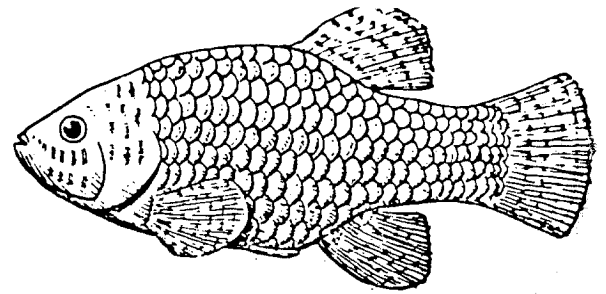


Desert Fishes Council



"Dedicated to the Preservation of America's Desert Fishes"

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**Edited by
Edwin P. Pister**

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- b. Mexican Spring: A graduate student working during 1972 estimated that the total fish population for this spring was around 40 in September.
- c. Scruggs Springs: No known current population inventory data available.
- d. Indian Springs: Dave Soltz' studies for 1972 indicated that in September, around 170 fish occupied this habitat.

9. Mohave chub, Gila bicolor mohavensis

James A. St. Amant, California Department of Fish and Game, Long Beach

The major problem faced by this subspecies has been competition from the coastal chub (Gila orcutti) which has been introduced into the Mohave chub's native range. All efforts to preserve this fish will comprise transplants into both natural and artificial habitats. Toward this end, transplants have been made out of Zzyzx Spring to nine different waters: Paiute Springs, South Coast Botanic Gardens, Lion Country Safari, Dos Palmas Ranch, Two Hole Springs, Busch Gardens, Lark Seep Lagoon, Eaton Canyon Nature Center, and Paradise Spa (Las Vegas).

The Paiute Springs transplant appears unsuccessful due to flood conditions; however, visitors have reported seeing fish in the springs. At best, it is only a temporary refugium because of its susceptibility to flash flooding.

The South Coast Botanic Gardens were planted in 1970 with about 150 fish. They reproduced successfully, but a leak in the pond required its draining. Approximately 5,000 chubs were recovered, and more were introduced after the leak was repaired. Gull predation is now severe (there is no cover), but a number of fish are still there.

The Paradise Spa and Lark Seep Lagoon populations appear to be stable; the Lion Country Safari location remains unsuccessful after three transplant attempts, as does the Busch Gardens location after one attempt. The Dos Palmas Ranch (two ponds were planted there) transplant has not yet been evaluated; however, the water level is constant so there is reason for optimism.

10. Owens pupfish, Cyprinodon radiosus

E. P. Pister, California Department of Fish and Game, Bishop

Populations have been established in five Owens Valley locations, and all appear to be doing well. However, some trouble has been encountered with largemouth bass introductions into the Owens Valley Native Fish Sanctuary.