

1 **Assessment of fish biodiversity in four Korean rivers using environmental DNA**
2 **metabarcoding**

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28 **ABSTRACT**

29 Environmental DNA (eDNA) metabarcoding is a cost-effective novel approach to estimate the
30 biodiversity in an ecosystem. In this study, the MiFish pipeline was employed to test if th
31 system methodology is sufficiently reliable to estimate fish biodiversity in Korean rivers. A
32 total of 125 unique haplotypes and 73 species were identified at the species level from 16 water
33 samples collected from a single survey of four Korean rivers (Hyeongsan, Taehwa, Seomjin,
34 and Nakdong). Among the four rivers, highest species richness was recorded in Seomjin river
35 (52 species), followed by Taehwa river (42 species), and Hyeongsan river (40 species). The
36 Nakdong river (26 species) presented the lowest values of species richness and of endemic
37 species presumably due to its metropolitan location and anthropogenic impacts such as dams
38 or weirs present in the river. We were also able to detect that five exotic species (*Carassius*
39 *cuvieri*, *Cyprinus carpio*, *Cyprinus megalophthalmus*, *Lepomis macrochirus*, and *Micropterus*
40 *salmoides*) are widely distributed in all surveyed rivers, a situation that might be problematic
41 in terms of conservation. Our findings indicate that the eDNA metabarcoding technique is
42 one of the most cost-effective scientific tools available for the management and conservation
43 of freshwater fish resources available in Korean. However, low 12S sequences of endemic
44 species in the database and low resolution of MiFish region for differentiating several taxa
45 should be upgraded for their wide use.

47 Keywords: biodiversity, Korea, next-generation sequencing, MiFish, metabarcoding, eDNA

49 **INTRODUCTION**

50 Fish communities have been considered as reliable bioindicators of ecosystem status due to
51 their vulnerability to environmental or anthropogenic stresses such as pollution, climate
52 change, or other disturbances in habitats (Dudgeon, 2010). Traditional monitoring methods

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- Excludo: However, low 12S sequences of endemic species in the database and low resolution of MiFish region for differentiating several taxa should be upgraded for their wide use. ...
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91 for fish biodiversity, which have relied on the direct capture or observations of specimens,
92 are often costly and time-consuming due to a lack of taxonomic expertise and **necessity of**
93 extensive fieldwork. Environmental DNA (eDNA) metabarcoding (detection of multispecies
94 by using degraded DNA from environmental sample) has been **proposed** as an alternative
95 strategy to analyze fish biodiversity, **also demonstrating** a potential to improve the traditional
96 methods **in** a cost-effective way (Foote et al., 2012; Kelly et al., 2017; Kelly et al., 2014;
97 Shaw et al., 2016; Stoeckle et al., 2017; Yamamoto et al., 2017). This technique has been
98 shown to be sensitive as to allow the identification of rarely identified species (Pilliod et al.,
99 2013), invasive species (Ardura et al., 2015; Cai et al., 2017; Clusa et al., 2017; Dejean et al.,
100 2012; Klymus et al., 2017; Takahara et al., 2013; Williams et al., 2018) or migratory species
101 (Gustavson et al., 2015; Pont et al., 2018; Yamamoto et al., 2016; Yamanaka and Minamoto,
102 2016).

103 Since eDNA metabarcoding analysis **of** fish biodiversity is mainly based on the amplicon
104 of homologous genes by PCR, **universal primers with high taxon-specificity and wide taxon-**
105 **coverage are essential.** Three fish-specific universal primer sets are currently reported, **two**
106 **sets for 12S rRNA regions [Eco Primers (Riaz et al., 2011) and MiFish (Miya et al., 2015b)]**
107 **and one for 16S rRNA region (Shaw et al., 2016).** Among them, **the** MiFish primer set
108 demonstrated its reliability for eDNA metabarcoding analysis of fish biodiversity both in
109 **marine** (Ushio et al., 2017; Yamamoto et al., 2017) and **continental waters** (Sato et al., 2018).
110 More recently, the web-based MiFish pipeline in MitoFish was publicly open
111 (<http://mitofish.aori.u-tokyo.ac.jp/mifish/>), **alleviating the time-consuming bioinformatic**
112 **analysis for the users (Sato et al., 2018).**

113 Although metabarcoding analysis by the MiFish pipeline is one of the most reliable tools
114 at the moment, numbers of MiFish sequences in the database are still one of the last hurdles to
115 overcome for the global use of MiFish pipeline. Since the average length of the MiFish region

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132 is approximately 170 bp, which is much smaller than the typically used 670 bp of the COI
133 barcodes, a high-quality database is critical for successful species assignment. Species
134 identification by MiFish primer could not discriminate closely related species in several
135 genera including *Sebastes* spp. and *Takifugu* spp. (Yamamoto et al., 2017). In particular,
136 considering the tremendous diversity of freshwater fishes, (Seehausen and Wagner, 2014),
137 direct application of MiFish platform, may produce a high amount of 'unidentified' records. In
138 addition, a relatively much lower amount of MiFish sequence data (12S region) is currently
139 deposited compared with those of COI region. Therefore, before the direct application of the
140 MiFish pipeline, the MiFish DNA sequence data for the local freshwater species should be
141 tested for the accurate fish biodiversity analysis using eDNA metabarcoding.

142 In this study, we firstly employed eDNA metabarcoding analysis of water samples
143 collected from four rivers using the MiFish in order to improve the knowledge on freshwater
144 fish biodiversity in Korea. After that, we analyzed the haplotypes obtained by the MiFish
145 pipeline to assess their compatibilities in the identification of endemic species of fishes
146 inhabiting Korean rivers. We also calculated the Shannon-Wiener (H') indices derived from
147 the eDNA metabarcoding results to estimate fish biodiversity in four Korean rivers. Finally,
148 the relationship between the fish assemblage according to the locations in the river was
149 analyzed using a heat-map clustering analysis.

151 MATERIALS AND METHODS

152 Sample collection and environmental DNA extraction

153 The eDNA water samples were collected on June 11 and 12, 2018 from 16 stations in the
154 Hyeongsan river, Taehwa river, Seomjin river, and Nakdong river, which are four large rivers
155 in the southern part of the Korean peninsula (Fig.1 and Table 1). In this study, sampling
156 stations of each river were categorized as upstream (station 1 and 2), midstream (station 3),

Comentado [FDD1]: This reference might be deleted; I also suggested deletion of "partly due to the fragmented and isolated habitats" because this stretch was still confusing and in my view unnecessary to the understanding of the sentence.

