

Fish Habitat Information for Wisconsin Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species

Species	Spawning (Avoidance) Dates	Water Body Types	Microhabitat	Turbidity
American Eel (<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>)	occurs in the Sargasso Sea	N/A	N/A	N/A
Black Buffalo (<i>Ictiobus niger</i>)	mid-May through mid-June	large rivers	sloughs, backwaters, and impoundments	varies
Black Redhorse (<i>Moxostoma duquesnei</i>)	late May through early June	only in WI and Eau Claire Rivers at Wausau		clear
Blue Sucker (<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>)	late April through early May	large deep rivers	deep impoundments, probably only spawn in Miss River	
Bluntnose Darter (<i>Etheostoma chlorosoma</i>)	mid-May through mid-June	Miss River Only	oxbows, ponds, sloughs, and pools	
Crystal Darter (<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>)	mid May through mid-June(?)	large rivers	extensive sandy riffles, bars and pool bottoms	clear to moderate
Gilt Darter (<i>Percina evides</i>)	late May to late June	med to large streams	deep riffles and pools	clear
Goldeye (<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>)	May through early July	large rivers	connected small lakes, ponds and marshes	turbid
Gravel Chub (<i>Erimystax x-punctatus</i>)	mid May to Mid June	shallow medium to large rivers	riffles and fast runs	
Lake Chubsucker (<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>)	mid May through early July	weedy lakes and their associated marshy streams	lakes, oxbow lakes, sloughs	clear to moderate
Lake Sturgeon (<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>)	late April through early June	large river and lakes, shoals of Great Lakes	cold, shallow, fast water	clear
Least Darter (<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>)	late April into July	overflow ponds, pools, lakes, and streams	clear quiet warm waters	clear
Longear Sunfish (<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>)	late May through mid-July, sporadic to August	shallow streams, occasional in lakes	shallow clean waters	clear
Mud Darter (<i>Etheostoma asprigene</i>)	mid-May through June	large low gradient rivers	sloughs, overflow areas, riffles, pools and lower ends of tributaries	
Ozark Minnow (<i>Notropis nubilus</i>)	May through early August	small to medium streams of low gradient.		clear
Paddlefish (<i>Polyodon spathula</i>)	early May through early June	large rivers and their lakes	open waters	
Pallid Shiner (<i>Hybopsis amnis</i>)	late May through July	large lowland rivers, Miss River Only	sloughs and impoundments	
Pirate Perch (<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>)	during May	medium to large rivers	creeks, oxbows, overflow ponds, sloughs, marshes, and pools	
Pugnose Minnow (<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>)	mid-June through mid-July	lakes and low gradient rivers	impoundments, sloughs	
Pugnose Shiner (<i>Notropis anogenus</i>)	mid-May through July	glacial lakes and streams of low gradient	shoals	clear
Redfin Shiner (<i>Lythrurus umbratilis</i>)	early June through mid-August	low gradient streams	pools	turbid
River Redhorse (<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>)	mid May through June	large rivers	impoundments and pools	
Shoal Chub (<i>Macrhybopsis hyostoma</i>)	May through June, sporadic in August	fast, moderate depth waters	broad sand flats	
Shortjaw Cisco (<i>Coregonus zenithicus</i>)	variable; observed in May, August, and December	large deep lakes (Lake Superior only)	360-375 ft/spring, 180-230 ft/summer, 240-295 ft/winter	clear
Silver Chub (<i>Macrhybopsis storeriana</i>)	June and July	large, low gradient rivers	riffles, pools, sloughs	
Skipjack Herring (<i>Alosa chrysochloris</i>)	does not occur in Wisconsin waters	migrates to rivers far to south	open water, large rivers, lakes and below dams	clear to turbid
Slender Madtom (<i>Noturus exilis</i>)	late May through June	streams and wide rivers	riffles and shallow fast runs	clear
Starhead topminnow (<i>Fundulus dispar</i>)	June through July	stream backwaters and pools	shallow backwater	clear to moderate
Striped Shiner (<i>Luxilus chrysocephalus</i>)	late May through June	only in lower Milwaukee River	runs and shallow pools	clear to moderate
Weed Shiner (<i>Notropis texanus</i>)	late June through July	medium streams and large rivers.	sloughs, lakes,	
Western Sand Darter (<i>Ammocrypta clara</i>)	late June through July	medium to large rivers	over sand flats	clear to moderate

