



Fishes of Vermont
Vermont Natural Heritage Inventory
Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department
13 March 2022



The following is a list of fish species known to regularly occur in Vermont. Historic species (not documented in Vermont in the last 25 years) are included if there is a reasonable expectation of their return. Extinct or extirpated species are not included. The list is organized taxonomically to genus, then alphabetically within genus. Species not native to Vermont are indicated with an asterisk (*).

| Scientific Name | English Name | State Rank | Global Rank | State Status | Federal Status | SGCN |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|------|
| <i>Ichthyomyzon fossor</i> | Northern Brook Lamprey | S1 | G4 | E | | SGCN |
| <i>Ichthyomyzon unicuspis</i> | Silver Lamprey | S2 | G5 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Lethenteron appendix</i> | American Brook Lamprey | S1 | G4 | T | | SGCN |
| Synonym: <i>Lampetra appendix</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Sea Lamprey | S4S5 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> | Lake Sturgeon | S1 | G3G4 | E | | SGCN |
| <i>Lepisosteus osseus</i> | Longnose Gar | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Amia calva</i> | Bowfin | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Hiodon tergisus</i> | Mooneye | SU | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Anguilla rostrata</i> | American Eel | S2 | G4 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Alosa aestivalis</i> | Blueback Herring | SU | G3G4 | | | SGCN |
| * <i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i> | Alewife | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Alosa sapidissima</i> | American Shad | S4 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| * <i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i> | Gizzard Shad | SNA | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Carassius auratus</i> | Goldfish | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Chrosomus eos</i> | Northern Redbelly Dace | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Chrosomus neogaeus</i> | Finescale Dace | S3? | G5 | | | |
| <i>Couesius plumbeus</i> | Lake Chub | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Cyprinella spiloptera</i> | Spotfin Shiner | S3S4 | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> | Common Carp | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Exoglossum maxillingua</i> | Cutlip Minnow | S3 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Hybognathus hankinsoni</i> | Brassy Minnow | S2S3 | G5 | SC | | |
| <i>Hybognathus regius</i> | Eastern Silvery Minnow | S3S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Luxilus cornutus</i> | Common Shiner | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Margariscus margarita</i> | Allegheny Pearl Dace | S3 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Margariscus nachtriebi</i> | Northern Pearl Dace | S1 | G5 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i> | Golden Shiner | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Notropis atherinoides</i> | Emerald Shiner | S5? | G5 | | | |
| <i>Notropis bifrenatus</i> | Bridle Shiner | S1 | G3 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Notropis heterodon</i> | Blackchin Shiner | S1 | G5 | SC | | SGCN |

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|------|
| <i>Notropis heterolepis</i> | Blacknose Shiner | S1 | G5 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Notropis hudsonius</i> | Spottail Shiner | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Notropis rubellus</i> | Rosyface Shiner | S3 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Notropis stramineus</i> | Sand Shiner | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Notropis volucellus</i> | Mimic Shiner | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Pimephales notatus</i> | Bluntnose Minnow | S4S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Pimephales promelas</i> | Fathead Minnow | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Rhinichthys atratulus</i> | Blacknose Dace | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Rhinichthys cataractae</i> | Longnose Dace | S5 | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i> | Rudd | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Semotilus atromaculatus</i> | Creek Chub | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Semotilus corporalis</i> | Fallfish | S5 | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Tinca tinca</i> | Tench | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Carpiodes cyprinus</i> | Quillback | S1 | G5 | SC | | |
| <i>Catostomus catostomus</i> | Longnose Sucker | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Catostomus commersonii</i> | White Sucker | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Moxostoma anisurum</i> | Silver Redhorse | S2 | G5 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Moxostoma macrolepidotum</i> | Shorthead Redhorse | S2 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i> | Greater Redhorse | S1 | G4 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Ameiurus natalis</i> | Yellow Bullhead | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i> | Brown Bullhead | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Ictalurus punctatus</i> | Channel Catfish | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Noturus flavus</i> | Stonecat | S1 | G5 | E | | SGCN |
| <i>Osmerus mordax</i> | Rainbow Smelt | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Coregonus artedi</i> | Cisco or Lake Herring | S4 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i> | Lake Whitefish | S4? | G5 | | | SGCN |
| * <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> | Rainbow Trout | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Prosopium cylindraceum</i> | Round Whitefish | S1 | G5 | SC | | SGCN |
| <i>Salmo salar</i> | Atlantic Salmon | S4 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| * <i>Salmo trutta</i> | Brown Trout | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i> | Brook Trout | S5 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Salvelinus namaycush</i> | Lake Trout | S4 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Esox americanus</i> | Redfin Pickerel | S4 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Esox lucius</i> | Northern Pike | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Esox masquinongy</i> | Muskellunge | S1 | G5 | SC | | |
| <i>Esox niger</i> | Chain Pickerel | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Umbra limi</i> | Central Mudminnow | S3S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Percopsis omiscomaycus</i> | Trout-perch | S3 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Lota lota</i> | Burbot | S3S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Labidesthes sicculus</i> | Brook Silverside | SU | G5 | | | |
| <i>Fundulus diaphanus</i> | Banded Killifish | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Culaea inconstans</i> | Brook Stickleback | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Cottus bairdii</i> | Mottled Sculpin | S2 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Cottus cognatus</i> | Slimy Sculpin | S5 | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Morone americana</i> | White Perch | SNA | G5 | | | |