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167 and downstream (Station 4). One liter of water sample was collected at each station with
168 disposable plastic bottles. After collecting water, the bottles were immediately stored in [an](#)
169 icebox [and were taken](#) to the laboratory for filtration. Water temperature and salinity were
170 measured with a conductivity meter (CD-4307SD, LUTRON). [The water collected](#) was
171 filtered (250 ml X 4) with [a](#) 0.45 µm pore-sized GN-6 membrane (PALL Life sciences,
172 Mexico). The filtration system was cleaned up with 10 % commercial bleach containing
173 sodium hypochlorite to prevent cross-contamination. After filtration, the membranes were put
174 into 2.0 ml tubes and stored at -20°C before DNA purification.

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175 The genomic DNA was extracted directly from the membrane filters [through](#) the
176 DNeasy® Blood and Tissue Kit (Qiagen, Germany) according to the producer's manual. The
177 membrane filters were cut into smaller pieces before homogenization by TissueLyser II
178 motorized homogenizer (QIAGEN, Hilden, Germany). The extracted genomic DNA was
179 quantified by ND-1000 NanoDrop (Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA), aliquoted, and
180 stored at -20°C.

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182 Construction of library and MiSeq sequencing

183 In order to assess the fish biodiversity, amplicon libraries of partial 12S rRNA region by the
184 MiFish universal primer sets were constructed (Miya et al., 2015a). The first PCR was
185 performed to amplify MiFish regions with an overhanging linker sequence for each Nextera
186 XT index (Illumina, USA). The PCR mixture (20 µL) contained 1.0 µL of [the](#) MiFish (forward
187 & reverse) primers (5pmol each), 2.0 µL template, 2.0 µL dNTPs (2.5mM), 2.0 µL of 10X
188 EX Taq buffer, 0.6 µL DMSO (3 %), 0.2 µL of EX Taq Hot Start polymerase (TaKaRa Bio
189 Inc. Japan) and 11.20 µL of ultra-pure water. The PCR reaction began with denaturation
190 temperature at 95°C for 3 min, followed by 30 cycles of 94°C for 20 sec, 65°C for 15 sec, and
191 72°C for 15 sec with a final extension at 72°C for 5 min. The amplicon with the expected size

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197 (250 bp~350 bp) was purified with the AccuPrep® Gel Purification Kit (Bioneer, Republic of
 198 Korea) after 1.5 % agarose gel electrophoresis. The purified amplicons were subjected to
 199 additional PCR to link each amplicon with the corresponding Nextera XT index. The second
 200 PCR mixture (20 µL) contained 5 µL template, 1 µL of a couple of index primers (10 pmol),
 201 0.5 µL dNTPs (10 mM), 4 µL 5X Phusion HF Buffer, 8.3 µL ultrapure water, and 0.2 µL
 202 Phusion Hot Start Flex DNA polymerase (New England Biolabs, Hitchin, UK). The second
 203 PCR started at 94°C for 5 min followed by 15 cycles of 94°C for 30 sec, 55 °C for 30 sec, and
 204 72°C for 30 sec, and an additional 5 min at 72 °C. No noticeable bands were detected in the
 205 desired ranges for 16 field negative controls in the 1.5 % agarose gel electrophoresis.
 206 Consequently, the 16 negative controls were discarded from the next analysis. After gel
 207 purification, the quality and quantity of the indexed PCR products with the expected sizes
 208 were analyzed by qubit dsDNA HS Assay Kit (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) followed by
 209 the sequencing using MiSeq platform (2 X 300 bp).

211 **Bioinformatics analysis of NGS data**

212 The MiSeq raw reads were paired by Python 2.7, software (Zhang, 2015), and the paired, reads
 213 were uploaded to the MiFish pipeline (<http://mitofish.aori.u-tokyo.ac.jp/mifish/>) for further
 214 analysis. In the MiFish pipeline, low-quality tail of reads (QV ≤ 20) was trimmed in
 215 FASTQC. After taxonomic assignments from the MiFish pipeline, the sequences assigned to
 216 OTUs were compared with the GenBank database. If the sequence identity of the query
 217 sequence and top BLASTN hit was ≥ 99 %, then the sequence was ascertained as a particular
 218 species. If the sequence identity from 97 % to 99 %, the sequence was ascertained to the
 219 genus level, whereas sequences with 97 % to 95 % identity to the GenBank database were
 220 assigned as ‘unidentified’ genera. The habitat distribution of each species was assessed on the
 221 FishBase website (<https://www.fishbase.org/>), Alpha biodiversity was measured using the

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Comentado [FDD4]: Sure it's "habitat distribution" and not "geographic distribution"? Those are very distinct things...

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238 normalized read numbers from each sampling station of the four rivers sampled. The
239 Shannon-Wiener (H') index indicates the heterogeneity of species or the richness of total
240 species in an ecosystem (Gray, 2000; Magurran, 1988). The H' index and the heat map
241 clustering analysis were enumerated with the PRIMER® software v7 (Clarke and Gorley,
242 2015).

Comentado [FDD5]: Not sure if "enumerated" is correct here. I guess "assessed" or probably "calculated" are more appropriate.

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244 RESULTS

245 Physico-chemical parameters

246 Water temperature of the sample sites ranged from 18.6 °C to 24.20 °C (Table 1). The
247 Hyeongsan river showed the highest difference (5.4 °C) in temperature from upstream (HS1)
248 to downstream (HS4), whereas lowest levels of temperature variation were observed in the
249 Seomjin river (0.8 °C) and Nakdong river (1.5 °C). The lowest salinity (0.15 PSU) was
250 measured at station 1 (upstream) of the Seomjin river, while the highest (20.20 PSU) was
251 recorded at station 4 (downstream) of the Hyeongsan river. Salinity level increased from
252 upstream to downstream in all rivers sampled, except for the Nakdong river, where an
253 artificial dam has been constructed to block water from the ocean (Table 1).

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255 Analysis of fish haplotypes obtained by the MiFish pipeline

256 The reliability of MiFish pipeline (<http://mitofish.aori.u-tokyo.ac.jp/mifish/workflows/new>)
257 for biodiversity assessment of species of fishes inhabiting the sampled rivers was analyzed
258 (Table 2). From 2,315,605 raw reads, 2,280,850 merged reads were obtained by the MiFish
259 pipeline showing 98.50 % yields from the raw reads. A total of 238 representative haplotypes
260 were assigned at the default cutoff sequence identity. Among the 238 haplotypes, 125 unique
261 haplotypes were found, which were identified using the phylogenetic tree analysis in the
262 MEGA7 software (Kumar et al., 2016) with a Maximum likelihood algorithm (Fig. 2-5). A

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278 total of 2,241,130 reads (98.26 %) were assigned to 73 confirmed species, 46 genera and 13
 279 families of the Teleostei at 99 % as cutoff identity. The remaining 39,720 reads (49
 280 haplotypes), which showed less than 99 % identity, were further assigned into 11 genera and
 281 8 unidentified genera (Table 3). A total of 34,755 reads (1.50 %) were discarded from further
 282 analyses. The highest species number was identified in the family Cyprinidae (35), followed
 283 by Gobiidae (11), Cobitidae (8), and the remaining (19) are from other families of the
 284 Teleostei. Among them, the highest species numbers (4 species) were identified in the genus
 285 *Acheilognathus*, followed by *Carassius*, *Misgurnus*, *Tridentiger*, and *Squalidus* with 3 species
 286 in each of those genus (Table S1).

