

## SUNBLEAK, *Leucaspius delineatus*



Size	Usually less than 9cm, but females can be up to 12cm
Distribution	Native to continental Europe, present in rivers and lakes. Found throughout Somerset, Hampshire and also in Dorset. Distribution thought to be increasing.
Key I.D. features	Small, slender body, similar to bleak. Olive/green back with silvery sides and iridescent blue along flanks. Lower jaw protrudes, upturned mouth and relatively large eyes. May be confused with the native species bleak, roach, dace, chub. Where difficulties in identification occur, submit samples to the National Fisheries Technical Team for confirmation.

### Potential Impacts On Native Fisheries

Competition	✓ Competition with native species as they have similar diets and spawning areas.
Habitat destruction	
Disease transmission	✓ Populations in England have been found to be infected with <i>Ergasilid</i> parasites
Predation	
Natural Balance	✓ Can out compete and dominate cyprinid populations
Fishery performance	✓ Regarded as a pest to anglers

If you discover a fish matching this description, please contact Gareth Davies at [gareth.d.davies@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:gareth.d.davies@environment-agency.gov.uk)