

# Fishes of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park



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Salmonidae



What is my name? **Rainbow Trout**

Scientific Name: ***Oncorhynchus mykiss***

What are my nick names? **I am often referred to as "steelhead".**

What color am I? **My back is brassy olive. My side is olive with darker olive or black spots throughout. I have a pink to red stripe down the middle of my side. My underside is dirty white in color.**

How big am I? **I am 1.2in – 15.7in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in all streams of the Park to elevations of about 4000 ft.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn in Spring.**

Interesting fact: **I was introduced from the Western United States. Logging companies began stocking rainbows in what would become the Park in 1910. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park stopped stocking Rainbow trout in 1975.**

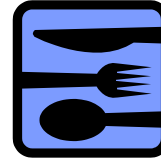
Salmonidae



Symbols accompanying fish:



Likely to see snorkeling



Good to eat



Game fish



Non-Native



Federally  
Endangered/Threatened  
Species

\*Fish are sorted by families



What is my name? **Brown Trout**

Scientific Name: *Salmo trutta*

What are my nick names? **Also called "brownies".**

What color am I? **I am tawny to olive-brown with a brassy overtone. My sides are tan to yellow. My back and sides have olive-brown or black spots. My sides have orange to red spots, some spots are haloed with dirty white or pale blue. My underside is dirty white to pearl in color.**

How big am I? **I can grow up to 24.8in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the Little River, Oconaluftee, and Little Tennessee River systems (lower stretches).**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from October until December.**

Interesting fact: **I was introduced from Europe. Strikingly colored hybrids between Brown trout and Brook trout are called Tiger trout.**



What is my name? **Western Mosquitofish**

Scientific Name: *Gambusia affinis*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is “live-bearer”.**

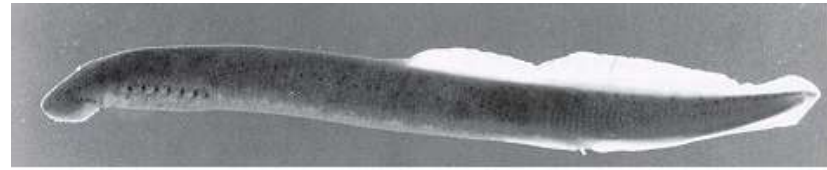
What color am I? **I am gray to straw yellow above and shiny silver on my underside. Females of my species have a large extended belly.**

How big am I? **Females get up to 2.6in. Males get up to 1.4in.**

Where am I found? **I am found on Tabcat Creek at the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I can spawn 3-4 times a year throughout the warm months.**

Interesting fact: **I am an exotic species. I can handle high temperatures, low oxygen, and poor water quality. I am currently out-competing the native Barren’s Topminnow in middle TN.**



What is my name? **Mountain Brook Lamprey**

Scientific Name: *Ichthyomyzon greeleyi*

What are my nick names? **None**

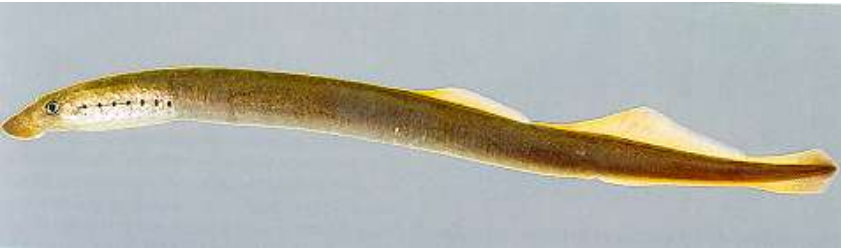
What color am I? **I am olive to gray to brown along my body.**

How big am I? **I can grow up to 8in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the Oconaluftee River, Abrams Creek at the mouth of Panther Creek, Little River at park boundary and Raven Fork at first bridge above the mouth.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn May through June.**

Interesting fact: **I am non-parasitic. My larval stage may last 5-6 years until I change into an adult. As an adult, I do not eat and die shortly after spawning.**



What is my name? **American Brook Lamprey**

Scientific Name: ***Lampetra appendix***

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am uniformly gray above and pale beneath.**

How big am I? **I can grow up to 8in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Abrams Creek at the mouth of Panther Creek, Abrams Creek at and .5 miles above the mouth, Little River at the boundary, and Tabcat Creek above the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from March through April.**

Interesting fact: **I am non-parasitic. My first fossil record is from 280 million years ago.**

What is my name? **Brook Trout**

Scientific Name: ***Salvelinus fontinalis***

What are my nick names? **My nicknames are “speckled trout”, “speck”, and “brookie”.**

What color am I? **My top to mid side is medium to dark olive with pale worm-like markings. I have small red spots haloed with pale blue scattered on my side. My bottom fins are margined with both a white and black stripe followed by an orange-red background.**

How big am I? **I am anywhere from 1.2in – 9.8in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the West Prong Little Pigeon River, Big Creek, Kephart Prong, Beech Flats Prong, Cosby Creek, Lower Abrams Creek (reclamation), Straight Fork, Lynn Camp Prong, Indian Flats Creek, Straight Fork, Collins Creek, Indian Flats Creek, Cosby Creek, Oconaluftee River behind the Visitor Center.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from September to October.**

Interesting fact: **I am the only native trout to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Logperch**

Scientific Name: *Percina caprodes*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is locally known as "jacks".**

What color am I? **I have a light colored body with zebra stripes down my sides.**

How big am I? **I am 2.8in – 6.5in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Roaring Fork, Abrams Creek, and Tabcat Creek above the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April through May.**

