

Silver Redhorse

Moxostoma anisurum



Trevor Asperger

Taxonomy

- Class: Actinopterygii (Ray finned fishes)
- Order: Cypriniformes (Carps)
- Family: Catostomidae (Suckers)
- Genus: Moxostoma
- Species: Anisurum

Identification and Characteristics

- Silver on sides, grey-brown back, slate colored tail.
- Convex dorsal fin, 14-17 rays
- Subterminal mouth
- Usually 18-24 inches



Key Features

- Convex dorsal fin, 14-17 rays
- Papillose lips form acute angle
- 38-46 lateral line scales
- Tail and dorsal fin slate colored, other fins clear, yellowish, or reddish.



John Lyons

Mating Habits

- Fish run up river to spawn in March/April
- Spawn at night at the top and bottom ends of shallow riffles.
- Two males “sandwich” a female, all three fish vibrate, releasing eggs and sperm.
- They use their tails to cover the eggs in fine gravel.

Habitat

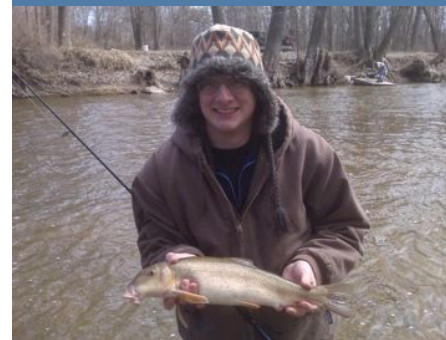
- Live in streams, rivers, and lakes in low current.
- Not tolerant of pollution or turbidity



Home Range



- Importance to Humans
 - Valued sport fish
 - Often smoked or canned and eaten
 - Good indicators of water quality
- Diet
 - Feeds on benthic macroinvertebrates



Interesting Stuff

- Silver redhorse, along with other sucker species, make up one of the largest sucker runs in the state in the Rifle River. Thousands of fisherman travel to Omer, MI to dip net and fish for these suckers. Thus, they play a large role in boosting the local economy.



Sources Cited

- http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/publications/pdfs/IFR/ifrlibra/Special/Reports/sr39/sr39_App_1_41-50.pdf
- <http://fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?ID=2997&AT=silver+redhorse>
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- <http://www.wiscfish.org/fishid/wFrmAttributeDetails.aspx?fid=133&comName=Redhorse,%20Silver&sfName=Moxostoma%20anisurum&fam=Suckers%20%28Catostomidae%29&GID=132>

Questions?

