**Pennsylvania Fishes**

**IDENTIFICATION GUIDE**

*Editor’s Note: During 2018, Pennsylvania Angler & Boater magazine will feature select common fishes of Pennsylvania in each issue, providing scientific names and the status of fishes in or introduced into Pennsylvania’s major watersheds.

The table below denotes any known occurrence.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gars (Family Lepisosteidae)</strong></td>
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<td>Spotted Gar (<em>Lepisosteus oculatus</em>)</td>
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<td>Longnose Gar (<em>Lepisosteus osseus</em>)</td>
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<td>Shortnose Gar (<em>Lepisosteus platostomus</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bowfins (Family Amiidae)</strong></td>
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<td>Bowfin (<em>Amia calva</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>North American Catfishes (Family Ictaluridae)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>White Catfish (<em>Ameiurus catus</em>)</td>
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<td>Black Bullhead (<em>Ameiurus melas</em>)</td>
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<td>Yellow Bullhead (<em>Ameiurus natalis</em>)</td>
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<td>Brown Bullhead (<em>Ameiurus nebulosus</em>)</td>
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<td>Blue Catfish (<em>Ictalurus furcatus</em>)</td>
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<td>Channel Catfish (<em>Ictalurus punctatus</em>)</td>
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<td>Mountain Madtom (<em>Noturus eleutherus</em>)</td>
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<td>Stonecat (<em>Noturus flavus</em>)</td>
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<td>Tadpole Madtom (<em>Noturus gyrinus</em>)</td>
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<td>Margined Madtom (<em>Noturus insignis</em>)</td>
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<td>Brindled Madtom (<em>Noturus miurus</em>)</td>
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<td>Northern Madtom (<em>Noturus stigmatus</em>)</td>
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<td>Flathead Catfish (<em>Pylodictis olivaris</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Topminnows (Family Fundulidae)</strong></td>
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<td>Banded Killifish (<em>Fundulus diaphanus</em>)</td>
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<td>Mummichog (<em>Fundulus heteroclitus</em>)</td>
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<td>Striped Killifish (<em>Fundulus majalis</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Sculpins (Family Cottidae)</strong></td>
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<td>Mottled Sculpin (<em>Cottus bairdii</em>)</td>
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<td>Blue Ridge Sculpin (<em>Cottus caeruleomentum</em>)</td>
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<td>Slimy Sculpin (<em>Cottus cognatus</em>)</td>
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<td>Potomac Sculpin (<em>Cottus girardi</em>)</td>
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<td>Spoonhead Sculpin (<em>Cottus ricei</em>)</td>
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<td>Checkered Sculpin (<em>Cottus sp.</em>)</td>
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<td>Deepwater Sculpin (<em>Myoxocephalus thompsoni</em>)</td>
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<td><strong>Temperate Basses (Family Moronidae)</strong></td>
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<td>White Perch (<em>Morone americana</em>)</td>
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<td>White Bass (<em>Morone chrysops</em>)</td>
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<td>Striped Bass (<em>Morone saxatilis</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Striped Bass Hybrid (<em>Morone chrysops x Morone saxatilis</em>)</td>
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**Species Status**

EN = Endangered
TH = Threatened
C = Candidate
EX = Believed extirpated
DL = Delisted (removed from the endangered, threatened or candidate species list due to significant expansion of range and abundance)

**Watersheds**

E = Lake Erie
O = Ohio River
G = Genesee River
P = Potomac River
S = Susquehanna River
D = Delaware River

**Watershed Status**

I = Introduced
N = Native
X = Present in drainage

- icons indicate family is included
* = Aquatic Invasive Species
**Gars (Family Lepisosteidae)**

- **Spotted Gar** (*Lepisosteus oculatus*)  
  - ENDANGERED
- **Longnose Gar** (*Lepisosteus osseus*)

Not pictured: **Shortnose Gar** (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)

**Bowfins (Family Amiidae)**

- **Bowfin** (*Amia calva*)  
  - CANDIDATE

**North American Catfishes (Family Ictaluridae)**

- **White Catfish** (*Ameiurus catus*)
- **Yellow Bullhead** (*Ameiurus natalis*)
- **Brown Bullhead** (*Ameiurus nebulosus*)
- **Channel Catfish** (*Ictalurus punctatus*)
- **Margined Madtom** (*Noturus insignis*)
- **Stonecat** (*Noturus flavus*)
- **Flathead Catfish** (*Pylodictis olivaris*)

Not pictured:
- **Black Bullhead** (*Ameiurus melas*)
- **Blue Catfish** (*Ictalurus furcatus*)
- **Mountain Madtom** (*Noturus eleutherus*)

Not pictured (continued):
- **Tadpole Madtom** (*Noturus gyrinus*)
- **Brindled Madtom** (*Noturus miurus*)
- **Northern Madtom** (*Noturus stigmosus*)
Scales - Striped Bass and White Bass have 7 to 9 scale rows above the lateral line. Striped Bass Hybrid has 10 to 12 scale rows above the lateral line.

Anal fins
White Bass has 12 to 13 rays.
Striped Bass has 9 to 11 rays.
Striped Bass Hybrid has 11 to 12 rays.

Stripes - White Bass lacks vivid dark stripes. Only one vivid stripe gill to tail. Striped Bass has 7 to 8 black stripes, usually unbroken. Striped Bass Hybrid has 7 to 8 stripes, usually less distinct and often broken.

Topminnows (Family Fundulidae)

Banded Killifish (Fundulus diaphanus)
Not pictured:
Mummichog (Fundulus heteroclitus)
Striped Killifish (Fundulus majalis)

Sculpins (Family Cottidae)

Mottled Sculpin (Cottus bairdi)

Slimy Sculpin (Cottus cognatus)
Not pictured:
Blue Ridge Sculpin (Cottus caeruleomentum)
Potomac Sculpin (Cottus girardi)
Spoonhead Sculpin (Cottus ricet)
Checkered Sculpin (Cottus sp. cf. cognatus)
Deepwater Sculpin (Myoxocephalus thompsoni)

Sticklebacks (Family Gasterosteidae)

Threespine Stickleback (Gasterosteus aculeatus)
ENDANGERED
Not pictured:
Fourspine Stickleback (Apeltes quadracus)
Brook Stickleback (Culaea inconstans)
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