



The Mississippi River Gorge Today

Introduction to Mississippi River Gorge Fish Species List

Compiled by Konrad Schmidt

The following list is restricted to species reported in the gorge, which extends from the original mouth of the Minnesota River at Fort Snelling to the upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam (River Miles 845.3-853.9). Because of accessibility, the list also includes fishes reported in Minnehaha Creek downstream of the falls to the Mississippi River. Information sources include scientific literature, stream survey reports, specimens at the James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History and Minnesota DNR fisheries biologists who have worked in the gorge.

Seventy-four fishes representing 19 families have been reported from the gorge and includes 72 native, two introduced (exotic), one threatened and three special concern species. Four species disappeared from the gorge by the early 1900s, while 58 species have been reported in the last 10 years.

Additional information and images of species is available on the Fishes of Minnesota web page: <http://www.gen.umn.edu/research/fish/fishes/Default.htm>. Shortcuts to single species of interest can be accessed by clicking on the hyperlinks provided in the scientific names on the gorge list.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Last Reported	Conservation Status
Acipenseridae - Sturgeon Family			
Acipenser fulvescens	lake sturgeon	ca 1913	Special Concern
Scaphirhynchus platorynchus	shovelnose sturgeon	ca 1913	
Polyodontidae - Paddlefish Family			
Polyodon spathula	paddlefish	1990	Threatened
Lepisosteidae - Gar Family			
Lepisosteus osseus	longnose gar	1891	
Lepisosteus platostomus	shortnose gar	2004	
Amiidae - Bowfin Family			
Amia calva	bowfin	2004	
Hiodontidae - Mooneye Family			
Hiodon alosoides	goldeye	2001	
Hiodon tergisus	mooneye	2004	
Anguillidae - Freshwater Eel Family			
Anguilla rostrata	American eel	1976	
Clupeidae - Herring Family			
Alosa chrysochloris	skipjack herring	ca 1913	Special Concern
Dorosoma cepedianum	gizzard shad	2004	
Cyprinidae - Minnow Family			
Campostoma anomalum	central stoneroller	2000	
Cyprinella spiloptera	spotfin shiner	2004	
Cyprinus carpio	carp	2004	Introduced
Hybognathus hankinsoni	brassy minnow	1954	
Luxilus cornutus	common shiner	1954	
Macrhybopsis aestivalis	speckled chub	2000	
Macrhybopsis storeriana	silver chub	1989	
Notemigonus crysoleucas	golden shiner	1987	
Notropis atherinoides	emerald shiner	2004	
Notropis blennioides	river shiner	1997	
Notropis dorsalis	bigmouth shiner	1954	

Notropis hudsonius	spottail shiner	1995	
Notropis stramineus	sand shiner	2004	
Notropis texanus	weed shiner	1953	
Notropis volucellus	mimic shiner	2004	
Pimephales notatus	bluntnose minnow	2000	
Pimephales promelas	fathead minnow	2000	
Pimephales vigilax	bullhead minnow	2004	
Rhinichthys atratulus	blacknose dace	1987	
Semotilus atromaculatus	creek chub	2000	
Catostomidae - Sucker Family			
Carpionodes carpio	river carpsucker	2004	
Carpionodes cyprinus	quillback	2004	
Carpionodes velifer	highfin carpsucker	2004	
Catostomus commersoni	white sucker	2004	
Cycleptus elongatus	blue sucker	2004	Special Concern
Hypentelium nigricans	northern hogsucker	2004	
Ictiobus bubalus	smallmouth buffalo	2004	
Ictiobus cyprinellus	bigmouth buffalo	2004	
Moxostoma anisurum	silver redhorse	2004	
Moxostoma carinatum	river redhorse	2001	
Moxostoma erythrurum	golden redhorse	2004	
Moxostoma macrolepidotum	shorthead redhorse	2004	
Moxostoma valenciennesi	greater redhorse	2001	
Ictaluridae - Bullhead Catfish Family			
Ameiurus melas	black bullhead	1990	
Ameiurus nebulosus	brown bullhead	2000	
Ictalurus punctatus	channel catfish	2004	
Noturus flavus	stonecat	1975	
Pylodictis olivaris	flathead catfish	2001	
Esocidae - Pike Family			
Esox lucius	northern pike	2004	
Esox masquinongy	muskellunge	2004	

Esox lucius x E. masquinongy	tiger muskie	1995	
Salmonidae - Trout Family			
Oncorhynchus mykiss	rainbow trout	1995	Introduced
Percopsidae - Trout-Perch Family			
Percopsis omiscomaycus	trout-perch	2004	
Lotidae - Cod Family			
Lota lota	burbot	1995	
Gasterosteidae - Stickleback Family			
Culaea inconstans	brook stickleback	1989	
Moronidae - Temperate Bass Family			
Morone chrysops	white bass	2004	
Centrarchidae - Sunfish Family			
Ambloplites rupestris	rock bass	1987	
Lepomis cyanellus	green sunfish	1995	
Lepomis gibbosus	pumpkinseed	2000	
Lepomis macrochirus	bluegill	2004	
Micropterus dolomieu	smallmouth bass	2004	
Micropterus salmoides	largemouth bass	2001	
Pomoxis annularis	white crappie	1995	
Pomoxis nigromaculatus	black crappie	2004	
Percidae - Perch Family			
Etheostoma exile	Iowa darter	1982	
Etheostoma nigrum	johnny darter	2000	
Perca flavescens	yellow perch	1995	
Percina caprodes	logperch	2004	
Percina maculata	blackside darter	2000	
Percina phoxocephala	slenderhead darter	1997	
Percina shumardi	river darter	1995	
Sander canadense	sauger	2004	
Sander vitreus	walleye	2004	
Sciaenidae - Drum Family			
Aplodinotus grunniens	freshwater drum	2004	

Summary

Families	19
Genera	45
Total Species	74
Introduced Species	2
Native Species	72
EN, TH and SC Species	4