Interesting fact: **I am one of the most commonly occurring darters and thus one of the most studied species. I am often used as bait by anglers and can often surprise them with my larger size.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Tennessee Snubnose Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma simoterum*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am brown to gray with dark saddles above during non-breeding. My breeding colors include an overall orange background with dark saddles above.**

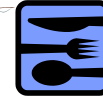
How big am I? **I am 1.4in – 3.0in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Abrams Creek, Roaring Fork, Cosby Creek, Tabcat Creek, Shop Creek, and Little River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April through May.**

Interesting fact: **I am an extremely common and successful species. I occur in anything from trout streams to low elevation small creeks to medium sized rivers.**

Percidae



Percidae



What is my name? **Wounded Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma vulneratum*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am gray to dark olive with horizontal lines on the side and small red spots in between. I can obtain a pale orange/yellow tint during breeding season and other times throughout the year.**

How big am I? **1.0in – 3.2in**

Where am I found? **I am found in Middle Prong Little Pigeon River, Abrams Creek, Oconaluftee River, and Little River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from May through July.**

Interesting facts: **My eggs are deposited in masses on the underside of rocks and in corners formed by rocks laying against each other. Males and females defend the clutch.**



What is my name? **Walleye**

Scientific Name: *Sander vitreus*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is “walleyed pike” and “marble eye’s”.**

What color am I? **I am extremely variable in color. My upper body ranges from bluish-gray to brown to yellow speckled with a darker pigment.**

How big am I? **I am 0.2in – 26.1in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Abrams Creek embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from March through April.**

Interesting fact: **I am Potadromous which means that I migrate up rivers to spawn.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Tangerine Darter**

Scientific Name: *Percina aurantiaca*

What are my nick names? My nickname is “river slick”.

What color am I? Females of my species are straw to pale yellow on the bottom part of my body. Their top half is darker in color. Males of my species are brilliant to pale orange on the bottom part of their body and dark on the top. Males are brighter during breeding seasons.

How big am I? I am 2.0in – 6.8in.

Where am I found? I am found in Little River, Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Hazel Creek below Rowan Creek, and Noland Creek.

When do I spawn? I spawn from May through June.

Interesting fact: I am one of Tennessee’s largest darters. No other darter in the upper Tennessee basin is so well suited to torrential flows.

Percidae

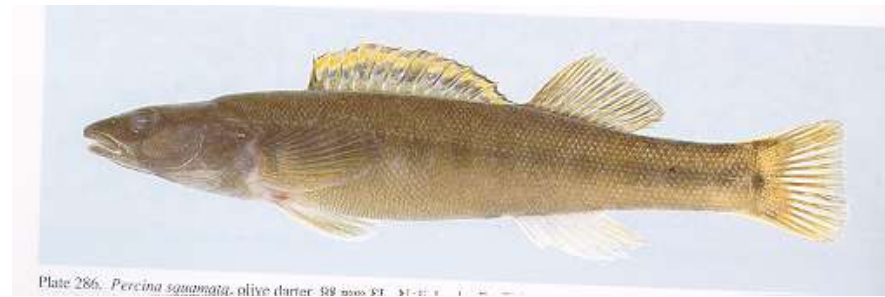


Plate 286. *Percina squamata*. olive darter. BR 2000 ST. ST-21. 1. 1. 1.

What is my name? **Olive Darter**

Scientific Name: *Percina squamata*

What are my nick names? None

What color am I? I have an olive body with a darker line through the mid-line of my body. I have an elongated body with a very pronounced snout.

How big am I? I am 2.0in – 5.2in.

Where am I found? I am found in Forney Creek, Deep Creek, Hazel Creek, and Noland Creek.

When do I spawn? I spawn from May through July.

Interesting fact: I am strictly an inhabitant of high gradient streams and upland rivers where I reside in boulder and bedrock chutes with moderate to torrential current.

Percidae



What is my name? **Redline Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma rufilineatum*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "roofie".**

What color am I? **Females of my species are light brown in background color with dark brown horizontal stripes. Males of my species, when breeding, are brightly colored with a pale background. They have red spots between the horizontal lines and bright orange/red on their cheeks and abdomen. Both have a pale hour-glass figure at base of tail.**

How big am I? **I am 1.7in – 3.9in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Abrams Creek, Roaring Fork, Tabcat Creek, Shop Creek, Little River and Panther Creek above the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from May through August.**

Interesting fact: **I am restricted to the Tennessee and Cumberland River drainages.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Swannanoa Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma swannanoa*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "swanny".**

What color am I? **I am tan to pink in background color with 6 dark saddles and 6 dark blotches on my sides. In breeding males the nape and the fins are blue-green in color.**

How big am I? **I am 1.6in – 3.8in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Roaring Fork, Cosby Creek, Porter's Creek, and Big Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn in early Spring.**

Interesting fact: **I am named after the Swannanoa River in North Carolina.**



Percidae



What is my name? **Greenfin Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma chlorobranchium*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am bland olive to brown in color with brownish red spots on my body and cream and black bands on the exterior of all my fins.**

How big am I? **I am 1.8in – 4.3in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Abrams Creek, Forney Creek, Oconaluftee River, Roaring Fork, Raven Fork, Deep Creek, Noland Creek, Tuckasegee River, Porter's Creek, Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Hazel Creek, and Eagle Creek**

When do I spawn? **Late May through early August.**

Interesting Fact: **Males of my species look as if they were dipped in green paint during breeding season. I inhabit cold/cool high elevation creeks and rivers.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Gilt Darter**

Scientific Name: *Percina evides*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I have an olive to blue-green color with 5 to 8 dark blotches along my back as well as square blotches on my sides. Males get blue-green vertical bands, bright red blotches on their sides, an orange breast, orange top fin and dark blue bottom fins during breeding season.**