288 **Cyprinidae**

289 A total of 65 haplotypes was identified in the family Cyprinidae. Among the 65 haplotypes,
 290 51 were assigned to 35 species of fishes with 99 % or a higher percentage of sequence identity
 291 to the GenBank database (Fig. 2). Two haplotypes in the genus *Hemibarbus* from the Seomjin
 292 river (SJ1) and the Nakdong river (ND2) showed 100 % and 99 % identity to the haplotype of
 293 *Hemibarbus labeo* (GenBank Number: DQ347953) and *Hemibarbus maculatus* (LC146032)
 294 sampled in Korea and Japan, respectively. Among four endemic species in the genus
 295 *Hemibarbus*, *H. labeo* and *H. Jongirostris* are the most widely distributed species in Korea
 296 (Lee et al., 2012). Two haplotypes identified from Seomjin river (SJ1 and SJ2) and one from
 297 Taehwa river (TH1) showed 97 % and 95 % identity to *H. longirostris* (LC049889),
 298 respectively, which suggests that those three haplotypes may be either *H. Jongirostris* or *H.*
 299 *mylodon* (Fig.2).

300 Five haplotypes were identified in the genus *Squalidus*. Four species of the genus are
 301 reported from Korean waters: *Squalidus gracilis*, *S. japonicus*, *S. multimaculatus*, and *S.*
 302 *chankaensis* (Kim and Park, 2002). Two haplotypes from the Taehwa (TH3) and Hyeongsan

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Movido (inserção) [1]

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Movido para cima [1]: Five haplotypes were identified in the genus *Squalidus*.

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340 rivers (HS1) showed 100 % identity to *S. japonicas coreanus* (GenBank Number: KR075134)

341 and *S. multimaculatus* (GenBank Number: KT948081). Another haplotype from the

342 Hyeongsan river (HS3) showed 100% identity to a sequence of *S. japonicas* (GenBank

343 Number: LC277782) sampled in Japan. Two haplotypes from Seomjin river showed 99 %

344 identity to a sequence of *S. chankaensis tsuchigae* (GenBank Number: KT948082) sampled in

345 Korea.

346 Fishes of the subfamily Acheilognathinae, commonly known as bitterlings, deposit eggs

347 in the gill cavities of freshwater mussels (Kitamura, 2007; Kitamura et al., 2012). About 60

348 species of bitterlings are considered as valid in the genera *Acheilognathus*, *Tanakia*, and

349 *Rhodeus* (Arai, 1988). *Acheilognathus intermedia*, *A. macropterus*, *A. majusculus*, *A.*

350 *rhombus*, *Rhodeus suigensis*, *R. uyekii*, *Tanakia somjinensis*, and *T. signifier* were herein

351 identified with a sequence identity higher than 99 % when compared to the GenBank

352 database. Three haplotypes from the Seomjin river showed 99 % sequence identity to

353 haplotypes of *A. intermedia* (EF483933), *T. somjinensis* (FJ515921), and *T. signifier*

354 (EF483930) sampled in Korea. Among them, *T. somjinensis* and *T. signifier* are endemic to

355 Korea (Kim and Park, 2002). One haplotype from Taehwa river (TH3) showed 100 % identity

356 to *Rhynchocypris semotilus* (KT748874) sampled in Korea. This species is currently

357 categorized as Critically Endangered in the Red Data Book of endangered fishes in Korea (Ko

358 et al., 2011).

359 Two sub-species of *Sarcocheilichthys* are known in Korea, *S. nigripinnis morii* and *S.*

360 *variegates wakiyae* (Kim and Park, 2002). Two haplotypes from Seomjin river (SJ2) and

361 Hyeongsan river (HS2) showed 100 % and 97 % sequence identity to *S. variegates wakiyae*

362 (GenBank Number: KU301744) sampled in Korea. One haplotype from Hyeongsan river

363 (HS2) showed 100 % and 99.43 % sequence identity to *S. soldatovi* (LC146036) and the

364 Korean haplotype of *S. nigripinnis morii* (AP017653) sampled in Japan and Korea

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- Excluido: *Squalidus*
- Excluido: ...*ultimaculatus* (GenBank Number: KT948081). Another haplotype from the Hyeongsan river (HS3) showed 100% identity to the ... [1]
- Comentado [FDD6]: Please check if that's correct (the use of "sequence" here, as I suggest). Perhaps sequences or haplotypes is more correct, please check that.
- Excluido: Japanese haplotype of *Squalidus*
- Excluido: ...*aponicas* (GenBank Number: LC277782) sampled in Japan. Two haplotypes from Seomjin river showed 99 % identity to the ... [2]
- Comentado [FDD7]: Same here
- Excluido: Korean haplotype of *Squalidus*
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- Excluido: currently found...onsidered as valid in the genera *Acheilognathus*, *Tanakia*, and *Rhodeus* (Arai, 1988). We here identified ...*acheilognathus intermedia*, *Acheilognathus* ...*macropterus*, *Acheilognathus* ...*majusculus*, *Acheilognathus* ...
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- Excluido: ...o the GenBank database. Three haplotypes from
- Excluido: Korean ...aplotypes of *Acheilognathus* ... [5]
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- Excluido: *Sarcocheilichthys*
- Excluido: ...*ariegates wakiyae* (Kim and Park, 2002). Two ... [9]
- Excluido: Korean haplotype of *Sarcocheilichthys*
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474 [respectively](#). However, [S. soldatovi](#) is not currently reported for Korean waters. Therefore,
475 further studies are needed to confirm the occurrence of this species in the Hyeongsan river for
476 conservation purposes.

