

NAMES OF MICHIGAN FISHES

This list of names for the fishes of Michigan has been prepared by Dr. Reeve M. Bailey, Curator Emeritus of Fishes, and Dr. Gerald R. Smith, Curator of Fishes, University of Michigan, Museum of Zoology. The list consists of 155 kinds of fishes (154 species) that represent 28 families. The health status of a species in Michigan is denoted in red as: Threatened, Endangered, Special Concern.

Common name (family)	Scientific name	Other common or localized names
Lampreys (Petromyzontidae)		
Chestnut lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon castaneus</i>	lamprey, eel
Northern brook lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon fossor</i>	lamprey, eel
Silver lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon unicuspis</i>	lamprey, eel
American brook lamprey	<i>Lampetra appendix</i>	lamprey, eel
Sea lamprey	* <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	lamprey, eel
Sturgeons (Acipenseridae)		
Lake sturgeon (Threatened)	Acipenser fulvescens	sturgeon
Gars (Lepisosteidae)		
Spotted gar (Special Concern)	Lepisosteus oculatus	gar-pike
Longnose gar	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>	gar-pike
Bowfins (Amiidae)		
Bowfin	<i>Amia calva</i>	dogfish
Mooneyes (Hidontidae)		
Mooneye (Threatened)	Hiodon tergisus	
Freshwater eels (Anguillidae)*		
American eel	* <i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	eel
Herrings (Clupeidae)		
Skipjack herring	* <i>Alosa chrysochloris</i> ¹	river herring
Alewife	* <i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	shad
Gizzard shad	<i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>	hickory shad, shad
Carps and Minnows (Cyprinidae)		
Central stoneroller	<i>Campostoma anomalum pullum</i>	
Goldfish	* <i>Carassius auratus</i>	
Redside dace (Endangered)	Clinostomus elongatus	
Lake chub	<i>Couesius plumbeus</i>	
Spotfin shiner	<i>Cyprinella spiloptera</i>	shiner
Common carp	* <i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	carp, German carp
Brassy minnow	<i>Hybognathus hankinsoni</i>	shiner
Striped shiner	<i>Luxilus chrysocephalus</i>	shiner

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Common shiner	<i>Luxilus cornutus</i>	shiner
Redfin shiner	<i>Lythrurus umbratilis</i>	shiner
Silver chub (Special Concern)	<i>Macrhybopsis storeriana</i>	
Northern pearl dace	<i>Margariscus nachtriebi</i> ²	
Hornyhead chub	<i>Nocomis biguttatus</i>	horned dace
River chub	<i>Nocomis micropogon</i>	horned dace
Golden shiner	<i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i>	
Pugnose shiner (Endangered)	<i>Notropis anogenus</i>	shiner
Emerald shiner	<i>Notropis atherinoides</i>	shiner
Silverjaw minnow	<i>Notropis buccatus</i>	shiner
Ghost shiner	* <i>Notropis buchmanii</i> ³	Shiner
Bigmouth shiner (Special Concern)	<i>Notropis dorsalis</i>	shiner
Blackchin shiner	<i>Notropis heterodon</i>	shiner
Blacknose shiner	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>	shiner
Spottail shiner	<i>Notropis hudsonius</i>	shiner
Silver shiner (Endangered)	<i>Notropis photogenis</i>	shiner
Rosyface shiner	<i>Notropis rubellus</i>	shiner
Sand shiner	<i>Notropis stramineus</i>	shiner
Mimic shiner	<i>Notropis volucellus</i>	shiner
Pugnose minnow (Endangered)	<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>	shiner
Suckermouth minnow	* <i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>	
Northern redbelly dace	<i>Phoxinus eos</i>	
Southern redbelly dace (Endangered)	<i>Phoxinus erythrogaster</i>	
Finescale dace	<i>Phoxinus neogaeus</i>	
Bluntnose minnow	<i>Pimephales notatus</i>	
Fathead minnow	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>	
Western blacknose dace	<i>Rhinichthys obtusus</i> ⁴	
Longnose dace	<i>Rhinichthys cataractae</i>	
Creek chub	<i>Semotilus atromaculatus</i>	horned dace
Loaches (Cobitidae)*		
Oriental weatherfish	* <i>Misgurnus anguillicaudatus</i>	
Suckers (Catostomidae)		
Quillback	<i>Carpionodes cyprinus</i>	
Longnose sucker	<i>Catostomus catostomus</i>	redside, sturgeon sucker
White sucker	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i> ⁵	chubsucker
Western creek chubsucker (Endangered)	<i>Erimyzon claviformis</i>⁶	chubsucker
Lake chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>	chubsucker
Northern hog sucker	<i>Hypentelium nigricans</i>	hogmolly
Bigmouth buffalo	* <i>Ictiobus cyprinellus</i> ⁷	buffalo
Black buffalo	* <i>Ictiobus niger</i> ⁷	buffalo
Spotted sucker	<i>Minytrema melanops</i>	corncob sucker
Silver redhorse	<i>Moxostoma anisurum</i>	redhorse
River redhorse (Threatened)	<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>	redhorse
Black redhorse	<i>Moxostoma duquesnei</i>	redhorse
Golden redhorse	<i>Moxostoma erythrurum</i>	redhorse
Shorthead redhorse	<i>Moxostoma macrolepidotum</i>	redhorse