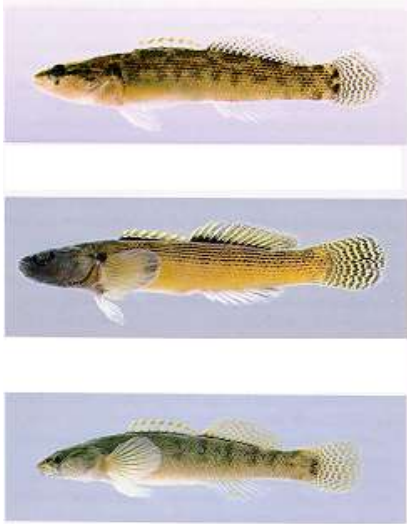
How big am I? **I am 1.3 to 3.7 in.**

Where am I found? **I can be found on Abrams Creek, Forney Creek, Deep Creek, Oconaluftee River, Tuckasegee River, Little River, Noland Creek above the embayment, and Raven Fork.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April to July.**

Interesting fact: **I have been observed following logperch (another fish species) about as they feed and rushing in to steal food as it is revealed.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Fantail Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma flabellare*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I am light tan with darker flecks in my tail. Males heads turn black during breeding.**

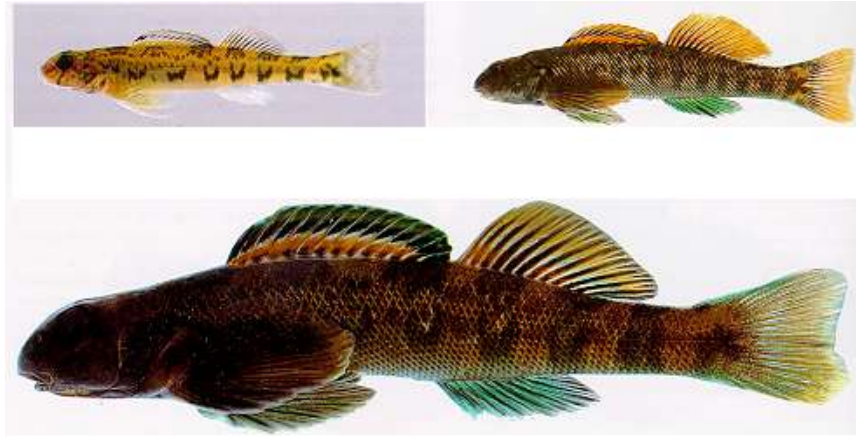
How big am I? **I am 1.0 to 3.7 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found on the Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Dudley Creek, Fighting Creek, Webb Creek, Anthony Creek, Mill Creek, and Porter's Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April to June.**

Interesting fact: **I can occur in higher elevations than most darters.**

Percidae



What is my name? **Greenside Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma blennioides*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am pale olive throughout my body with 6 dark U-shaped markings along the side of my body.**

How big am I? **I am 2.0in – 6.5in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Laurel Creek, Abrams Creek, Deep Creek, Oconaluftee River, Roaring Fork, Raven Fork, Webb Creek, Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Bradley Fork, Hazel Creek, Little River, Straight Fork, Cataloochee Creek, Noland Creek, Twentymile Creek, Forney Creek, and Eagle Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from March through May.**

Interesting Fact: **I am part of the Perch Family.**

Percidae



Ictaluridae



What is my name? **Banded Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma zonale*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I have a background cream color with darker tan stripes down sides. The darker tan stripes turn green and a rusty orange line appears in front top fin during breeding. My chin and bottom fins also turn green during breeding.**

How big am I? **I am 1.6 to 2.4 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in lower Abrams Creek and the Tuckasegee River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April through June.**

Interesting fact: **I am known for my brilliant breeding colors. The above picture is my breeding colors.**

What is my name? **Yellowfin Madtom**

Scientific Name: *Noturus flavipinnis*

What are my nicknames? **My nickname is "catminnow".**

What color am I? **My back is yellow and my belly is white. I have dark blotches under and behind the fins on my back. I have some dark mottling on my body.**

How big am I? **I am 1.4 to 5.25 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Lower Abrams Creek downstream of Abrams Creek Ranger Station.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn in June and July.**

Interesting fact: **I am the size of an adult human finger. I am Federally Threatened.**



What is my name? **Smoky Madtom**

Scientific Name: *Noturus baileyi*

What are my nicknames? **My nickname is “catminnow”.**

What color am I? **I am pale yellow to pink on my underside. I have brown pigment on the top half of my body and vertical bars present on my back fin.**

How big am I? **I am 1.4 to 2.9 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Lower Abrams Creek downstream of Abrams Creek Ranger Station.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn in June and July.**

Interesting fact: **I am the size of an adult human finger. I am Federally Endangered.**



What is my name? **Duskytail Darter**

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma percnurum*

What are my nicknames? **My nickname is “freckled-face”.**

What color am I? **I am light brown on the bottom and dark brown on top. My head becomes dark during breeding.**

How big am I? **I am 1.1 to 2.5 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in lower Abrams Creek downstream of Abrams Creek Ranger Station.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April through June.**

Interesting fact: **I am federally endangered. I am endemic to the upper Tennessee and middle Cumberland drainages. Six relict populations are known.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Whitetail Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Cyprinella galactura*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have a white blotch on the upper and lower parts of my tail fin base. My posterior dorsal fin is black. Breeding males have a turquoise body and may have orange pectoral fins.**

How big am I? **I am 2 to 4 in.**

Where am I found? **I am fairly common in all park river systems except the Pigeon River tributaries. I am also present in the lower portions of Abrams Creek.**

