

Order SILURIFORMES

Climbing Armored Catfishes

Family **LORICARIIDAE**

Subfamily **LITHOGENINAE** Gosline 1947



Lithogenes wahari, male, showing coloration pattern against exposed Rio Cuao bedrock substratum. From: Schaefer, S. A. and F. Provenzano. 2008. The Lithogeninae (Siluriformes, Loricariidae): anatomy, interrelationships, and description of a new species. American Museum Novitates No. 3637: 1–49.

Lithogenes

Eigenmann 1909

lithos (Gr. λίθος), stone; *genes*, from *genesis* (Gr. γένεσις), manner of birth, i.e., stone-born, probably referring to habitat of *L. villosus*, dominated by bedrock substrates in upland, high-gradient clearwater streams

***Lithogenes valencia* Provenzano, Schaefer, Baskin & Royero-Leon 2003**
named for the Lago de Valencia basin, Carabobo State, Venezuela, where it is (or was) endemic (possibly extinct due to pollution)

***Lithogenes villosus* Eigenmann 1909** Latin for villous, referring to “a bunch of about twenty-five blunt villii in immediate association with the dentary”

***Lithogenes wahari* Schaefer & Provenzano 2008** from the Piaroa name *Ru'a-Wahari*, god of creation, who created the first man from a mass of fish flesh at a place called Mariuek'a; with each fish captured, he fashioned the eyes, hair, ears, mouth, and nose, in this way making the first man and woman (the Piaroa are the indigenous people of the middle Orinoco Basin in present-day Venezuela, where this catfish occurs)