478 **Gobiidae**

479 We identified 16 haplotypes of the family Gobiidae, which represent 7 genera and 11 species

480 (Fig. 3). Five haplotypes were identified in the genus *Tridentiger*, which represents [the five](#)

481 known species [of the genus recorded in Korea](#) (Kim et al., 2005). One haplotype from the

482 Taehwa river (TH4) showed a 100 % identity with [Tridentiger obscures](#) (GenBank Number:

483 KT601092) [sampled in Korea](#). One haplotype from the Hyeongsan river (HS4) showed 100 %

484 identity to [T. trionocephalus](#) (GenBank Number: LC385175) [sampled in Japan](#) and another

485 haplotype from Seomjin river (SJ3) showed 100 % identity with [T. trionocephalus](#)

486 (GenBank Number: KM030481) [sampled in Korea](#). According to the phylogenetic tree

487 recovered, the [T. trionocephalus](#) haplotype from the Seomjin river is different from [that of](#)

488 the Hyeongsan river (Fig. 3). All three haplotypes [of the genus Rhinogobius](#) showed 100 %

489 identity to the database. [First and second haplotype showed 100 % identity to Rhinogobius](#)

490 [brunneus sampled in Korea \(KM030471\) and Japan \(LC049760\), respectively. Third](#)

491 [haplotype showed 100 % identity with Rhinogobius giurinus sampled in Korea \(KM030475\).](#)

492 [Two haplotypes of Gymnogobius sp. from the Taehwa river and Hyeongsan river showed a](#)

493 [98 % sequence identity to Gymnogobius taranetzi \(GenBank Number: LC385155\).](#) Nine

494 species of the genus *Gymnogobius* are currently reported in Korea (Kim et al., 2005) and their

495 MiFish sequences should be supplemented to the GenBank database.

496

497 **Cobitidae**

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Excludo: Two of each haplotype was assigned as the Korean (KM030471) and Japanese (LC049760) haplotype of *Rhinogobius brunneus* with 100 % identity, whereas the other one haplotype showed 100 % identity (KM030475) to the Korean haplotype of *Rhinogobius giurinus*. Two haplotypes of *Gymnogobius* sp. from the Taehwa river and Hyeongsan river showed 98 % sequence identity to *Gymnogobius taranetzi* (GenBank Number: LC385155).

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524 Sixteen species in five genera of the family Cobitidae are currently reported from Korean
 525 rivers (Kim, 2009). A total of 18 haplotypes, which represent five genera of the family, were
 526 identified (Fig. 4). Two haplotypes in the genus *Cobitis* identified in the Seomjin river were
 527 most closely related to *C. tetralineata* (LC146139) sampled in Japan, with 100 % and 99 %
 528 identity. Two haplotypes from the Taehwa river showed 98 % and 97 % identity to *C.*
 529 *hankugensis* (LC146140). Two species of *Misgurnus* are reported from the Korean waters, *M.*
 530 *mizolepis* and *M. anguillicaudatus* (Kim, 2009). Interestingly, two phylogenetically distinct
 531 clades in *M. anguillicaudatus* were identified in the phylogenetic analysis (Fig. 4). One of
 532 them was grouped with the haplotype of *M. bipartitus* (KF562047) sampled in China, while
 533 the other one was clustered with *M. mizolepis* (AP017654) sampled in Korea. *Misgurnus*
 534 *bipartitus* is currently reported as endemic to China and sequence data of Korean freshwater
 535 fishes in GenBank data should be reexamined.

536 Two haplotypes from the Hyeongsan river (HS1; KJ699181) and the Taehwa river (TH4;
 537 KM186182) showed 100 % identity with haplotypes of *Paramisgurnus dabryanus* sampled in
 538 China (Fig. 4). This species is regarded as endemic to China, but *P. dabryanus* is often
 539 imported to Korea together with *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* due to their phenotypic
 540 similarity. Shimizu and Takagi (2010) concluded that there are different populations of *P.*
 541 *dabryanus* (Shimizu and Takagi, 2010) and the two haplotypes of the species identified herein
 542 suggests that *P. dabryanus* has been imported from various locations in China. One haplotype
 543 from the Taehwa river (TH1) showed 100 % sequence identity to *Niwaella multifaciata*
 544 (EU670806) sampled in Korea, while another from the Hyeongsan river (HS1) showed lower
 545 (96 %) identity to *Niwaella* sp. Therefore, further studies should be conducted to confirm the
 546 presence of species of that genus in the Hyeongsan river.

548 **Other families of the Teleostei**

- Excludo: in ...rom Korean rivers ... [10]
- Excludo: in
- Excludo: ...he family, were identified herein ...Fig. 4). Two haplotypes in the genus *Cobitis* identified in the Seomjin river were most closely related to the ... [11]
- Excludo: Japanese haplotype of *Cobitis*
- Excludo:
- Excludo: *Cobitis*
- Excludo: ...*hankugensis* (LC146140). Two species of ...*isgurnus* ... [12]
- Excludo: *Misgurnus* *mizolepis* and *Misgurnus* ... [13]
- Excludo: ...*nguillicaudatus* (Kim, 2009). Interestingly, two phylogenetically distinct clades in *M. anguillicaudatus* ... [14]
- Excludo: by
- Excludo:
- Excludo: Chinese ...aplotype of *Misgurnus* ... [15]
- Excludo: ...*ipartitus* (KF562047) sampled in China, while the other one was clustered with the ... [16]
- Comentado [FDD8]: Don't start a sentence with abbreviation
- Excludo: Korean haplotype of *Misgurnus*
- Excludo: ...*izolepis* (AP017654) sampled in Korea. ... [17]
- Excludo: *Misgurnus*
- Excludo: *M. ...ipartitus* ... [18]
- Excludo: ...M186182) showed 100 % identity with the distantly located ... [19]
- Excludo: Chinese
- Excludo: ...*aramisgurnus dabryanus* sampled in China (Fig. 4). This species is regarded as endemic to China, but and *dabryanus* is often imported to Korea together with *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* ... [20]
- Excludo: morphological ...henotypic similarity. Shimizu and Takagi (2010) concluded Previous study showed ... [21]
- Excludo:
- Excludo: those
- Excludo:
- Excludo: indicated
- Excludo: ...hat *P. ...abryanus* has been imported from various locations in China. One haplotype from the Taehwa river (TH1) showed 100 % sequence identity to the ... [22]
- Excludo: Korean haplotype of
- Excludo:
- Excludo: So
- Excludo:
- Excludo: study
- Excludo:
- Excludo: haplotype of the

644 Besides the three main families of the Teleostei identified in this study, 27 additional
645 haplotypes, representing 19 species belonging to 14 genera and 11 families, were also
646 identified in the following families: Bagridae (5 haplotypes), Mugilidae (4), Anguillidae (1),
647 Centrarchidae (3), Channidae (1), Clupeidae (2), Odontobutidae (3), Pleuronectidae (1),
648 Siluridae (3), Sinipercaidae (3), and Amblycipitidae (1). All the haplotypes of the family
649 Bagridae were clearly identified, and include *Pseudobagrus ussuriensis*, *P. koreanus*,
650 *Tachysurus nitidus*, and *T. fulvidraco* (Fig. 5). Two species of *Silurus* are currently known in
651 Korean rivers, *S. microdorsalis*, and *S. asotus* (Park and Kim, 1994). One haplotype from the
652 Taehwa river (TH1) showed 99 % sequence identity with *Silurus microdorsalis* (GenBank
653 Number: KT350610) sampled in Korea, whereas another haplotype from the Seomjin river
654 (SJ1) showed lower identity (96 %) with *Silurus microdorsalis* (KT350610).