When do I spawn? **My spawning occurs late May to late June.**

Interesting fact: **We spawn in crevices formed by rocks.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Warpaint Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Luxilus coccogenis*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have dark bands on my dorsal and tail fins. The top of my body is olive-gray, with a silver overall body color, and a white belly. I have a bright orange stripe behind my eyes signifying my name the Warpaint Shiner.**

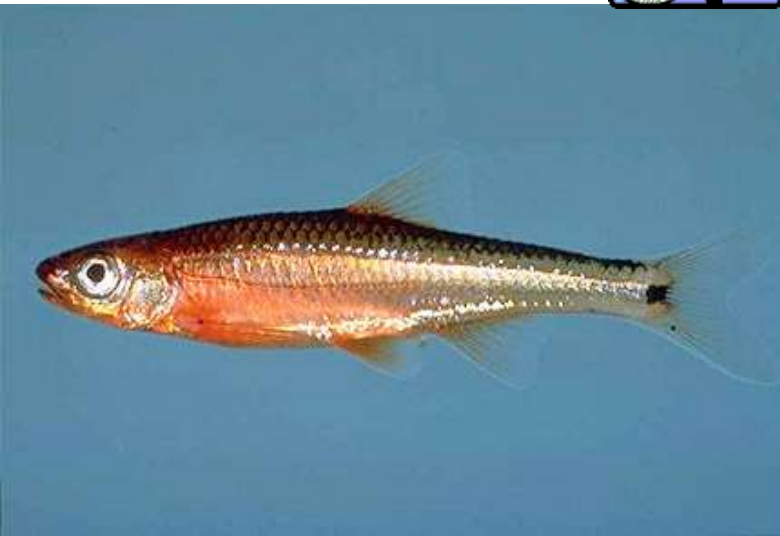
How big am I? **I am 2.5 to 3.7 in.**

Where am I found? **I am also found in all river systems except the Pigeon River systems, up to elevations of about 2,200 feet. I am also present in the lower portions of Abrams Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from May to June.**

Interesting fact: **My fins are orange-red in the breeding males. Commonly caught by fishermen.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Tennessee Shiner**

Scientific Name: ***Notropis leuciodus***

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have an olive back, with silver sides, and a white belly. My fins are pale except for black markings on my tail. Breeding males are bright red with green or silver stripes on their sides.**

How big am I? **I am 1.5 to 2.3 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in all river systems except the Pigeon River systems, up to elevations of about 2,200 feet. I am also present in the lower portions of Abrams Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from mid May to late June.**

Interesting fact: **I am fully mature at 1 to 2 years of age.**



Ictaluridae



What is my name? **Yellow Bullhead**

Scientific Name: ***Ameiurus natalis***

What are my nicknames? **My nicknames are “yellow cat”, “butter cat”, “creek cat”, “white-whiskered bullhead”, “greaser”, “polliwog”, and “chucklehead cat”.**

What color am I? **I am yellowish, brown on my back and pale yellow to white on my underside. My fins are uniformly dusky with a black margin typically evident on my anal and caudal fins.**

How big am I? **I am 4.7 to 11.8 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Lower Abrams Creek, Tabcat Creek at the embayment, and Abrams Creek at the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from late April through June.**

Interesting fact: **I have taste buds around my mouth and on my whiskers. I use them to locate food by “tasting” the water.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Striped Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Luxilus chrysocephalus*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "golden head".**

What color am I? **I have a few dark crescents on the side of my body and on the top of my body. I am olive with silver sides.**

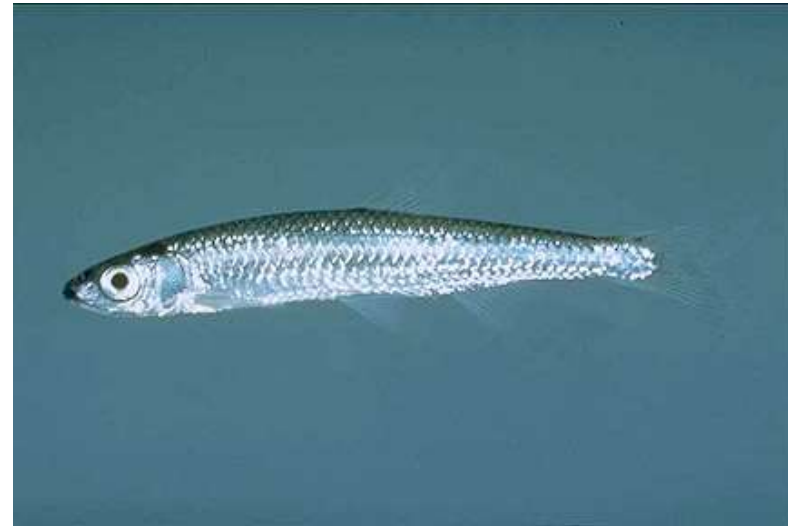
How big am I? **I am 2.5 and 3.9 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Abrams Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from late May to mid June.**

Interesting fact: **My dominant food items are aquatic and terrestrial insects. Other food items include small crayfishes, fish eggs, small fishes, algae, and detritus.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Silver Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Notropis photogenis*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have a gray back. My iridescent gold or blue side stripe is sometimes present. My lower side and belly are silver.**

How big am I? **I am 2.5 to 3.7 in.**

Where am I found? **I am common in Abrams Creek, Little River, and in the Little Pigeon River Systems.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from early May to mid June.**

Interesting fact: **Schools of my species feed near the surface and occasionally jump from the water in chase of flying insects.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Mirror Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Notropis spectrunculus*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am silver on my sides, gray on my back, and I have a prominent triangular black spot at the base of my caudal fin.**

