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Carpiodes velifer - (Rafinesque, 1820)

Highfin Carpsucker

Unique Identifier: ELEMENT_GLOBAL.2.106190

Element Code: AFCJC01030

Informal Taxonomy: Animals, Vertebrates - Fishes - Bony Fishes - Suckers

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Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	Genus
Animalia	Craniata	Actinopterygii	Cypriniformes	Catostomidae	Carpiodes

Genus Size: B - Very small genus (2-5 species)

Check this box to expand all report sections:

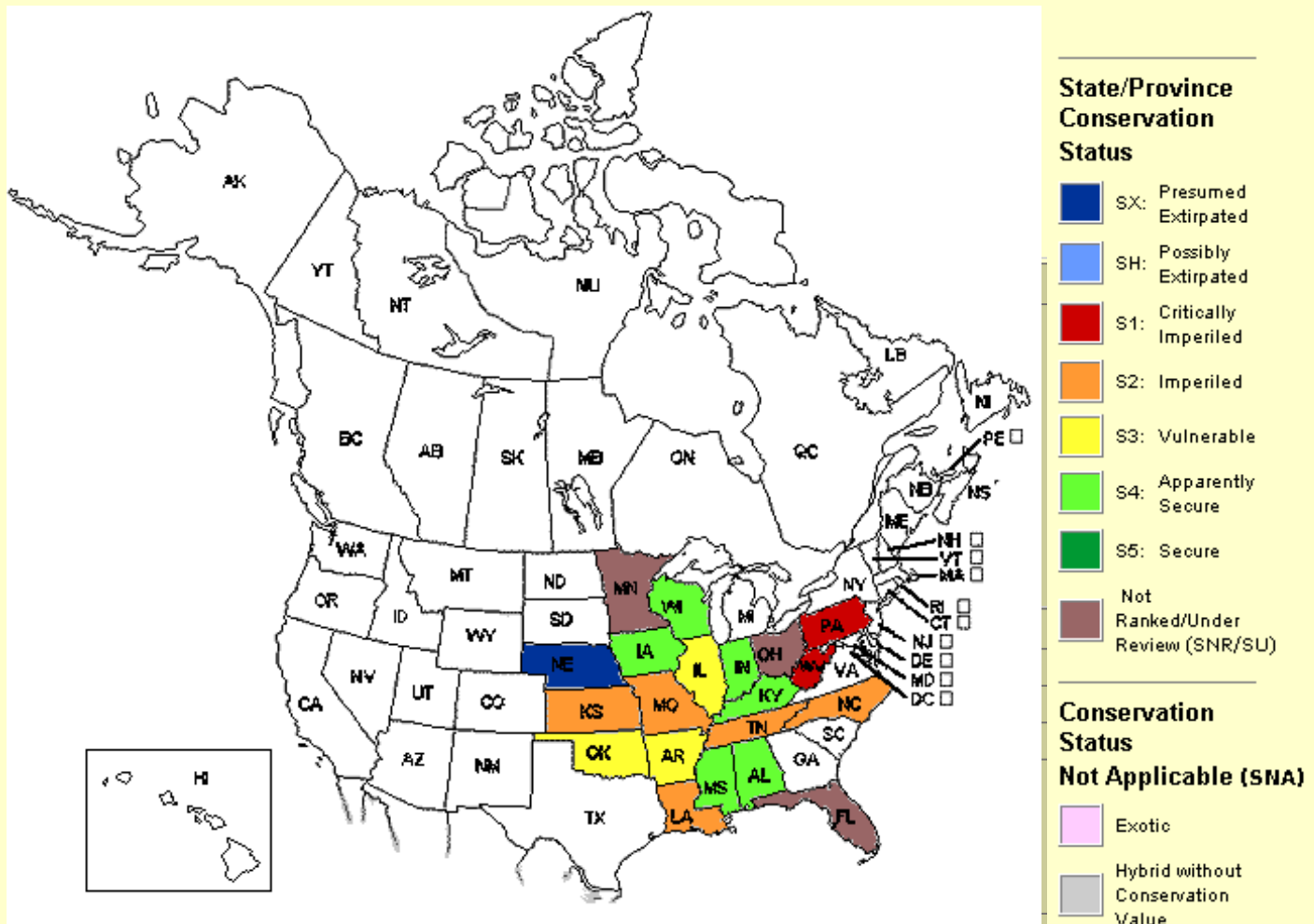
Concept Reference

Conservation Status





U.S. States and Canadian Provinces



Endemism: endemic to a single nation

U.S. & Canada State/Province Distribution

United States AL, AR, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, MO, MS, NC, NE, OH, OK, PA, TN, WI, WV

Range Map

No map available.

Global Range Comments: Lake Michigan drainage and Mississippi River basin from Pennsylvania to Minnesota and south to Louisiana; Atlantic Slope in Cape Fear and Santee river drainages, North Carolina; Gulf Slope drainages from Choctawhatchee River, Alabama and Florida, to Pearl River, Louisiana and Mississippi; uncommon (Page and Burr 1991). Sporadic in the eastern Great Plains region.

U.S. Distribution by County (based on available natural heritage records) ?

State County Name (FIPS Code)

KS Labette (20099), Montgomery (20125), Neosho (20133)

KY Hickman (21105)

