniguttatus* (Muñoz and Ojeda 1998). *Reproduction*: Unknown. *Threats*: Habitat loss due to intensive and extensive use of the coastal fringe. *Conservation actions*: None taken. *Conservation recommendations*: Since the level of coastal protection in Chile is very low (less than 3%; Fernández and Castilla 2005), creation of national marine parks and sanctuaries—at strategic locations—are surely the most important strategy to protect threatened species. *Remarks*: This species was first described as *Gobius ophicephalus* by Jenyns (1842) based on a specimen (the holotype of *O. jenynsi*) collected by Charles Darwin at Lowe's Harbour, Chonos Archipelago, Chiloé Island.



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