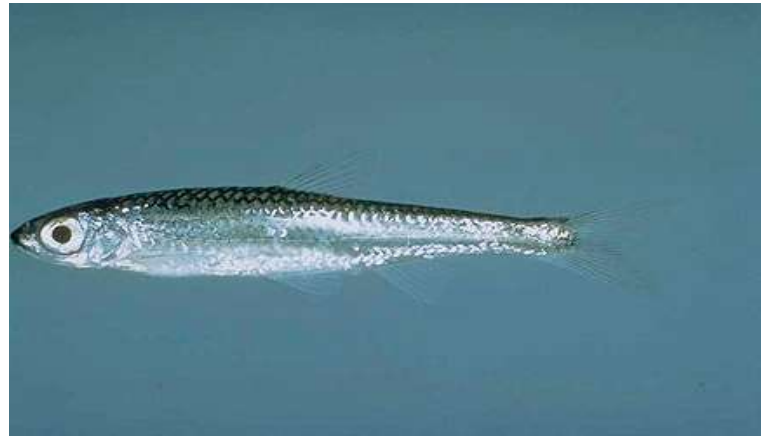
How big am I? **I am 2 to 3.2 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Forney Creek, Deep Creek, Oconaluftee River, Raven Fork, Noland Creek, and Tuckasegee River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from mid May through late June.**

Interesting fact: **I live in generally cool, clear, or cold creeks to medium sized streams of moderate high gradient.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Telescope Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Notropis telescopus*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have a few dark crescents on my sides. The top of my body is olive with silver sides and a silver belly. Breeding males have light rose-colored bellies. My dorsal, anal, and tail fins have a red band with pale outer margins.**

How big am I? **I am 2.5 to 4.0 in.**

Where am I found? **I can be found in the Middle and West Prong of the Little Pigeon, Oconaluftee, Tuckasegee, and Little River. I am also found in Webb Creek, Deep Creek, Cosby Creek, Abrams Creek, an unnamed tributary to Webb Creek, Tabcat Creek, Shop Creek, Forney Creek, Panther Creek, Raven Fork and Roaring Fork.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from May to late June.**

Interesting fact: **I am found in backwaters, flowing pools, and runs that have hard or silty substrates.**



Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Rosyface Shiner**

Scientific Name: ***Notropis rubellus***

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am gray on top and bright silver on my sides.**

How big am I? **I am 1.9 to 2.7 in.**

Where am I found? **I can be found at Twentymile Creek embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from May through mid-June.**

Interesting fact: **Breeding males have a red color behind the cheek and along the lower back half of their body.**



Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Fathead Minnow**

Scientific Name: ***Pimephales promelas***

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "tuffie".**

What color am I? **I have a rounded snout and short rounded fins, a dark spot at the base of my tail fin, and sometimes a blotch on the anterior portion of my dorsal fin.**

How big am I? **My max length is 3 to 4 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found mostly in small streams where competition with other species is limited.**

When do I spawn? **My spawning is prolonged from late spring through midsummer.**

Interesting fact: **My nests may contain up to 12,000 eggs and females may spawn as many as 12 times in a single summer! Commonly sold in baitshops as fishing bait.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Fatlip Minnow**

Scientific Name: *Phenacobius crassilabrum*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is “sucker-mouth minnow”.**

What color am I? **I am silvery in color with a distinct sucker-like mouth.**

How big am I? **I am 2.16 to 3.35 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the Oconaluftee River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April through June.**

Interesting fact: **I am endemic to the Blue Ridge and its fringes in the upper Tennessee drainage of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Saffron Shiner**

Scientific Name: *Notropis rubicroceus*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have a dark side stripe on the back half of my body, an olive back, silver sides, and a white belly. My fins are pale except for black mark on tail fin. During breeding season males are bright red.**

How big am I? **I am 1.5 to 2.4 in.**

Where am I found? **I can be found in Dudley Creek, West and Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Fighting Creek, Webb Creek, Little River, Cosby Creek, Porters Creek, an unnamed tributary to Webb Creek, and Mill Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from mid-May to late July.**

Interesting fact: **During breeding season it looks like I am wearing bright red lipstick.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **River Chub**

Scientific Name: *Nocomis micropogon*

What are my nick names? I am sometimes called “knotty-head” or “horny-head”.

What color am I? I am dark olive on top to dusky yellow on bottom with some pinkish purple coloration on my body during breeding season.

How big am I? I reach a maximum of 7.1 in.

Where am I found? I am widespread and abundant and can be found in all river systems except the Pigeon River. I can be found in elevations up to 2800 ft.

When do I spawn? I spawn in the late spring.

Interesting fact: I have a maximum lifespan of 5 years. During breeding season males obtain a swollen head and pronounced tubercles between and before the eyes.

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Central Stoneroller**

Scientific Name: *Campostoma anomalum*

What are my nick names? My nickname is “horneyhead”.

What color am I? I have sides randomly marked with some scales that are darker than my background color. Breeding males have an orange and black band in their dorsal fin and often anal, pelvic, and pectoral fins.

How big am I? I am 2.4 in. to 5.9 in.

Where am I found? I am found in all streams up to elevations of 3200 ft.

When do I spawn? My spawning season occurs between April and May.

Interesting fact: I am a favorite forage fish of Brown Trout and Smallmouth Bass.

