Fishes of the Nangaritza River
Cordillera del Cóndor, ECUADOR
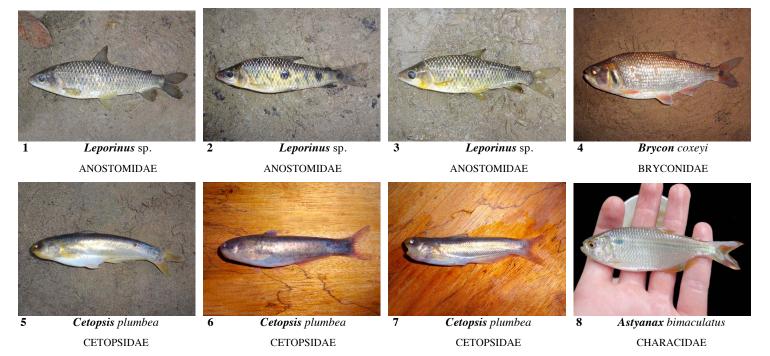**Brandon Y. Li**
The Lawrenceville School

The Nangaritza River is a river in the Zamora-Chinchipe province of southeastern Ecuador. It is the largest tributary of the Zamora River, a tributary of the Santiago River, in turn a tributary of the Marañón River, which feeds into the upper reaches of the Amazon. Thus the Nangaritza River is part of the upper Amazon basin.

The Nangaritza flows through a part of the Cordillera del Cóndor mountain range of the Andes that is shared and forms part of the border between Ecuador and Peru. The Cordillera del Cóndor ecosystem is considered as scarcely explored, due to the border conflict that ravaged the area for decades. The Nangaritza River Valley is known to harbor one of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world, and the river holds a multitude of fish species.

The following fishes are a sample of some of the more common fishes of the Nangaritza River, collected by hook and line and cylindrical fish traps. The primary locations in which fish were sampled are all within an approximately 2 kilometer stretch of river between Cabañas Yankuam and la cascada de los Dioses.

The following fishes were collected by the author, Brandon Li, on a biodiversity research expedition from The Lawrenceville School, NJ, led by Dr. John L. Clark.

1 *Leporinus* sp. ANOSTOMIDAE	**2** *Leporinus* sp. ANOSTOMIDAE	**3** *Leporinus* sp. ANOSTOMIDAE	**4** *Brycon* coxeyi BRYCONIDAE
5 *Cetopsis* plumbea CETOPSIDAE	**6** *Cetopsis* plumbea CETOPSIDAE	**7** *Cetopsis* plumbea CETOPSIDAE	**8** *Astyanax* bimaculatus CHARACIDAE

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9   ***Bryconamericus*** *brevirostris*
CHARACIDAE

10   ***Bryconamericus*** sp.
CHARACIDAE

11   ***Bryconamericus*** sp. 2
CHARACIDAE

12   ***Crenicichla*** *anthurus*
CICHLIDAE

13   ***Crenicichla*** *anthurus*
CICHLIDAE

14   ***Oreochromis*** *niloticus*
CICHLIDAE

15   ***Rhamdia*** sp. 1
HEPTAPTERIDAE

16   ***Rhamdia*** sp. 1
HEPTAPTERIDAE

17   ***Piabucina*** *elongata*
LEBIASINIDAE

18   ***Piabucina*** *elongata*
LEBIASINIDAE

19   View of the Nangaritza river

20   Flooded bank at night