



Iowa Status

common; native

Iowa Range

northeast Iowa

Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.
Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.

longnose dace

Rhinichthys cataractae

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Chordata - vertebrates
Class:	Osteichthyes
Order:	Cypriniformes
Family:	Cyprinidae

Features

Like other native minnows, the longnose dace has no scales on the head and the soft dorsal fin has fewer than 10 rays. It is olive green to brown on the back and upper sides shading to white on the belly. The sides appear mottled because of darker areas where the scales attach. The upper jaw and snout extend well past the lower jaw. Adults are four to five inches long.

Natural History

The longnose dace is restricted to the extreme northeast corner of the state in the upper reaches of interior rivers where it is common. Adults live in riffles of gravel and boulders and eat insect larvae. It spawns over clean sand or gravel in swift current in April or May.

Habitats

interior rivers and streams