

Current Status of Native Fish Species in Kansas

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PETROMYZONITIDA—LAMPREYS

Chestnut Lamprey, *Amblopygion cacciatum*.

Current status: T. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: SH.

Rationale: 2, 3

The last documented specimen from Kansas (KU 22374) is from 1989. Prior to this collection, the most recently documented records are from 1965 (KU 11091, 21560). This species formerly inhabited the Kansas, Meramec, Osage, and Neosho river basins in the eastern third of the state (Cross 1967).



ACIPENSERIDAE—STURGEONS

Lake Sturgeon, *Acipenser fulvescens*.

Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: SH.

Rationale: 2, 3

One specimen (KU 27324) of this species from Kansas was taken from the lower Kansas River in 1997. Another record specimen was caught and released from the Missouri River in 1988 (Cross and Collins 1995).



Shovelnose Sturgeon, *Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*.

Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: SA.

Rationale: 2, 3



HONDONTIDAE—MOONEYES

Goldeye, *Hiodon alosoides*.

Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: SA.

Rationale: 2, 3



ANCUILLIDAE—FRESHWATER EELS

American Eel, *Anguilla rostrata*.

Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S2.

Rationale: 2, 3

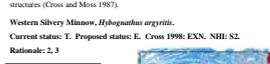
Formerly ranging nearly statewide as migrants from the Gulf of Mexico, the last catalogued specimen of an American Eel from Kansas in the KU collection (KU 18800) was from 1979. Cross and Collins (1995) also noted a non-voucher specimen taken in the Kansas River in 1987.



CYPRINIDAE—MINNOWS

Minnows of the Large Rivers

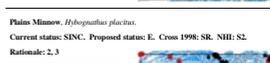
Streamflow modifications (e.g., dewatering, reduction of peak flows, and elevation of base flows), compaction of soil substrates, increased water clarity, and establishment of sight-feeding predators and competitors all pose a serious risk for the future of the following 8 species of minnows uniquely adapted to the large rivers in Kansas (Cross and Moss 1987). Declines in these species have been most dramatic since the 1960s, following a period of increased irrigation withdrawals and construction of main-stem reservoirs and other water retention structures (Cross and Moss 1987).



Western Shiny Minnow, *Hybognathus argenteus*.

Current status: T. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: S2.

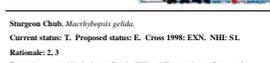
Rationale: 2, 3



Plains Minnow, *Hybognathus placatus*.

Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S2.

Rationale: 2, 3

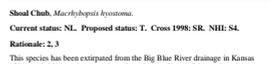


Sturgeon Chub, *Macrhybopsis gelida*.

Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: S1.

Rationale: 2, 3

Formerly collected in the lower Smoky Hill and Kansas rivers (Cross and Collins 1995), but none has been taken from these rivers in the last 25 years. Recent collections of Sturgeon Chubs have been made in the Missouri River.

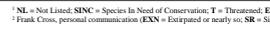


Shoal Chub, *Macrhybopsis hyostoma*.

Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: SA.

Rationale: 2, 3

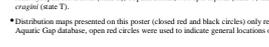
This species has been extirpated from the Big Blue River drainage in Kansas (Gido et al. 2002) and was nearly collected in the Kansas River, where it was once abundant (Metzall 1966), during a 1992 survey targeting small minnows (Winkler 1995). Recently, voucher collections (throughout the 1990s) of this taxon exist from the Republican River (MIP).



Key to symbols used on distribution maps:

○ Cross 1967. Fishes of Kansas ● Pre-1980 ● 1980 and after

Silver Chub, *Macrhybopsis storeriana*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S3



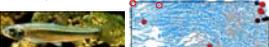
River Shiner, *Notropis bleanthes*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S3.



Silverband Shiner, *Notropis shumardi*.
Current status: T. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: SH.



Flathead Chub, *Platybho gracilis*.
Current status: T. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: S1.