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Flame Chub**

Scientific Name: *Hemitremia flammea*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have gold along my upper side with an orange dot appearing on my dorsal fin. I am orange in color on my bottom side. I stay this color through spawning.**

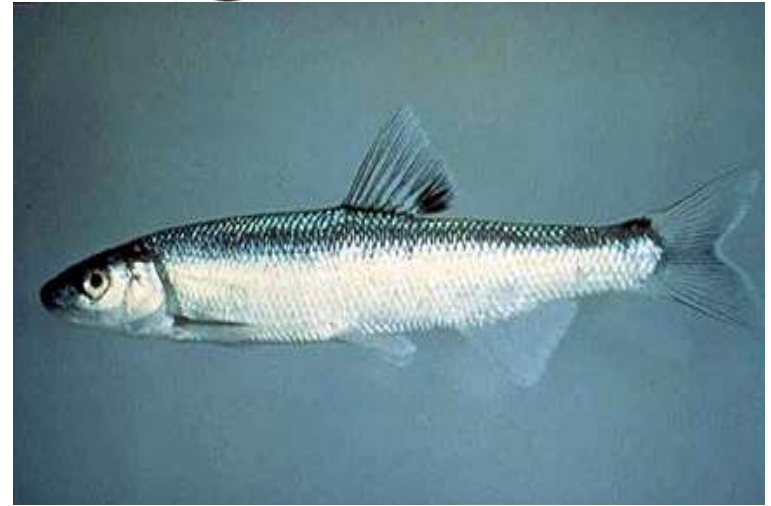
How big am I? **I am 1.6 to 2.4 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found within Abrams Creek in the Cades Cove area and Abrams Creek from the lowest Loop Road to Hyatt Lane.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from January to June.**

Interesting fact: **I am a Tennessee state species of special concern. In Park, found only in small springs in Cades Cove.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Spotfin Chub**

Scientific Name: *Erimonax monachus*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "emerald chub".**

What color am I? **I have a dark streak on my dorsal fin and the top of my body is gray or green, with silvery sides.**

How big am I? **I am 2.1 to 3.5 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the lower part of Abrams Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from mid May to mid August.**

Interesting fact: **I am federally threatened. One male of my species can spawn with more than one female at a time in a crevice.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Longnose Dace**

Scientific Name: *Rhinichthys cataractae*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "skin-taster".**

What color am I? **My color is reddish brown to dark olive on my back and upper side, and scattered with dark colored scales on my side. Males in breeding colors have red lips and red bases of pectoral, pelvic, and anal fins.**

How big am I? **I am 4 to 6 in.**

Where am I found? **I am very common in the Little River, Tennessee River, and Oconaluftee River systems up to elevations of 3200 ft.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from early spring to early summer.**

Interesting fact: **I have well developed taste buds on my snout, lips, lower head, and membranes on my lower fins.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Creek Chub**

Scientific Name: *Semotilus atromaculatus*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I am dark gray to brown on my back, with cream-colored sides interrupted by a conspicuous dark lateral stripe. A dark spot is present at the anterior base of my dorsal fin.**

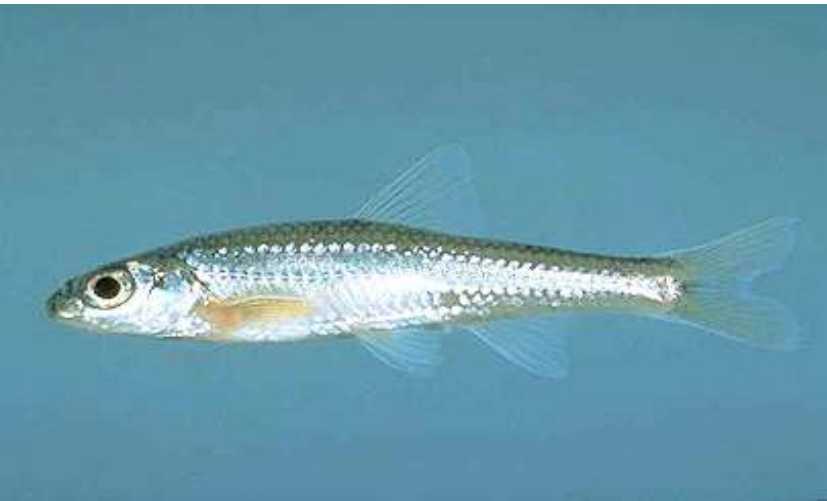
How big am I? **I am 3.14 to 7.87 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found at Anthony Creek, Mill Creek, Abrams Creek, Deep Creek, Little River, Noland Creek, Tabcat Creek, Shop Creek, Parson's Branch, Dudley Creek, Rowan's Creek, and the Oconaluftee River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from March till May.**

Interesting fact: **Each female produces 1,115 to 7,539 eggs.**

Cyprinidae



What is my Name? **Bigeye Chub**

Scientific Name: *Hybopsis amblops*

What is my nickname? **None**

What color am I? **I am shiny and silvery. A conspicuous barbell is present at the posterior tip of my mouth. I have no bright breeding colors and breeding males have small tubercles covering parts of the head.**

How big am I? **I am 1.8 to 2.6 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found on Lower Abrams Creek, Roaring Fork, Tabcat Creek, Little River at Park boundary, and Little River near Elkmont.**

When do I Spawn? **I Spawn from late April to June.**

Interesting fact: **I am named after my large oval eye.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Tennessee Dace**

Scientific Name: *Phoxinus tennesseensis*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **Males of my species are scarlet on their belly and lower sides. This coloration may be present any time of the year, but intensifies in late spring. Adults and juveniles have two characteristic parallel, dark, lateral stripes.**

How big am I? **I am 2 to 3 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Tabcat Creek near Calderwood and a tributary to Cosby Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn in the late spring.**

Interesting fact: **My red coloration can be extremely ephemeral, changing from moment to moment with the "mood" of the fish, and appears to be under neural-hormonal control.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Rosyside Dace**

