



**Southern Redbelly Dace
(Phoxinus erythrogaster)**

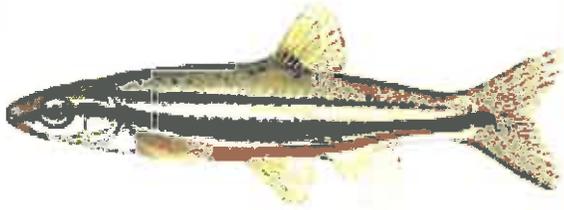


Photo Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources



03-0315-11



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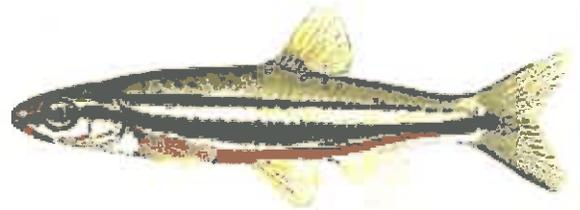


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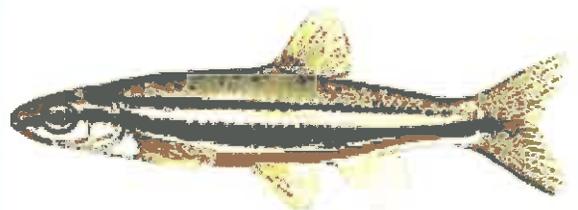


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Southern Redbelly Dace (Phoxinus erythrogaster)

Federal status: Not listed
Colorado status: Endangered

This small fish grows to an adult length of 3 inches. It has a cream colored lateral band that is layered between dark bands on the sides. The top, dark band starts at the edge of the gill cover and turns into a series of spots at the base of the tail. Elsewhere in the U.S., the stomach of breeding male turns red, thus giving the fish its name. In Colorado, however, the belly remains cream colored or, at most, pale orange while the ventral fins are yellow.

Habitat: In Colorado, one population of this species dace has been discovered in a single tributary of the Arkansas River in Pueblo. This tributary consists of a small spring which surfaces at the base of a hill, flows for about a half mile and then enters the Arkansas River.



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