Minnows of Southeastern Kansas
Secum in southeastern Kansas, especially those in the Ozark Highlands in Cherokee County, contain the greatest diversity of fishes (and other aquatic organisms) in the state (Cross and Collins 1995). Most of the fish diversity is represented by minnows and darters. Impoundments, flow diversions, increased turbidity, stream sedimentation, and industrial, municipal, and mining pollutants are all factors in the reduction in range and abundance of species in this region, including the seven species of minnows listed below, as well as several species of suckers, madsons, darters, and a sculpin (all discussed elsewhere in this summary). Substantial urban development has occurred in the vicinity of Joplin, Missouri, during the last 10 years and is continuing, so increased urban runoff and associated general decline in water quality can be expected, judging increased stress on fishes in the Spring River basin.

Southern Reithly Dace, *Phoxinus erythrogaster*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. NHE: S2.



Spottin Shiner, *Cyprinella spiloptera*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



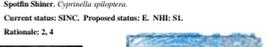
Gravel Chub, *Erimyzon s. punctatus*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S2.



Cardinal Shiner, *Lucania cardinalis*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: S3.



Striped Shiner, *Lucania chrysopygus*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Redspot Chub, *Nocomis biguttatus*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S1.



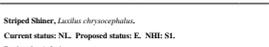
Redspot Chub, *Nocomis asper*.
Current status: T. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S1.



Bigeye Shiner, *Notropis biguttatus*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. NHE: S3.



Northern Hog Sucker, *Hypentelium nigricans*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S1.



River Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: EXN. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



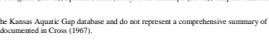
Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Orank Minnow, *Notropis orankii*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.

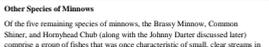


Other Species of Minnows
Of the five remaining species of minnows, the Brassy Minnow, Common Shiner, and Hornyhead Chub (along with the Johnny Darter discussed later) comprise a group of fishes that was once characteristic of small, clear streams in northern Kansas. However, these species have been extirpated from much of this region, especially the Republican and Smoky Hill river basins of northwestern Kansas. Reasons for this decline apparently are related to increased turbidity and dewatering of these streams (Cross and Moss 1987; Cross and Collins 1995). The same is true for the federally endangered Topkeka Shiner, which once occurred over a wider portion of the state.

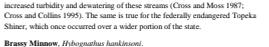
Brassy Minnow, *Hybognathus hankinsoni*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: T. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S1.



Common Shiner, *Lucania cornuta*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: SA.



Hornyhead Chub, *Nocomis biguttatus*.
Current status: T. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: S1. NHE: S1.



Southern Reithly Dace, *Phoxinus erythrogaster*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. NHE: S2.



Western Blacknose Dace, *Rhinichthys obtusus*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.

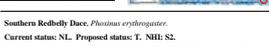


CATOSTOMIDAE—SUCKERS

Highfin Carpenter, *Carpodes villosus*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S2.



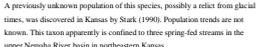
Fantail Darter, *Etheostoma flabellare*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: S3.



Shoal Darter, *Etheostoma gracile*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Stippled Darter, *Etheostoma punctulatum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



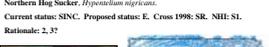
Speckled Darter, *Etheostoma spiganum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



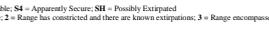
Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



ICTALURIDAE—NORTH AMERICAN CATFISHES

Blue Catfish, *Ictalurus furcatus*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: SA.



Striped Catfish, *Ictalurus punctatus*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: SA.



Brindled Madtom, *Nitotus niturus*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: E. NHE: S2.



FUNDULIDAE—TOPMINNOWS

Northern Plains Killifish, *Fundulus kansasi*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S3.



COTTIDAE—SCULPINS

Banded Sculpin, *Cottus carolinensis*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: SH.