MO Barry (29009), Boone (29019), Buchanan (29021), Camden (29029), Cole (29051), Dallas (29059), Dunklin (29069), Franklin (29071), Gasconade (29073), Gentry (29075), Jefferson (29099), Lincoln (29113), Maries (29125), Marion (29127), Miller (29131), Moniteau (29135), Montgomery (29139), Osage (29151), Phelps (29161), Pulaski (29169), Ralls (29173), Ripley (29181), Shelby (29205), St. Charles (29183), St. Louis (29189), Tahey (29213), Warren (29219), Wayne (29223)

NC Anson (37007), Bladen (37017), Catawba (37035), Gaston (37071), Iredell (37097), Mecklenburg (37119), Richmond (37153)

TN Cocke (47029), Hamblen (47063), Hamilton (47065), Hancock (47067), Hardin (47071), Humphreys (47085), Knox (47093), Lincoln (47103), Marion (47115), Polk (47139), Sevier (47155), Unicoi (47171), Washington (47179)

WV Cabell (54011), Hancock (54029), Marshall (54051), Ohio (54069), Pleasants (54073), Wood (54107)

U.S. Distribution by Watershed (based on available natural heritage records) ?

Watershed Region

Watershed Name (Watershed Code)

? -

03 Lower Cape Fear (03030005), Upper Pee Dee (03040104), Upper Catawba (03050101)

05 Upper Ohio (05030101), Upper Ohio-Wheeling (05030106), Little Muskingum-Middle Island (05030201), Upper Ohio-Shade (05030202), Raccoon-Symmes (05090101)

06 Upper French Broad (06010105), Lower French Broad (06010107), Nolichucky (06010108), Upper Clinch (06010205), Lower Clinch (06010207), Middle Tennessee-Chickamauga (06020001), Hiwassee (06020002), Sequatchie (06020004), Upper Elk (06030003), Lower Tennessee-Beech (06040001), Lower Duck (06040003)

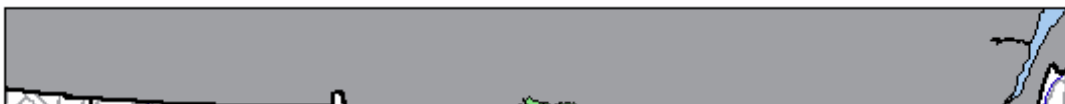
07 The Sny (07110004), North Fork Salt (07110005), Salt (07110007), Cuiivre (07110008), Peruque-Piasa (07110009), Cahokia-Joachim (07140101), Meramec (07140102), Big (07140104)

