



Lake Chub (*Couesius plumbeus*)



*Photo Source: Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*



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Lake Chub (*Couesius plumbeus*)

Federal status: Not listed
Colorado status: Endangered

The body is elongate, usually 4 inches long, though some individuals up to 8 inches have been found. The back is olive-brown or dark brown, and the sides are leaden silver. The snout is blunt and projects slightly beyond the upper lip. The scales are small but well visible. The dorsal, pelvic and anal fins each have 8 rays. Breeding males can develop patches of bright orange or red at the base of the pectoral fins and sometimes near the mouth.

Habitat: As its common name implies, this fish is most commonly found in lakes, but it can also live in rivers and streams. In mid-summer, it may move to deeper waters to avoid the warmer waters of the lake shore.



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