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Greater redhorse	<i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i>	
Bullhead catfishes (Ictaluridae)		
Black bullhead	<i>Ameiurus melas</i>	bullhead
Yellow bullhead	<i>Ameiurus natalis</i>	bullhead
Brown bullhead	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>	bullhead
Channel catfish	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	catfish
Stonecat	<i>Noturus flavus</i>	
Tadpole madtom	<i>Noturus gyrinus</i>	
Margined madtom	* <i>Noturus insignis</i>	
Brindled madtom (Special Concern)	<i>Noturus miurus</i>	
Northern madtom (Endangered)	<i>Noturus stigmosus</i>	
Flathead catfish	<i>Pylodictis olivaris</i>	
Pikes (Esocidae)		
Grass pickerel	<i>Esox americanus vermiculatus</i>	mud pickerel
Northern pike	<i>Esox lucius</i> ⁸	pike
Muskellunge	<i>Esox masquinongy</i> ⁸	musky
Mudminnows (Umbridae)		
Central mudminnow	<i>Umbra limi</i>	
Smelts (Osmeridae)*		
Rainbow smelt	* <i>Osmerus mordax</i>	smelt
Trouts (Salmonidae)		
Lake herring (Threatened)	<i>Coregonus artedii</i>⁹	cisco
Lake whitefish	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	whitefish
Bloater	<i>Coregonus hoyi</i>	chub
Kiyi (Special Concern)	<i>Coregonus kiyi</i>	chub
Shortjaw cisco (Threatened)	<i>Coregonus zenithicus</i>	chub
Pink salmon	* <i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	humpback
Coho salmon	* <i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	silver
Rainbow trout	* <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	steelhead, bow
Chinook salmon	* <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	king
Pygmy whitefish	<i>Prosopium coulterii</i> ⁵	
Round whitefish	<i>Prosopium cylindraceum</i>	Menominee
Atlantic salmon	* <i>Salmo salar</i> ¹⁰	Atlantic
Brown trout	* <i>Salmo trutta</i>	brownie
Brook trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i> ¹¹	speckled trout
Lake trout ¹²	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i> ¹¹	Mackinaw, siscowet
Trout-perches (Percopsidae)		
Trout-perch	<i>Percopsis omiscomaycus</i>	
Pirate perches (Aphredoderidae)		
Pirate perch	<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>	
Cods (Gadidae)		

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Burbot	<i>Lota lota</i>	lawyer, eel pout
Killifishes (Fundulidae)¹³		
Western banded killifish	<i>Fundulus diaphanus menona</i>	
Starhead topminnow (Special Concern)	Fundulus dispar	
Blackstripe topminnow	<i>Fundulus notatus</i>	
Silversides (Atherinidae)		
Brook silverside	<i>Labidesthes sicculus</i>	skipjack
Sticklebacks (Gasterosteidae)		
Brook stickleback	<i>Culaea inconstans</i>	
Threespine stickleback	* <i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i>	
Ninespine stickleback	<i>Pungitius pungitius</i>	
Sculpins (Cottidae)		
Mottled sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii</i> ⁴	
Slimy sculpin	<i>Cottus cognatus</i>	
Spoonhead sculpin (Special Concern)	Cottus ricei	
Deepwater sculpin	<i>Myoxocephalus thompsonii</i> ⁵	
Temperate basses (Moronidae)¹⁴		
White perch	* <i>Morone americana</i>	
White bass	<i>Morone chrysops</i>	
Sunfishes (Centrarchidae)		
Rock bass	<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>	goggle-eye
Green sunfish	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>	green
Pumpkinseed	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>	sunfish
Warmouth	<i>Lepomis gulosus</i>	redeye, goggle-eye
Orangespotted sunfish	* <i>Lepomis humilis</i>	sunfish
Bluegill	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	sunfish
Northern longear sunfish	<i>Lepomis peltastes</i> ¹⁵	sunfish
Redear sunfish	* <i>Lepomis microlophus</i>	shellcracker
Smallmouth bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	bronzeback
Largemouth bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	bigmouth bass
White crappie	<i>Pomoxis annularis</i>	croppie, speck
Black crappie	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	croppie, speck, strawberry bass
Perches (Percidae)		
Western sand darter	<i>Ammocrypta clara</i> ¹⁶	
Eastern sand darter (Threatened)	Ammocrypta pellucida	
Greenside darter	<i>Etheostoma blennioides</i>	
Rainbow darter	<i>Etheostoma caeruleum</i>	
Iowa darter	<i>Etheostoma exile</i>	
Fantail darter	<i>Etheostoma flabellare</i> ¹⁷	
Barred fantail darter	<i>E. f. flabellare</i>	
Striped fantail darter	<i>E. f. lineolatum</i>	
Least darter	<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>	
Johnny darter	<i>Etheostoma nigrum</i>	