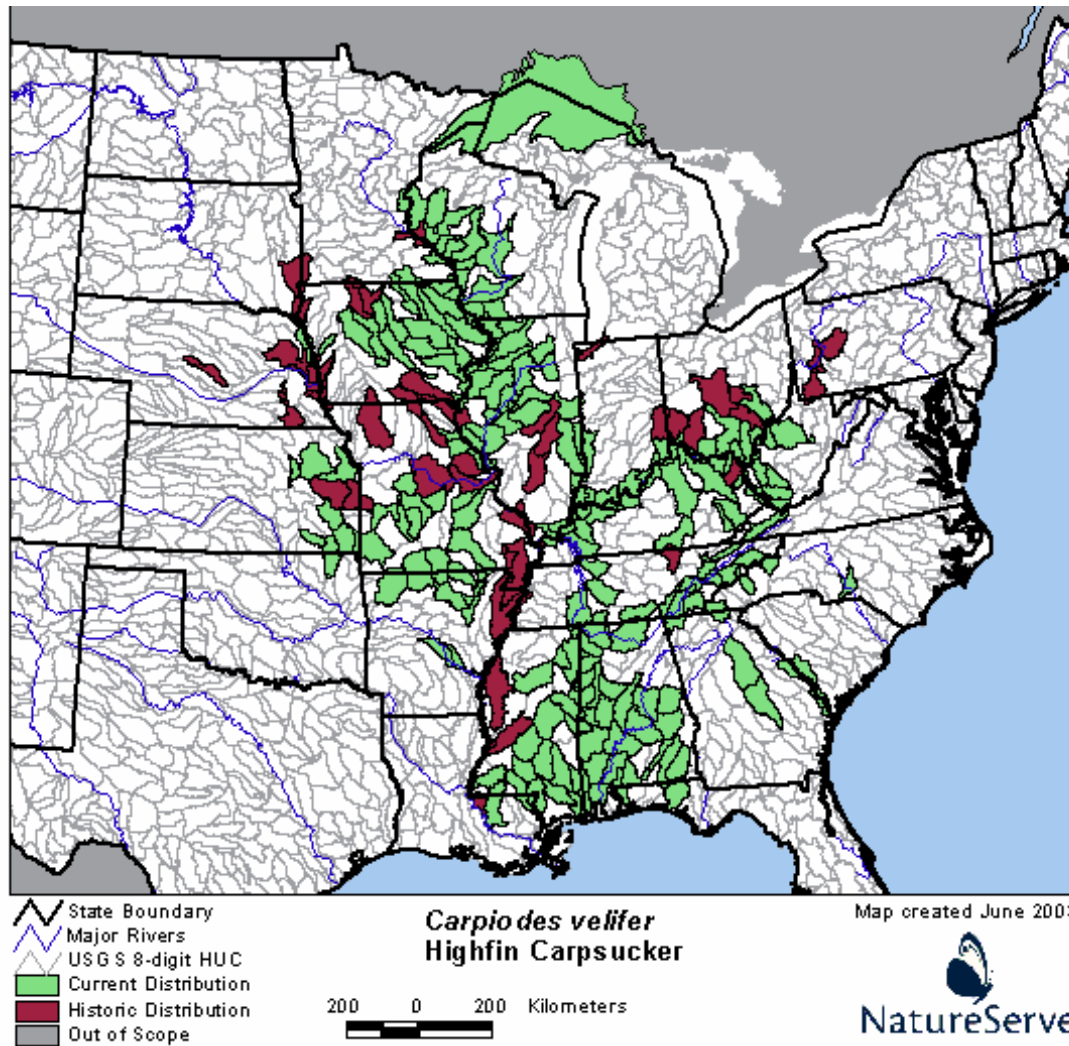
08 Lower Mississippi-Memphis (08010100), Upper St. Francis (08020202), Little River Ditches (08020204)

10 Independence-Sugar (10240011), Upper Grand (10280101), Lake of the Ozarks (10290109), Niangua (10290110), Lower Osage (10290111), Big Piney (10290202), Lower Gasconade (10290203), Lower Missouri-Moreau (10300102), Lower Missouri (10300200)

11 Beaver Reservoir (11010001), Bull Shoals Lake (11010003), Current (11010008), Elk (11070104), Middle Neosho (11070205)

U.S. Distribution by Watershed (based on multiple information sources) ?