Scientific Name: *Clinostomus funduloides*

What are my nick names? **None**

What color am I? **I have a broad red stripe along my sides that intensifies in the breeding season. (Darker in males).**

How big am I? **I am 1.96 to 3.14 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in portions of Anthony Creek, Abrams Creek, Deep Creek, Tabcat Creek, and Hazel creek. I am also found in Kephart Prong, Bradely Fork and Straight Fork. I am also found in some parts of the Oconaluftee River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from early April to late June.**

Interesting fact: **I am commonly observed in early summer as large congregations of “ red minnows” schooling.**

Cottidae



What is my name? **Mottled Sculpin**

Scientific Name: *Cottus bairdi*

What are my nicknames? **My nickname is “mumblehead”.**

What color am I? **I am brown and golden tan.**

How big am I? **I am 1.7 to 3.1 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in all river systems, though I have not been collected in Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River or Cataloochee Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from February to April.**

Interesting fact: **I am a voracious feeder. Often eating my own kind. I produce a slime discharge as a defense mechanism from predators.**

Cottidae



What is my name? **Banded Sculpin**

Scientific Name: *Cottus carolinae*

What are my nicknames? **My nickname is “mumblehead”.**

What color am I? **I am light brown with a dark banding pattern.**

How big am I? **I am 2.8 to 5.8 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Abrams Creek, Porter's Creek, an unnamed tributary to Webb Creek, Little River and Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from February to April.**

Interesting fact: **Males of my species guard the nest. I produce a slime discharge as a defense mechanism from predators.**

Cyprinidae



What is my name? **Western Blacknose Dace**

Scientific Name: *Rhinichthys obtusus*

What is my nickname? **None**

What color am I? **I am a dark brown to gray on my back grading to silver on my lower sides and belly. I typically have scattered dark colored scales on my side.**

How big am I? **I am 1.6 to 2.8 in.**

Where am I found? **I am fairly common throughout the park, though more common in upper Abrams Creek, lower portions of the Little River, and the Little Pigeon River systems lower than 4000 feet.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn between April and July.**

Interesting fact: **The orange color signifies my breeding colors. I am the small fish commonly seen in small pools and puddles in and along streams.**



Centrarchidae



What is my name? **Warmouth**

Scientific Name: *Lepomis gulosus*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is “goggle-eye”.**

What color am I? **I am yellow to brown with dark blotches.**

How big am I? **I am 6 to 8 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Lower Abrams Creek at the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from May through June.**

Interesting fact: **During breeding the female of this species circles the nest and periodically thumps the male on his side while simultaneously extruding eggs. It is assumed that he deposits milt at this time also.**



Clupeidae



What is my name? **Gizzard Shad**

Scientific Name: *Dorosoma cepedianum*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I am silver to tin in color.**

How big am I? **I am 7.9 to 12 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Lower Abrams Creek and Abrams Creek embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April through June.**

Interesting fact: **I mostly spawn at night. I am a planktivore and obtain food from the water by filtering it through my gill rakers. I travel in large schools to offer protection from predators.**

Centrarchidae



What is my name? **White Bass**

Scientific Name: *Morone chrysops*

What are my nick names? **My nickname is "stripe".**

What color am I? **I am blue to gray on my back and silver on my sides. I also have dark stripes along my body.**

How big am I? **I am 10 to 15 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in Abrams Creek at the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from March to April.**

Interesting fact: **I can be confused with Striped Bass. White bass have one tooth patch on their tongue while Striped bass have two. Often observed crashing baitfish at the surface of lakes and rivers.**

Centrarchidae



What is my name **Smallmouth Bass**

Scientific Name: *Micropterus dolomieu*

What are my nicknames? **My nicknames are "smally", "bronzeback", "black bass".**

What color am I? **My color is bronze to olive green with irregular back spots.**

How big am I? **I am 15 to 29 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in West and Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Dudley Creek, Fighting Creek, Webb Creek, Laurel Creek, Abrams Creek, Little Tennessee River, Oconaluftee River, Raven Fork, Roaring Fork, Noland Creek, Tuckasegee River, Hazel Creek, Panther Creek and Deep Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April to May.**

Interesting fact: **I am a more aggressive feeder than the largemouth bass.**

Centrarchidae



What is my name? **Green Sunfish**

Scientific Name: *Lepomis cyanellus*

What are my nicknames? I am often referred to by anglers as “sunfish”, “pan fish”, “sun perch”, and “bream”.

What color am I? I am brownish green with small metallic blue spots near my head and black spots on the back of my dorsal and anal fins.

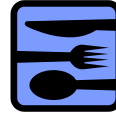
How big am I? I am 4 to 8 in.

Where am I found? I am found in Tabcat and Shop Creeks above embayments, and Abrams Creek embayment.

When do I spawn? I spawn from May thru June.

Interesting facts: I will hybridize with at least seven other species in the genus *Lepomis*.

Centrarchidae



What is my name? **Redbreast Sunfish**

Scientific Name: *Lepomis auritus*

What are my nicknames? My nicknames are “stumpknocker”, “shellcracker”, “robin”, and “yellowbelly perch”.

What color am I? I am green on my back and sides. I have green stripes along my sides.

How big am I? I am 6 to 8 in.

Where am I found? I can be found on Tabcat Creek, Shop Creek, and Abrams Creek (all collections made above creek embayments).

When do I spawn? I spawn in June.

Interesting fact: About 19,000 Redbreast Sunfish were stocked in the Clinch River in 1969, after the fish kill 1967.

Centrarchidae



What is my name? **Longear Sunfish**

Scientific Name: *Lepomis megalotis*

What are my nicknames? I am referred to as “bream”, “long-ears”, and “sunfish”.

