

Flathead Catfish *Pylodictis Olivaris*

By: Jeff Salvin



Taxonomy

Class: Actinopterygii
Order: Siluriformes (catfishes)
Family: Ictaluridae (bullhead catfishes)
Genus: Pylodictis
Species: Olivaris

Biology

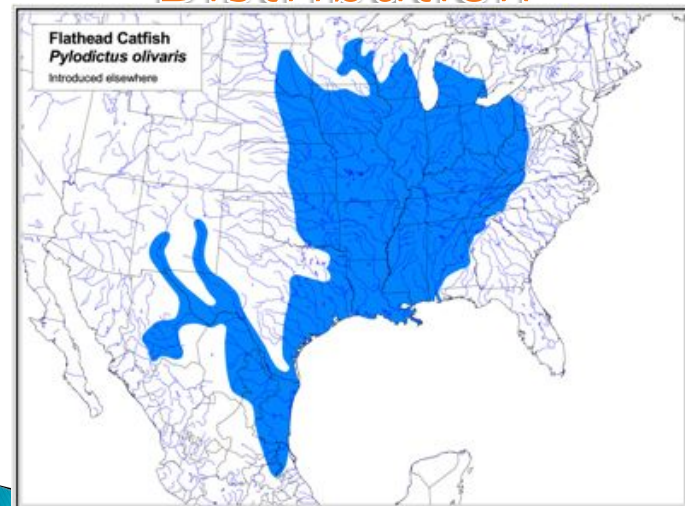
Diet: Mostly small fish and macro invertebrates

Habitat: Deeper pools and structured areas of low to medium gradient rivers, Juveniles are found in rocky and sandy runs. 1-3 "home spots"

Movement: Move mostly at night

Spawning: Lay egg masses that can hold up to 10,000 eggs in cover like undercut banks or logs. The nests are fanned constantly

Distribution



ID

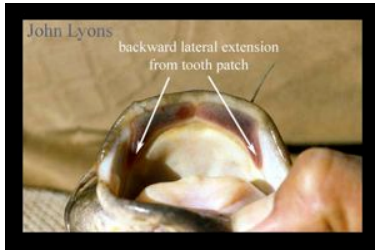
Adipose Fin

Lower jaw is longer than the upper jaw

Anal fin base is shorter than the post-orbital distance

Backward lateral extension in mouth

Juveniles have a lighter spot on the dorsal part of the caudal fin



Similar Species

Madtom: Distinguished by the Flathead's "free" adipose fin



Channel Catfish, Blue Catfish, Bullhead: Distinguished by the lower jaw being longer than the upper



Human Impacts

Fished for sport
"Noodling"

Health concerns if eaten
Invasive in some states



Work Cited

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