[Collapse](#)

Ecology & Life History

Reproduction Comments: Spawns in spring and summer. Sexually mature in 3rd year (Becker 1983).

Habitat Type: Freshwater

Non-Migrant: Y

Locally Migrant: Y

Long Distance Migrant: N

Mobility and Migration Comments: May migrate between spawning and nonspawning habitats (Becker 1983).

Riverine Habitat(s): BIG RIVER, CREEK, Low gradient, MEDIUM RIVER, Moderate gradient, Pool, Riffle

Lacustrine Habitat(s): Shallow water

Special Habitat Factors: Benthic

Habitat Comments: In rivers, oxbows, sloughs, and ponds over sand or gravel bottom; generally in rivers where current is moderate to swift or in quiet water adjacent to river channels. May migrate in large numbers to shallow areas and to overflow pond of streams to spawn; may spawn over riffles.

Adult Food Habits: Herbivore, Invertivore

Immature Food Habits: Herbivore, Invertivore

Food Comments: Eats algae, ooze, and insects from bottom (Becker 1983).

Length: 31 centimeters

Economic Attributes

Management Summary

Population/Occurrence Delineation

Group Name: MEDIUM SUCKERS

Not yet assessed

Use Class: Not applicable

Not yet assessed

Minimum Criteria for an Occurrence: Occurrences are based on evidence of historical presence, or current and likely recurring presence, at a given location. Such evidence minimally includes collection or reliable observation and documentation of one or more individuals (including eggs and larvae) in appropriate habitat.

Mapping Guidance: Occupied locations that are separated by a gap of 15 km or more of any aquatic habitat that is not known to be occupied represent different occurrences. However, it is important to evaluate migrations and seasonal changes in habitat to ensure that spawning areas and nonspawning areas for a single population are not artificially segregated as different occurrences simply because there have been no collections/observations in an intervening area that may exceed the separation distance.

Separation Barriers: Dam lacking a suitable fishway; high waterfall; upland habitat.

Separation Distance for Unsuitable Habitat: 15 km

Separation Distance for Suitable Habitat: 15 km

Separation Justification: Data on dispersal and other movements generally are not available. In some species, individuals may migrate variable distances between spawning areas and nonspawning habitats.

Separation distances (in aquatic kilometers) for catostomids are arbitrary but reflect the presumption that movements and appropriate separation distances generally should increase with fish size. Hence small, medium, and large catostomids, respectively, have increasingly large separation distances. Separation distance reflects the likely low probability that two occupied locations separated by less than several kilometers of aquatic habitat would represent truly independent populations over the long term.

Because of the difficulty in defining suitable versus unsuitable habitat, especially with respect to dispersal, and to simplify the delineation of occurrences, a single separation distance is used regardless of habitat quality.

Occupied locations that are separated by a gap of 15 km or more of any aquatic habitat that is not known to be occupied represent different occurrences. However, it is important to evaluate seasonal changes in habitat to ensure that an occupied habitat occurrence for a particular population does not artificially separate spawning areas and nonspawning areas as different occurrences simply because there have been no collections/observations in an intervening area that may exceed the separation distance.

Date: 21Sep2004

Author: Hammerson, G.

Notes: This Specs Group includes catostomids that typically are 20-40 cm in adult standard length.

Population/Occurrence Viability

U.S. Invasive Species Impact Rank (I-Rank)

Not yet assessed

Authors/Contributors

Not yet assessed

Not yet assessed

References