655 One haplotype of the Amblycipitidae from the Seomjin river showed 97 % and 96 %
656 identity to *Liobagrus styani* (KX096605) and *L. mediadiposalis* (KR075136), sampled in
657 China and Korea, respectively. This result indicates that haplotypes of the family should be
658 supplemented for their accurate identification. Three species of *Odontobutis* are currently
659 known in Korea, *O. interrupta*, *O. platycephala*, and *O. obscura* (Kim et al., 2005). Two of
660 them (*O. interrupta* and *O. platycephala*) were identified in this study. Two haplotypes of the
661 genus *Coreoperca* showed 100 % and 97 % sequence identity to *Coreoperca herzi*
662 (KR075132) sampled in Korea. Since two species of *Coreoperca* are reported as endemic to
663 the Korean peninsula (Kim et al., 2005), the second haplotype is most likely *C. kawamebari*,
664 but further studies should be conducted for confirmation of this identification. Two invasive
665 species of the family Centrarchidae, the Bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) and the Largemouth
666 bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) were also identified in this study. Those two species are
667 endemic to North America but were introduced in the Korean peninsula for aquaculture
668 purposes without considering the impacts on the ecosystem.

- Excluido: ,
- Excluido: in
- Excluido: which
- Excluido: *Pseudobagrus*
- Excluido:
- Excluido: *Tachysurus*
- Excluido:
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: waters
- Excluido: *Silurus*
- Excluido:
- Excluido: *Silurus*
- Excluido:
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: Korean haplotype of
- Comentado [FDD9]: From where?
- Excluido: Further studies should be made to identify this haplotype.
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: Chinese haplotype
- Excluido: species of
- Excluido: the Korean haplotype of *Liobagrus*
- Excluido: in
- Excluido: *Odontobutis*
- Excluido: *Odontobutis*
- Excluido: *Odontobutis*
- Comentado [FDD10]: What is the level (percentage) of identity?
- Excluido: in
- Excluido:
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: Korean haplotype of
- Excluido: *Coreoperca*
- Excluido: y
- Excluido: haplotype

701

702 Fish biodiversity in the four rivers

703 Fish assemblage in the four rivers included in this study were analyzed. Among the 73

704 confirmed species of fishes detected in this study, 13 were identified in all four rivers:

705 *Rhinogobiu sbrunneus*, *Mugil cephalus*, *Misgurnus mizolepis*, *Konosirus punctatus*,

706 *Hemibarbus labeo*, *Zacco platypus*, *Rhynchocypris lagowskii*, *Pseudorasbora parva*, *Anguilla*

707 *japonica*, *Silurus asotus*, *Micropterus salmoides*, *Tridentiger obscurus*, *Opsariichthys*

708 *uncirostris* (Fig. 6). Regardless of sample stations, species of the Cyprinidae appear to be

709 dominant, with average proportions of 47.02 ± 6.73 %, followed by the Gobiidae ($15.24 \pm$

710 3.07 %) and Cobitidae (9.95 ± 4.09 %) (Fig.7). However, proportions of species of those

711 families were different between upstream and downstream. The proportion of species of the

712 Cyprinidae was higher (45.27 ± 9.1 %) at the upstream of rivers (stations 1 and 2) compared

713 with downstream (33.78 ± 18 % at station 4). Contrastingly, the proportion of species of the

714 Gobiidae was lower (14.53 ± 8.28 %) at the upstream of rivers than downstream (station 4,

715 19.90 ± 14 %).

716 The highest number of species was recorded in Seomjin river (52 species), followed by

717 Taehwa river (42 species), Hyeongsan river (40 species), and Nakdong river (26 species). A

718 total of 17 species were exclusively recorded in the Seomjin river: *Cobitis tetralineata*,

719 *Squalidus gracilis*, *Tanakia somjinensis*, *Acanthogobius hasta*, *Siniperca scherzeri*,

720 *Pseudobagru skoreanus*, *Acheilognathus majusculus*, *Sarcocheilichthys variegatus*,

721 *Coreoleuciscus splendidus*, *Tanakia signifier*, *Acheilognathus rhombeus*, *Microphysogobio*

722 *yaluensis*, *Rhodeus suigensis*, *Kareius bicoloratus*, *Rhodeus uyekii*, *Phoxinus oxycephalus*,

723 and *Acheilognathus intermedia*. Five species were, in turn, recorded in the Taehwa River:

724 *Pseudogobius masago*, *Mugilogobius abei*, *Acanthogobius lactipes*, *Rhynchocypris semotilus*,

725 and *Silurus microdorsalis*, followed by four species identified in the Nakdong River:

Excluido: commonly

Excluido: , which included

Comentado [FDD11]: This should be in alphabetical order or in some other clearly defined sequence

Excluido: fish in

Excluido: and its

Excluido: were

Excluido: ,

Excluido: its

Comentado [FDD12]: Not clear what proportion you're talking about. Clarify in the text, here, if my suggestion is not correct

Excluido: By contrast

Excluido: , which include

Comentado [FDD13]: Again, some order is necessary – alphabetical, for instance

Excluido: By contrast, f

Excluido: from

Comentado [FDD14]: Same here

Excluido: from

738 *Tachysurus nitidus*, *Rhinogobius giurinus*, *Pseudobagrus ussuriensis*, and *Plagiognathops*

739 *microlepis*. Only three species (*Nipponocypris koreanus*, *Squalidus multimaculatus*, and
740 *Sarcocheilichthys soldatovi*) were exclusively recorded in Hyeongsan river (Fig. 6).

741 The highest Shannon Index (SI) was identified in the Seomjin river (3.480) followed by
742 the Taehwa (3.067), Hyeongsan (2.954), and Nakdong rivers (2.864). Among the 16 surveyed
743 stations, station 1 of Seomjin river (SJ1) showed the highest species richness (2.197), whereas
744 the lowest (1.008) was recorded in station 4 of the Nakdong river (ND4). From upstream to
745 downstream, average species richness decreased from 1.951 to 1.415 (Table 4).

746

747 Clustering analysis

748 In order to assess the correlation between the fish assemblage and sample stations, a heat-map
749 analysis with the 30 most abundant species was conducted with the Primer software (Clarke
750 and Gorley, 2015). The result indicates the species distribution in different sampling stations
751 (Fig. 8). In upstream (Station 1 and 2), dominant species are *Zacco platypus*, *Odontobutis*

752 *interrupta*, *Odontobutis platycephala*, *Nipponocypris temminckii*, *Rhynchocypris lagowskii*,

753 *Misgurnus mizolepis*, *Coreoperca herzi*, *Acheilognathus intermedia*, and *Tanakia signifier*. In
754 station 3, the dominant species are *Pseudorasbora parva*, *Gymnogobius breunigii*,

755 *Rhinogobius giurinus*, *Rhinogobius brunneus*, and *Mugil cephalus*, whereas in the
756 downstream (Station 4), *Tridentiger obscurus*, *Tridentiger trignocephalus*, *Konosirus*

757 *punctatus*, *Mugil cephalus*, *Anguilla japonica*, *Planiliza haematocheila*, were identified as the
758 dominant species, all of which are either euryhaline or anadromous

759 (<https://www.fishbase.org>).