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Species	Current	Substrate	Vegetation	Spawn Temp/Miscellaneous
American Eel (<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Black Buffalo (<i>Ictiobus niger</i>)	strong	varies, silt		21C
Black Redhorse (<i>Moxostoma duquesnei</i>)	strong	gravel, bedrock, sand, low silt		55-73 °F
Blue Sucker (<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>)	moderate to strong	gravel or cobble		50-60 °F
Bluntnose Darter (<i>Etheostoma chlorosoma</i>)	sluggish	mud, clay, mixed sand and mud	sparce to moderate veg.	10- 15.6 C
Crystal Darter (<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>)	moderate to strong	sand		lay eggs on plants or plant debris
Gilt Darter (<i>Percina evides</i>)	strong	silt free with cobble and small boulders.		63-68 °F
Goldeye (<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>)	quiet	mud		50-55 °F
Gravel Chub (<i>Erimystax x-punctatus</i>)	strong	pea-gravel		60 °F
Lake Chubsucker (<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>)	quiet	cobble, sand, boulders, mud, silt	dense with organic debris	59-72 °F
Lake Sturgeon (<i>Acipensar fulvescens</i>)	strong	rocky areas along riverbanks	none	52-58 °F
Least Darter (<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>)	sluggish	gravel, sand, silt, boulders, mud, clay	dense vegetation, filamentous algal beds	56-60 °F, 54-73 °F
Longear Sunfish (<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>)	quiet	gravel, sand, silt, mud	in or near veg.	74-77 °F
Mud Darter (<i>Etheostoma asprigene</i>)	moderate	mud, sand, clay, gravel, bedrock		23.3-25C
Ozark Minnow (<i>Notropis nubilus</i>)		cobble		
Paddlefish (<i>Polyodon spathula</i>)		gravel, cobble		spawn during high flows, 50-61 °F
Pallid Shiner (<i>Hybopsis amnis</i>)	quiet to sluggish	sand, mud		10C with rising water levels
Pirate Perch (<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>)	quiet	sand, soft muck covered with organic debris.	often found in brush and veg.	virtually nothing is known
Pugnose Minnow (<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>)	quiet	mud, sand, cobble, silt, and clay	weedy areas	
Pugnose Shiner (<i>Notropis anogenus</i>)		sand, mud, gravel, or marl.	often in weedy areas	70-84 °F
Redfin Shiner (<i>Lythrurus umbratilis</i>)		silt, cobble, boulders, sand, detritus		≥70 °F from KS
River Redhorse (<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>)	moderate to strong	over clean gravel		68-74 °F
Shoal Chub (<i>Macrhybopsis hyostoma</i>)	strong	sand flats		20-23.3C from N. MI
Shortjaw Cisco (<i>Coregonus zenithicus</i>)		deep open water	none	move seasonally to spawn
Silver Chub (<i>Macrhybopsis storeriana</i>)	moderate to strong	sand, mud, clay, gravel	no veg. to moderate	64-73 °F
Skipjack Herring (<i>Alosa chrysochloris</i>)	strong	sand, gravel		
Slender Madtom (<i>Noturus exilis</i>)	moderate to strong	gravel and boulders interspersed with fine sand		18.9-22.8C
Starhead topminnow (<i>Fundulus dispar</i>)	quiet	sand, silt, mud	prefers abundant submerged aquatic plants	17-30C
Striped Shiner (<i>Luxilus chrysocephalus</i>)	moderate	cobble, boulders, silt, sand, mud, bedrock.	often associated with dense aquatic vegetation	≥64 °F
Weed Shiner (<i>Notropis texanus</i>)	still to sluggish	sand, mud, clay, silt, detritus, gravel, boulders.		18C
Western Sand Darter (<i>Ammocrypta clara</i>)	moderate to strong	extensive sand flats and fine gravel		