

Pre-impoundment survey of the White Volta fishery at Pwalugu in northern Ghana

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Abstract

The study was carried out at the White Volta stretch in the Pwalugu area to assess the fish and fisheries of the River. The catch per unit effort (CPUE) was generally low over the entire period of study, as the highest and lowest CPUE were recorded in March, 2020 and May, 2020 respectively. The River stretch was found to be rich in fish fauna as 39 fish species belonging to 27 genera and 13 families were encountered during the period of study. Three species namely, *Auchenoglanis occidentalis*, *Marcussenius senegalensis* and *Heterobranchus bidorsalis* were identified as the major commercial fish species in the area. The widely used fishing gears in the area included gillnet, trap, cast net, hook-and-line and spear. Fishing activities on the river stretch were unreported and unregulated. It was recommended that the Fisheries Commission in the Upper East Region, Bolgatanga should be resourced with logistics and personnel to monitor and ensure compliance with fisheries regulations on the river.

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