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| <i>Ambloplites rupestris</i> | Rock Bass | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Lepomis auritus</i> | Redbreast Sunfish | S4 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Lepomis gibbosus</i> | Pumpkinseed | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Lepomis macrochirus</i> | Bluegill | S5 | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Lepomis microlophus</i> | Redear Sunfish | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Micropterus dolomieu</i> | Smallmouth Bass | S5 | G5 | | | |
| † <i>Micropterus salmoides</i> | Largemouth Bass | S5 | G5 | | | |
| * <i>Pomoxis annularis</i> | White Crappie | SNA | G5 | | | |
| <i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i> | Black Crappie | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Ammocrypta pellucida</i> | Eastern Sand Darter | S1 | G4 | T | | SGCN |
| <i>Etheostoma flabellare</i> | Fantail Darter | S3 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Etheostoma olmstedii</i> | Tessellated Darter | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Perca flavescens</i> | Yellow Perch | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Percina caprodes</i> | Logperch | S4 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Percina copelandi</i> | Channel Darter | S1 | G4 | E | | SGCN |
| <i>Sander canadensis</i> | Sauger | S1 | G5 | | | SGCN |
| <i>Sander vitreus</i> | Walleye | S5 | G5 | | | |
| <i>Aplodinotus grunniens</i> | Freshwater Drum | S4 | G5 | | | |

Species: 92

† Nativeness has not been definitively determined; likely non-native.

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Explanation of Legal Status and Information Ranks

State Rank and Global Rank - The rarity (abundance) or endangerment of a native taxon within Vermont's geographic boundary or throughout its range, respectively. Ranks are as follows:

1 - Very rare (Critically imperiled): At very high risk of extinction or extirpation due to extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer populations or occurrences), very steep declines, or other factors

2 - Rare (Imperiled): At high risk of extinction or extirpation due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors

3 - Uncommon (Vulnerable): Moderate risk of extinction\extirpation due to restricted range, relatively few populations or occurrences (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors

4 - Common to uncommon (Apparently secure): locally common or widely scattered to uncommon, but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors; or stable over many decades and not threatened but of restricted distribution or other factors

5 - Common (Secure): widespread and abundant

H - Possibly extinct/extirpated: Missing; known from only historical occurrences but hope of rediscovery

X - Presumed extinct/extirpated: Not located despite intensive searches, little likelihood of rediscovery

U - Unrankable: Currently unrankable due to lack of information or conflicting information about status or trends

NR - Not ranked: Not yet assessed

NA - Not applicable. Element is not a suitable target for conservation for one of the following reasons: Hybrid, Exotic Origin, Accidental/Nonregular, Not Confidently Present, No Definable Occurrences

The following may follow a numeric rank to provide further information:

? - indicates uncertainty about the rank; may also be expressed in the form of a range rank (e.g. S1S3)

T - For global ranks only, indicates an infraspecies.

Q - For global ranks only, indicates questionable taxonomy.

State Status - Legal protection under Vermont Endangered Species Law (10 V.S.A. Chap. 123) or informational category (not established by law)

E = Endangered: in immediate danger of becoming extirpated in the state

T = Threatened: with high possibility of becoming endangered in the near future

SC = Special Concern: status should be watched (does not denote legal protection)

RDL = Recommended (by Endangered Species Committee) for Delisting

RE = Recommended (by Endangered Species Committee) for Endangered Status

RT = Recommended (by Endangered Species Committee) for Threatened Status

PDL = Proposed (by Agency of Natural Resources Secretary) for Delisting

PE = Proposed (by Agency of Natural Resources Secretary) for Endangered Status

PT = Proposed (by Agency of Natural Resources Secretary) for Threatened Status

Federal Status - Designation under the federal Endangered Species Act, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

E = Endangered

T = Threatened

SC = Species of Concern (does not denote legal protection)

C = Candidate for Listing (does not denote legal protection)

PDL = Proposed for Delisting

PE = Proposed for Endangered

PT = Proposed for Threatened

SGCN - Species of Greatest Conservation Need as identified in the Vermont Wildlife Action Plan; does not denote legal protection.