760

761 DISCUSSION

Comentado [FDD15]: Same here

Excluido: were identified, respectively

Excluido: including

Excluido: , and *Nipponocypris koreanus*

Excluido: detected

Excluido: river

Excluido: river

Excluido: observed

Excluido: the

Excluido: the

Excluido: know

Excluido: we conducted

Excluido: using

Excluido: clearly demonstrated

Comentado [FDD16]: Is there a reason for this particular sequence of species? If not, place them in alphabetical order, but if there's, this should be clarified in the text.

Comentado [FDD17]: Same here

Excluido: its

Comentado [FDD18]: Same here

Excluido: .

Excluido: This result indicated that salinity is one of the essential factors to determine the fish assemblage at the downstream of the rivers.

780 Result indicate that eDNA metabarcoding using the MiFish pipeline is a useful tool for the
781 fish biodiversity assessment in Korean freshwater ecosystems, since a total of 125 unique
782 haplotypes including at least 73 species were successfully identified by a single-day survey of
783 16 sampling stations in te four rivers (Fig. 2-5). According to the “Survey and Evaluation of
784 Aquatic Ecosystem Health (SEAEH)”, a total of 130 freshwater species of fishes were
785 identified from 953 sampling sites that covered most Korean rivers and lakes (Yoon et al.,
786 2012). The total number of species confirmed by eDNA metabarcoding was equivalent to
787 approximately 56% of those obtained by the year-long conventional survey. The efficiency of
788 eDNA barcoding might actually be considered even higher, considering also the number of
789 haplotypes successfully identified at the genus and/or family level. This result indicates that
790 eDNA metabarcoding with the MiFish pipeline can significantly contribute to the assessment
791 of the freshwater fish biodiversity of Korea, especially considering its relatively lower cost of
792 implementation when compared with more conventional morphology-based surveys.
793 Although the methodology in each research group may be slightly different, similar
794 conclusions have been achieved in other studies (Bista et al., 2017; Deiner et al., 2016).
795 eDNA metabarcoding analysis is also adequate for surveying aquatic species in protected
796 areas, since it minimizes disturbance of vulnerable communities as well (Fernandez et al.,
797 2018).
798 In spite of its relevance as a methodology for assessment of biodiversity, there are still
799 several shortcomings for a more widespread use of the eDNA metabarcoding by MiFish
800 pipeline. First, MiFish sequence data for endemic species of Korea should be supplemented to
801 the GenBank database. According to the Archive of Korean species
802 (<https://species.nibr.go.kr>), 67 species of freshwater fishes are endemic to Korea, and many of
803 their MiFish sequences are still not available in the GenBank database. Beside the lack of
804 sequence data, freshwater fishes typically have intra-species genetic distances generally

- Excluido: In present study, we were able to know
- Excluido:
- Excluido: would be
- Excluido:
- Excluido: analysis which recovered
- Excluido:
- Excluido: simply ...y a single- ... [23]
- Excluido: of ...n th... four rivers (Fig. 2-5). According to the “Survey and Evaluation of Aquatic Ecosystem Health (SEAEH)”, a total of 130 freshwater species of fishes were identified from 953 sampling sites in ...hat covered the ...ost of ... Korean rivers and lakes (Yoon et al., 2012). The total numbers...of confirmed fish ...pecies confirmed by eDNA metabarcoding were ...as equivalent to approximately 56.15 % of those obtained by the year-long conventional survey. The efficiency of eDNA barcoding might actually be considered even higher, considering also, and its proportions would be higher considering ... [24]
- Comentado [FDD19]: I don't think identifications at the family level are significant...
- Excluido: 'unidentified' species.
- Excluido: strongly
- Excluido: suggested
- Excluido:
- Excluido: that a freshwater fish biodiversity survey in Korea would be possible using eDNA metabarcoding platform with the MiFish pipeline for its incomparable cost and labors compared with a conventional morphological based surveys in Korea.
- Excluido: suggests...indicates that ...DNA metabarcoding with the MiFish pipeline would...an significantly contribute to the assessment of the freshwater fish biodiversity of Korea, especially considering its relatively lower cost of implementation when compared with more conventional morphology-based surveys. Although the methodology in each research group may be slightly different, similar conclusions have been drawn from the ... [25]
- Excluido: This
- Excluido: inside ...n in ...rotected areas, since it to ... [26]
- Excluido: Notably, most of rivers in Korea are the main source for the drinking water in metropolitan cities, and eDNA metabarcoding would be more importantly used for those rivers.
- Excluido: Although
- Excluido: eDNA metabarcoding analysis using the MiFish pipeline seems to be can be regarded as a useful tool to monitor assess the biodiversity of freshwater fish. However...pite of its relevance as a methodology for assessment of biodiversity,, ... [27]
- Comentado [FDD20]: Sure it's "several"?
- Excluido: of...or a more widespread use of the eDNA metabarcoding by MiFish pipeline. ... [28]
- Excluido: , several drawbacks still need to be overcome
- Excluido:First, MiFish sequence data for the ...ndemic species in ...f Korea should be supplemented to the GenBank

927 higher than those of marine species (Seehausen and Wagner, 2014). Therefore, it is necessary
 928 to establish the haplotype database for the endemic fish species. Secondly, MiFish primer
 929 amplifies the 12S rRNA gene (163-185 bp) region of mitochondrial DNA, which is much
 930 smaller in size as well as lower in sequence variance compared with the COI region, which is
 931 typically used in species identification (IVANOVA et al., 2007). In fact, the MiFish region
 932 was unable to differentiate several closely related marine fish taxa, such as those in the
 933 genus *Sebastes* and *Takifugu* (Sato et al., 2018; Yamamoto et al., 2017). We also found that
 934 the average genetic distance of several genera in the family Cyprinidae was low in the MiFish
 935 region. For example, the average genetic distance of species of *Carassius* was too low (0.01),
 936 therefore identification at the species level was not possible (Fig. 2).
 937 Further studies using eDNA metabarcoding might also be relevant and should be
 938 conducted to obtain more than biodiversity such as the quantitative analysis of fish species.
 939 It is difficult to estimate the spatial abundance of eDNA in lotic environments. In fact, many
 940 factors should be considered for the quantitative analysis of eDNAs in rivers, including water
 941 dynamics (Deiner and Altermatt, 2014; Jerde et al., 2016; Wilcox et al., 2016) or different
 942 decaying times due to different physical, chemical, or biological factors (Shapiro, 2008).
 943 Although several studies about the decaying times of eDNAs in the laboratory and natural
 944 conditions (Alvarez et al., 1996; Matsui et al., 2001; Zhu, 2006), it is generally known that the
 945 short fragments of DNA are degraded slower than larger ones increasing the probability of
 946 detection in the natural environments (Deagle et al., 2006). Therefore, it is still too early to
 947 adopt eDNA metabarcoding for the quantitative analysis of fish species in natural condition.
 948 For the quantitative study, standardized collection methods and pretreatment procedures for
 949 the NGS sequencing analysis should be established as well. One of the strongest points in
 950 biodiversity survey by eDNA metabarcoding is the quantity of information it can generate
 951 compared with more conventional surveys, since large data sets are useful for statistical