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Orangethroat darter (Special Concern)	<i>Etheostoma spectabile</i>	
Banded darter	<i>Etheostoma zonale</i>	
Ruffe	* <i>Gymnocephalus cernuus</i> ¹⁸	
Yellow perch	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	perch
Northern logperch	<i>Percina caprodes semifasciata</i>	
Channel darter (Endangered)	<i>Percina copelandi</i>	
Blackside darter	<i>Percina maculata</i>	
River darter (Endangered)	<i>Percina shumardi</i>	
Sauger (Threatened)	<i>Sander canadensis</i>¹⁹	pickerel
Walleye ²⁰	<i>Sander vitreus</i> ¹⁹	pickerel, walleyed pike
Drums (Sciaenidae)		
Freshwater drum	<i>Aplodinotus grunniens</i>	sheepshead
Gobies (Gobiidae)*		
Round goby	* <i>Neogobius melanostomus</i>	
Tube-nose goby	* <i>Proterorhinus marmoratus</i>	

¹An addition to the Michigan list; an invader through the Chicago Drainage Canal.

²Formerly *Margariscus margarita*.

³An addition to Michigan list; natural spread from Ontario where perhaps introduced from an unknown source.

⁴Formerly *Rhinichthys atratulus*.

⁵The 1999 International Code of Zoological Nomenclature has clarified the disputed spelling of patronyms for species-group names ending in -i or -ii by ruling that original spelling shall prevail. The endings of four Michigan fish names are thus corrected from i to ii in *Catostomus commersonii*, *Prosopium coulterii*, *Cottus bairdii* and *Myoxocephalus thompsonii*.

⁶Formerly *Erimyzon oblongus*.

⁷Previously thought to be native; present evidence indicates that these species are introduced in the Great Lakes.

⁸The tiger muskellunge, a hybrid, *Esox lucius* x *E. masquinongy*, was formerly stocked in Michigan.

⁹The Lake Michigan "blackfin cisco" (*Coregonus nigripinnis*), now extirpated, is removed from the list as a probable synonym of the lake herring.

¹⁰Although not a confirmed, self-replacing species in Michigan, Atlantic salmon are regularly planted in the St. Marys River and Torch Lake; many are caught by anglers.

¹¹The splake, a hybrid, *Salvelinus fontinalis* x *S. namaycush*, is commonly stocked in Michigan.

¹²The name siscowet is applied to a stock of lake trout characterized by a high content of body fat, living in deep water of Lake Superior. Although genetically identifiable, it is not recognized as a species.

¹³Formerly *Cyprinodontidae*.

¹⁴Formerly Percichthyidae. The name striped basses is more appropriate than temperate basses for this now restricted group.

¹⁵Formerly *Lepomis megalotis*, this dwarf stock is now treated as a full species.

¹⁶An addition to the list; now known from the Menominee River, Menominee County.

¹⁷*E. f. flabellare* occurs only in the Lower Peninsula; *E. f. lineolatum* occurs only in the Upper Peninsula.

¹⁸An addition to the list; known from two introduced populations of this Eurasian invader: (1) natural spread from the Duluth area of Lake Superior, at least as far as Ontonagon, Michigan, and (2) a separate ballast-water escape into Lake Huron near Alpena.

¹⁹*Sander* has priority over *Stizostedion* for the sauger and walleye and replaces that time-honored name. Since *Sander* is masculine, the adjectival species names are corrected.

²⁰The name blue pike was applied to a genetically identifiable stock of *Sander* from lakes Erie and Ontario before its catastrophic extinction in the 1960's. Authorities disagree as to whether it was a distinct species (*glaucus*), a subspecies of the walleye, or a mutant stock not systematically separable from the walleye. Confirmed Michigan records are wanting.