



**Common Shiner  
(Notropis cornutus)**



*Photo Source: US Army Corps of Engineers*



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### **Common Shiner (*Notropis cornutus*)**

This fish of the minnow family is mostly silvery white with an olive green or dusky brown back. It has a bold stripe down the midline of the back, and often a broad lateral band. The dorsal fin has 8 rays, and the anal fin has 8 or 9 rays. The fins of the male are tipped with red during the breeding season. The tail is forked. The mouth is blunt and forward facing. Colorado specimens reach 6 inches in length.

**Habitat:** This fish requires streams of moderate gradient with cool, clear water, gravel bottoms and shaded by brush or trees. A survey in 1982 found this species present in only four South Platte River tributaries. It was fairly common in only one of these tributaries, West Plum Creek



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