- Excluido: species have been fragmented and isolated for long time, and the intra-species genetic distance is generally higher than those for the marine species
- Excluido: strongly required
- Excluido:
- Comentado [FDD21]: This has been mentioned before, what's the connection of this sentence with the previous one?
- Excluido: than
- Excluido: the typically used
- Excluido: for the
- Excluido: species
- Excluido: as
- Excluido:
- Excluido: spp.
- Excluido:
- Excluido:
- Excluido: spp.
- Excluido: in the genus
- Excluido: to discriminate against one another identify each species in the MiFish region
- Excluido: The supplemented strategy should be designed for those taxa to obtain accurate results.
- Excluido: Although we here analyzed fish biodiversity, f
- Excluido:
- Excluido: y
- Comentado [FDD22]: This sentence is still confusing, not clear what you guys mean here
- Excluido: made to adopt
- Excluido: using eDNA metabarcoding s
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: with
- Comentado [FDD23]: There's something strange in the first portion of the sentence. It's not clear what is the connection to the second part, after the comma. Please rewrite it.
- Excluido: from
- Excluido: However
- Excluido: ,
- Excluido:
- Comentado [FDD24]: Not clear what "quantitative analysis" [30]
- Excluido: far from establishing the reliable methods for the [31]
- Excluido: the
- Comentado [FDD25]: Please, always bear in mind the ... [32]
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: large amount number of data sets
- Excluido: , which would be
- Excluido: the

992 analyses. However, large amounts of data have been produced using different water collection
 993 methods, eDNA preparation, sequencing and bioinformatics analyses platforms by different
 994 research groups in different countries. Therefore, the interconversion of data is currently not
 995 possible. The establishment of an international standard in the overall methodology of eDNA
 996 metabarcoding would help researchers to produce more comparable data.
 997 According to results obtained herein, the highest species richness was found in the Seomjin
 998 river (3.48) compared with those of the other three rivers: Taehwa river (3.06), Hyeongsan river
 999 (2.95), and Nakdong river (2.86). The lower values of species richness detected in Nakdong,
 1000 Hyeongsan and Taehwa rivers is presumably related to the higher anthropogenic alteration of
 1001 the natural conditions in those rivers. Like most other Korean rivers, those three rivers run
 1002 through highly populated metropolitan cities, in which rivers are exposed to various human
 1003 impacts which directly or indirectly promote changes in diversity and distribution of freshwater
 1004 fishes (Finkenbine et al., 2000). In particular, lowest values of species richness (2.86) and
 1005 number of endemic species (only one, *Odontobutis interrupta*) were identified in the Nakdong
 1006 river, where the highest numbers of constructions and population exist among the sampled
 1007 rivers. Lee et al. (2015) reported only two endemic species (*Coreoperca herzi* and *Odontobutis*
 1008 *platycephala*) in the Nakdong river by a conventional catch survey. Eight endemic species, in
 1009 turn (*Coreoleuciscus splendidus*, *Iksookimia longicarpa*, *Microphysogobio koreensis*,
 1010 *Microphysogobio yaluensis*, *Odontobutis interrupta*, *Odontobutis platycephala*, *Pseudobagrus*
 1011 *koreanus*, and *Squalidus gracilis*) were identified in this study in the Seomjin river, a number
 1012 that is similar to those obtained in previous results (Jang et al., 2003; Lee et al., 2015). The
 1013 several constructions along the urbanized watershed, including dams and weirs, have caused
 1014 the simplification and reduction of habitats, decreasing the biodiversity in the river (Nilsson et
 1015 al., 2005; Riley et al., 2005). Different from those three rivers, there is no metropolitan city
 1016 along the Seomjin river, which is therefore less exposed to anthropogenic impacts. A long-term

- Excluído: i... compared with the conventional surveys ... [33]
- Excluído: by the
- Excluído:
- Excluído: in
- Excluído: respective ... research groups in different countries. Therefore, the interconversion of data is currently not possible. and it is required to ... [34]
- Excluído: . As one of them, MiFish pipeline would be a feasible bioinformatic platform for eDNA metabarcoding analyses of fish biodiversity with a little modifications and supplementation for the regional application.
- Excluído: ...ould help researchers to produce the ... [35]
- Excluído: We here identified
- Excluído:
- Excluído: Low
- Excluído:
- Excluído: found ...n Nakdong, Hyeongsan and Taehwa rivers is presumably related maybe for ... [36]
- Excluído: due
- Excluído: effects ...n these ... [37]
- Excluído:
- Excluído: the
- Excluído: ...ost other Korean rivers, those three rivers run through highly populated metropolitan cities, in which rivers are exposed to various human impacts which directly or indirectly promote changes in diversity and distribution of freshwater fishes (Finkenbine et al., 2000). In particular, the
- Excluído: numbers ...only one, *Odontobutis interrupta*) were identified in the Nakdong river, where along which ... [39]
- Excluído: ...he highest numbers of constructions and population exist among the sampled rivers. Lee et al., ... [40]
- Excluído: from
- Excluído:
- Excluído: the traditional
- Excluído: ... conventional catch survey ... [41]
- Excluído: method
- Excluído: On the other hand, e...ight endemic species, in turn (including : ... [42]
- Excluído: including
- Excluído: :
- Formatado: Fonte: Não Itálico
- Excluído:
- Excluído: which was
- Excluído:
- Excluído: the
- Excluído:
- Excluído: various
- Excluído: with ...he Seomjin river, which is,...therefore,...less exposed to anthropogenic impacts. A

1125 survey should be conducted to establish the clear correlation between anthropogenic factors and
1126 fish assemblages in the Korean rivers.

