

### Review Form 3

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Asian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Research</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJFAR_130075
Title of the Manuscript:	An investigation on population dynamic of Shield-head catfish <i>Synodontis schall</i> in Upper Atbara and Setit dam complex, Sudan.
Type of the Article	Original research papers

#### PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript provides valuable insights into the population dynamics of <i>Synodontis schall</i> , an ecologically and commercially important fish species in Sudan's aquatic ecosystems. It highlights key bio-parameters such as growth, mortality, recruitment, and exploitation rates, which are crucial for sustainable fisheries management. The findings contribute to addressing the data gaps in fish stock assessments in tropical regions and offer a foundation for developing conservation and management strategies. Additionally, the study's methodology and focus on underexplored areas like the Upper Atbara and Setit Dam complex add to its significance for regional and global fisheries science.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The current title, "An investigation on population dynamics of Shield-head catfish <i>Synodontis schall</i> in Upper Atbara and Setit dam complex, Sudan," is clear and descriptive. However, it could be made more concise and engaging by rephrasing it to: "Population Dynamics of Shield-head Catfish ( <i>Synodontis schall</i> ) in the Upper Atbara and Setit Dam Complex, Sudan."	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The abstract is well-structured and includes the study's objectives, methods, key findings, and implications. However, some points could be refined for clarity and conciseness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specify why the von Bertalanffy growth function was chosen.</li> <li>Briefly mention the implications of findings like "low catch-to-stock ratios" and "negative allometric growth" for fisheries management.</li> <li>Avoid repeating basic statistical values if they are elaborated later in the manuscript.</li> </ul>	
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	The manuscript appears scientifically sound, with well-supported methods and interpretations. It employs widely accepted models and analysis techniques, such as the von Bertalanffy growth function and FISAT software. However, some clarifications could enhance scientific rigor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Justify the choice of certain growth parameters and mortality models in relation to the specific study area.</li> <li>Provide more context on how environmental factors, such as dam-induced habitat changes, might influence the observed population dynamics.</li> </ul>	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	The references are extensive and cover relevant studies, but some key references are slightly dated (e.g., studies from the 1970s-1990s). Including more recent studies on <i>Synodontis schall</i> or other tropical freshwater fish dynamics, especially from similar ecosystems, could strengthen the discussion. Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add recent studies from databases like FishBase or journals specializing in tropical fisheries management.</li> <li>Look into regional works on fish population dynamics influenced by dam construction or environmental changes in Africa.</li> </ul>	

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Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	The language is generally suitable for scholarly communication, but some sentences are overly complex and could be simplified for better readability. Attention to grammar (e.g., consistency in tense usage) and technical phrasing is recommended.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

### **PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

### Reviewer Details:

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