

Suckers & Sculpins

Suckers: As the name implies, these fish have a “sucker-like” mouth. They may be small like minnows but can reach sizes similar to bass. They also lack scales on the head. Most are sensitive and cannot tolerate pollution

Blacktail Redhorse

Moxostoma poecilurum



Alabama Hog Sucker

Hypentelium etowanum



Sculpins: These are small fish with big heads. They live on the bottom of streams and have dark, mottled coloration making them difficult to see. The pygmy sculpin is only found in Coldwater creek near Munford, AL.

Banded Sculpin

Cottus carolinae



Darters

These are small fishes that live on the bottom of streams. They are very colorful and have large pectoral fins to scurry across rocks and logs. Darters are sensitive species, are found in unpolluted streams, and many are state and federally protected. Some are pollution tolerant and others are not

Cold Water Darter

Etheostoma ditrema



Coosa Darter

Etheostoma coosae



Holiday Darter

Etheostoma brevirostrum



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Black Banded Darter

Percina nigrofasciata



Bronze Darter

Percina palmaris



Log Perch

Percina caprodes



Minnows/Shiners

Most fish you encounter will be minnows. These are small fishes that you often use for bait when fishing for larger fishes. They are easily observed swimming in small streams. Many have distinct colors, are unique to our region and may be either state or federally protected such as the Blue shiner. Some are pollution tolerant and others are not.

Blue Shiner

Cyprinella caerulea



Tri-Color Shiner

Cyprinella trichroistia



Rainbow Shiner

Notropis chrosomus



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Stoneroller

Campostoma oligolepis



Creek Chub

Semotilus atromaculatus



Blackspotted Topminnow

Fundulus olivaceus



Blacknose Dase

Rhinichthys atratulus



Exotics: These fish have been introduced to North America. Many were brought into the US for a purpose (i.e., carp were introduced to help control vegetation in ponds) whereas others have simply escaped, likely from someone's home aquarium, such as the Asiatic weatherfish.

Loach / Asiatic Weatherfish

Misgurnus anguillicaudatus



Catfish: As the name implies, these fish have whiskers like a cat. The larger species are popular to anglers, whereas smaller species are often unseen by most people. The smaller, stream species are called madtoms and many are protected species. Some madtoms have venom in their pectoral fins to capture prey. Larger species are pollution tolerant whereas smaller species are not.

Channel Catfish

Ictalurus punctatus



Bass & Sunfish

These fish are highly prized by anglers. Although they look different, bass and sunfish are related. Many people refer to sunfish as "bream". Largemouth, spotted, and redeye bass are considered "black basses." These fish are tolerant to pollution.

Coosa Bass

Micropterus coosae



Shadow Bass

Ambloplites ariommus



Red Spotted Sunfish

Lepomis miniatus



Longear Sunfish

Lepomis megalotis