What color am I? I am olive brown on my back and sides. I have metallic blue spots.

How big am I? I am 5 to 7 in.

Where am I found? I can be found on Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River at the Park boundary. Lower Abrams Creek at the embayment, and Abrams Creek one mile above the mouth.

When do I spawn? I spawn from March to August.

Interesting fact: I am a social nester. Large congregations of nest may occur during breeding season.

Centrarchidae



What is my name? **Rock Bass**

Scientific Name: *Ambloplites rupestris*

What are my nicknames? My nickname is “redeye”.

What color am I? I am olive to brown with darker brown mottling.

How big am I? I am 3.5 to 8.5 in.

Where am I found? I am found in the Middle Prong and West Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Dudley Creek, Forney Creek, Oconaluftee River, Noland Creek, Abrams Creek, Tabcat Creek, Shop Creek, Little River, Deep Creek, Hazel Creek, Panther Creek, Straight Fork and Raven Fork.

When do I spawn? I spawn from April to early June.

Interesting fact: The name Rock bass refers to the use of rocks as cover by the species.

Catostomidae



What is my name? **White Sucker**

Scientific Name: *Catostomus commersoni*

What are my nicknames? My nickname is “chalk-eye”.

What color am I? I am a mottled olive to pinkish tan or golden brown.

How big am I? I am 6 to 17 in.

Where am I found? I am found in Anthony Creek, Abrams Creek, Deep Creek, Cataloochee Creek and unnamed tributaries, Little River, Oconaluftee River, and Twentymile Creek.

When do I spawn? I spawn in early spring.

Interesting fact: I was a common food source for Native Americans in this area.

Centrarchidae



What is my name? **Bluegill Sunfish**

Scientific Name: *Lepomis macrochirus*

What are my nicknames? I am often referred to as “bream”, “sunfish”, “pan fish”, and “sun perch”.

What color am I? I am light blue to dark gray on my back and sides.

How big am I? I am 6 to 10 in.

Where am I found? I am found in Abrams Creek, Little Tennessee River, Oconaluftee River, Twentymile Creek embayment, Hazel Creek at Proctor House, Noland Creek embayment, and Deep Creek.

When do I spawn? I spawn from April to September.

Interesting fact: I am in the most important family of North American freshwater fishes. We owe this to the highly esteemed sporting and edible qualities of species within this family.

Catostomidae



What is my name? **River Redhorse**

Scientific Name: *Moxostoma carinatum*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I am pale olive to brassy-orange.**

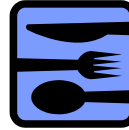
How big am I? **I am 12 to 28 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the Little Tennessee River, Twentymile Creek embayment, Abrams Creek 1/2 mile above embayment, and Deep Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn in April.**

Interesting fact: **I feed on small bivalve mollusk which I crush with my heavy pharyngeal teeth (part of my gill structure).**

Catostomidae



What is my name? **Shorthead Redhorse**

Scientific Name: *Moxostoma macrolepidotum*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I am olive green to pale yellow.**

How big am I? **I am 16 to 18 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found in the Little Tennessee River at Calderwood, Twentymile Creek embayment, and Forney Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from late April to May.**

Interesting facts: **This sleek redhorse is regarded by many as the best eating of suckers. The Shorthead Redhorse is sensitive to and easily killed by excessive siltation and other forms of pollution.**



What is my name? **Black Redhorse**

Scientific Name: *Moxostoma duquesnei*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **My back is olive to brown and my side is silvery. My fins are yellow to reddish-orange.**

How big am I? **I am 10 to 15 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found on the Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River, Webb Creek, Abrams Creek, Twentymile Creek, Forney Creek, Deep Creek, Oconaluftee River, Raven Fork, Noland Creek, Tuckasegee River, Little River and Hazel Creek at 1/2 mile above the embayment.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April to May.**

Interesting fact: **Individuals of my species are distinguished by their lip patterns.**



What is my name? **Northern Hogsucker**

Scientific Name: *Hypentelium nigricans*

What are my nicknames? **My nickname is "box-head" and "vacuum-lips".**

What color am I? **I have a pale tan to light brown background with dark charcoal saddles and mottling. I have light brown to bright orange fins.**

How big am I? **I am 10 to 17 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found widespread and common in all streams of the Park, reaching elevations of up to 2800 ft.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from March to April.**

Interesting fact: **I have reversed scale patterns on my back and sides. Strong hogsucker populations signal potentially good bass-fishing streams.**

Antherinidae



What is my name? **Brook Silverside**

Scientific Name: *Labidesthes sicculus*

What are my nicknames? **None**

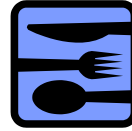
What color am I? **I am translucent green to pallid.**

How big am I? **I am .25 to 2.5 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found on lower Abrams Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from June through August.**

Interesting fact: **I am observed to often skip along the surface of the water and glide through the air when disturbed or spawning. Of the 160 species only 3 occur in freshwater.**



Catostomidae



What is my name? **Golden Redhorse**

Scientific Name: *Moxostoma erythrurum*

What are my nicknames? **None**

What color am I? **I am olive to light brown.**

How big am I? **I am 12 to 20 in.**

Where am I found? **I am found on the Middle Prong of the Little Pigeon River at Park boundary, Abrams Creek one mile above mouth, Little Tennessee River at Calderwood, Twentymile Creek above the embayment and mouth, Deep Creek, Oconaluftee River, and Tuckasegee River at mouth of Noland Creek.**

When do I spawn? **I spawn from April to early May.**

Interesting fact: **I am commonly seen in large congregations as I spawn in the spring. This holds true for most species in the genus *Moxostoma*.**