1127 The eDNA metabarcoding analysis also indicates that some exotic species of fishes are
1128 widely distributed in Korean rivers. We were able to identify at least five exotic species
1129 (*Carassius cuvieri*, *Cyprinus carpio*, *Cyprinus megalophthalmus*, *Lepomis macrochirus*, and
1130 *Micropterus salmoides*; Table S3). Those exotic species may impact the native fishes in terms
1131 of shelter and spawning sites. They can also disturb the food chain, preying on the native
1132 fishes. In addition, these species have a high reproductive capacity, which makes them highly
1133 potential invasive species (Keller & Lake, 2007; Koster *et al*, 2002; Nico & Fuller 2010). Our
1134 results also surprisingly revealed that the largemouth bass, *M. salmoides*, and the bluegill, *L.*
1135 *macrochirus* are likely present in all sampled four rivers. Those two species, which are native
1136 to North America, were artificially introduced in the 1970s in Korea without any further
1137 considerations of the effects on the freshwater ecosystems of the country. They are now
1138 widely distributed throughout the Korean peninsula, competing with the native species. A
1139 long-term survey on those rivers should be conducted to more properly assess the potential
1140 impacts of those introduced species (Jang *et al.*, 2002; Yoon *et al.*, 2012). Freshwater
1141 ecosystems are much more vulnerable to invasive species, causing biodiversity loss and
1142 global change (Clavero and García-Berthou, 2005), and eDNA metabarcoding analyses would
1143 be useful to monitor the distribution patterns of invasive species in Korean rivers.

1144

1145

- Excluido: ->
- Excluido: revealed
- Excluido: inland
- Excluido: waters
- Excluido:
- Excluido: fish
- Excluido: including
- Excluido: (
- Excluido:
- Excluido: on
- Excluido: for
- Excluido: as well as
- Excluido: ing
- Excluido: change
- Excluido:
- Excluido: since the
- Excluido: has
- Excluido: it
- Excluido:
- Excluido: As
- Excluido:
- Excluido: eastern
- Excluido:
- Excluido: those two species
- Excluido:
- Excluido: ,
- Excluido: as freshwater fish stock
- Excluido: in Korea
- Excluido:
- Excluido: The species has spread
- Excluido: and t
- Excluido: heir
- Excluido: know
- Excluido: ir
- Excluido: s on the ecosystems
- Excluido: Since
- Excluido:
- Excluido: f
- Comentado [FDD26]: What do you mean by global change?
- Excluido:
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: i
- Excluido: the
- Excluido: Collectively, we firstly analyzed the fish ... [44]

1206 **Acknowledgments**

1207 The authors are thankful to the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, Republic of Korea. The
1208 authors also thanks the reviewers for their valuable comments and suggestions to the manuscript.

Exclude: thankful

Exclude: and paying gratitude to

Exclude: enrich

1210 **Additional information and declarations:**

1211 **Funding:**

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1214

1215 **Role of funding**

1216 The funding sources had no role in the research design, sample collection, data analysis, manuscript
1217 writing, or the decision to submit the article for publication.

1218

1219 **Competing Interests**

1220 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

1221

1222 **Author Contributions**

1223 • Md. JobaidulAlam collected the samples, performed the experiments, analyzed the data, prepared
1224 figures and/or tables, wrote the manuscript

1225 • Nack-KeunKim collected the samples, analyzed the data

1226 • SaptoAndriyonoperformed the experiments, analyzed the data, prepared figures and/or tables

1227 • Hee-KyuChoianalyzed the data, prepared figures and/or tables

1228 • Ji-Hyun Lee analyzed the data, prepared figures and/or tables

1229 • Hyun-Woo Kim conceived and designed the experiments, analyzed the data, contributed
1230 reagents/materials/analysis tools, authored or reviewed drafts of the manuscript, approved the
1231 final draft, wrote the manuscript.

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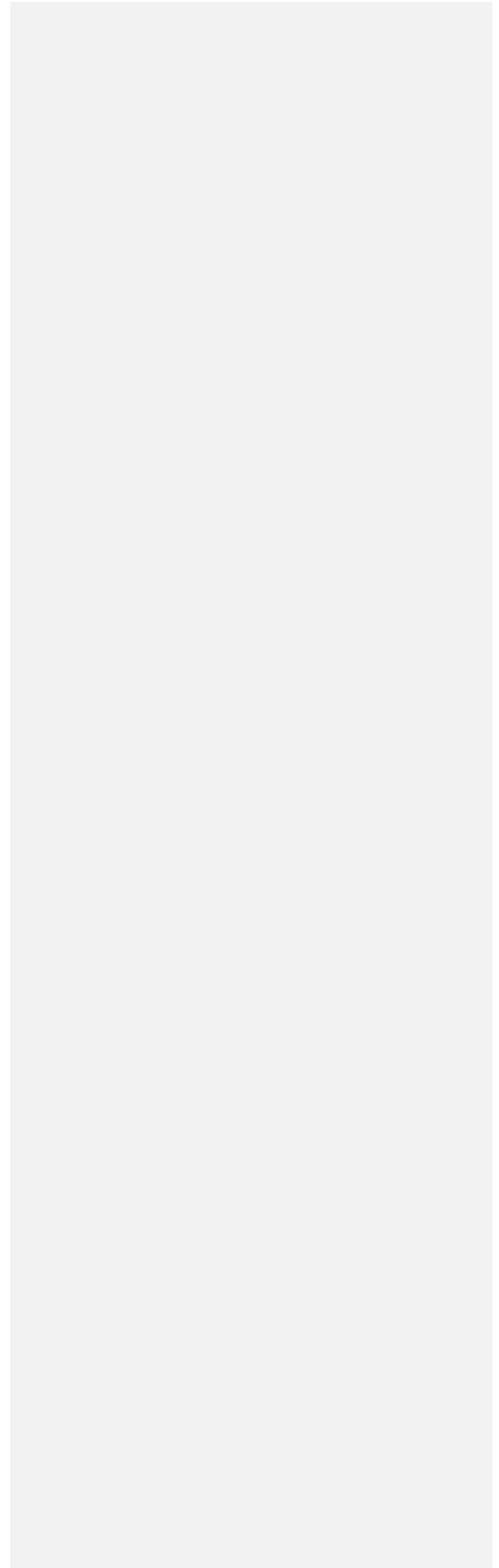
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Página 16: [30] Comentado [FDD24] Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:03:00

Not clear what “quantitative analysis” mean here. It’s too general, please be more specific. I assume you’re talking about ecological assessments at higher levels, something like that. Please be more specific.

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Página 16: [31] Excluído USER 21/03/2020 16:55:00

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Página 16: [32] Comentado [FDD25] Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:09:00

Please, always bear in mind the distinction between analysis and analyses

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Página 17: [33] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:11:00

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Página 17: [34] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:11:00

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Página 17: [35] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:12:00

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Página 17: [36] Excluído USER 21/03/2020 17:03:00

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Página 17: [37] Excluído USER 21/03/2020 17:04:00

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Página 17: [37] Excluído USER 21/03/2020 17:04:00

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Página 17: [38] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:12:00

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Página 17: [39] Excluído USER 21/03/2020 17:06:00

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Página 17: [40] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:13:00

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Página 17: [41] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:13:00

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Página 17: [43] Excluído Fabio Di Dario 30/04/2020 23:14:00

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Página 18: [44] Excluído USER 21/03/2020 17:21:00

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