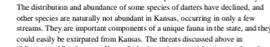
PERCIDAE—PERCHES

Darters of Southeastern Kansas
As noted above, streams in southeastern Kansas contain the greatest diversity of fishes in the state, and minnows and darters represent much of this diversity. The distribution and abundance of some species of darters have declined, and other species are naturally not abundant in Kansas, occurring in only a few streams. They are important components of a unique fauna in the state, and they could easily be extirpated from Kansas. The threats discussed above in "Minnows of Southeastern Kansas" also have the potential to impact these 9 species of darters.

Greenfinch Darter, *Etheostoma nigriventris*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: T. NHE: S2.



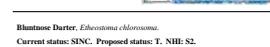
Spotted Darter, *Etheostoma maculatum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: T. NHE: S2.



Shoal Darter, *Etheostoma gracile*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Stippled Darter, *Etheostoma punctulatum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Speckled Darter, *Etheostoma spiganum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Fantail Darter, *Etheostoma flabellare*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: SINC. NHE: S3.



Shoal Darter, *Etheostoma gracile*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Stippled Darter, *Etheostoma punctulatum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Speckled Darter, *Etheostoma spiganum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Black Redhorse, *Moxostoma valenciennianum*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



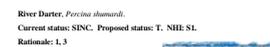
Refined Darter, *Etheostoma whipplei*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. NHE: S3.



Banded Darter, *Etheostoma zanae*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: T. Cross 1998: SR. NHE: S3.



River Darter, *Percina shumardi*.
Current status: SINC. Proposed status: T. NHE: S1.



Blackside Darter, *Percina maculata*.
Current status: T. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.



Other Species of Darters

Johnny Darter, *Etheostoma nigrum*.
Current status: NL. Proposed status: T. NHE: SA.



Blackside Darter, *Percina maculata*.
Current status: T. Proposed status: E. NHE: S1.

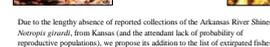


EXTIRPATED SPECIES

Platt et al. (1973) considered the following species as extirpated: Bigeye Chub, *Hybopsis amabilis*; Pogonose Minnow (Shiner), *Opsanus commersoni*; Blacknose Shiner, *Notropis heterolepis*; Trout perch, *Percipoma amnicolentum*; Western Sand Darter, *Ammocryptus calis*; Iowa Darter, *Etheostoma calis*. We have found no evidence that their status has changed in the last 30 years, and support that conclusion.



Due to the lengthy absence of reported collections of the Arkansas River Shiner, *Notropis grandis*, from Kansas and the attendant lack of probability of reproductive populations, we propose its addition to the list of extirpated fishes in Kansas.



The Highfin Carpenter, *Carpodes villosus*, should probably be judged as extirpated along with the species listed above. Hence the species' superficial resemblance to the widely occurring River Carpenter, *Carpodes carpio*, however, it is possible that the species still occurs as an isolated collection.

Little evidence exists that the following species currently sustain reproductively viable populations in Kansas: Chestnut Lamprey, *Amblopygion cacciatum*; Lake Sturgeon, *Acipenser fulvescens*; Western Shiny Minnow, *Hybognathus argenteus*; Sturgeon Chub, *Macrhybopsis gelida*; Sicklefin Chub, *Macrhybopsis moxii*; Silverband Shiner, *Notropis shumardi*; and Flathead Chub, *Platybho gracilis*. However, we are reluctant to declare them "extirpated" because of the lack of targeted surveys for the species.

OTHER SPECIES

We consider several species included in Cross and Collins (1995) as "wait" or "status" species, found either as vagrants or by chance in Kansas streams. Reproductive populations of these species are not known to occur in Kansas: Bowfin, *Ameiurus calis*; Skipjack Herring, *Alosa chrysochloris*; Rainbow Sucker, *Osmerus mordax*; Barbel, *Lateolabrax niloticus*; Northern Striped Bass, *Morone chrysops*; Plains Topminnow, *Fundulus scudleri*; and Least Darter, *Etheostoma microperca*.

SUMMARY

This re-evaluation of the status of fishes native to Kansas streams suggests that 17 previously unlisted