

Summary

Conservation Status

Distribution

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Skipjack Herring

Unique Identifier: AFCFA01030

Informal Taxonomy: Animals, Vertebrates - Fishes

- Bony Fishes - Other Bony Fishes

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Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	Genus
Animalia	Craniata	Actinopterygii	Clupeiformes	Clupeidae	Alosa

Concept Reference: Robins, C. R., et al. 1991. Common and scientific names of fishes from the United States and Canada. American Fisheries Society, Special Publishing 20. 183 pp.

Concept Reference Code: B91ROB01NAUS

Name Used in Concept Reference: *Alosa chrysochloris*

Taxonomic Comments: Formerly placed in genus POMOLOBUS. Forms a geographically separated species pair with *A. MEDIOCRIS*. Original description may have been based on *A. ALABAMAE* or both *A. ALABAMAE* and *A. CHRYSOCHLORIS*. See Lee et al. (1980) for pertinent literature citations.

Conservation Status**NatureServe Status****Global Status:** G5**Global Status Last Reviewed:** 09Sep1996**Global Status Last Changed:** 09Sep1996**Rounded Global Status:** G5**Nation:** United States**National Status:**

N5

U.S. & Canada State/Province Status

United States	Alabama (S5), Arkansas (S4), Florida (SNR), Georgia (S2), Illinois (S3), Indiana (S4), Iowa (S3), Kansas (S2), Kentucky (S4S5), Louisiana (S5), Minnesota (S3), Mississippi (S5), Missouri (SNR), Nebraska (SNR), Oklahoma (S3), Pennsylvania (S1S2), South Dakota (S3), Tennessee (S5), Texas (S4), West Virginia (S4), Wisconsin (S1)
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Other Statuses**NatureServe Conservation Status Factors****Global Short Term Trend:**

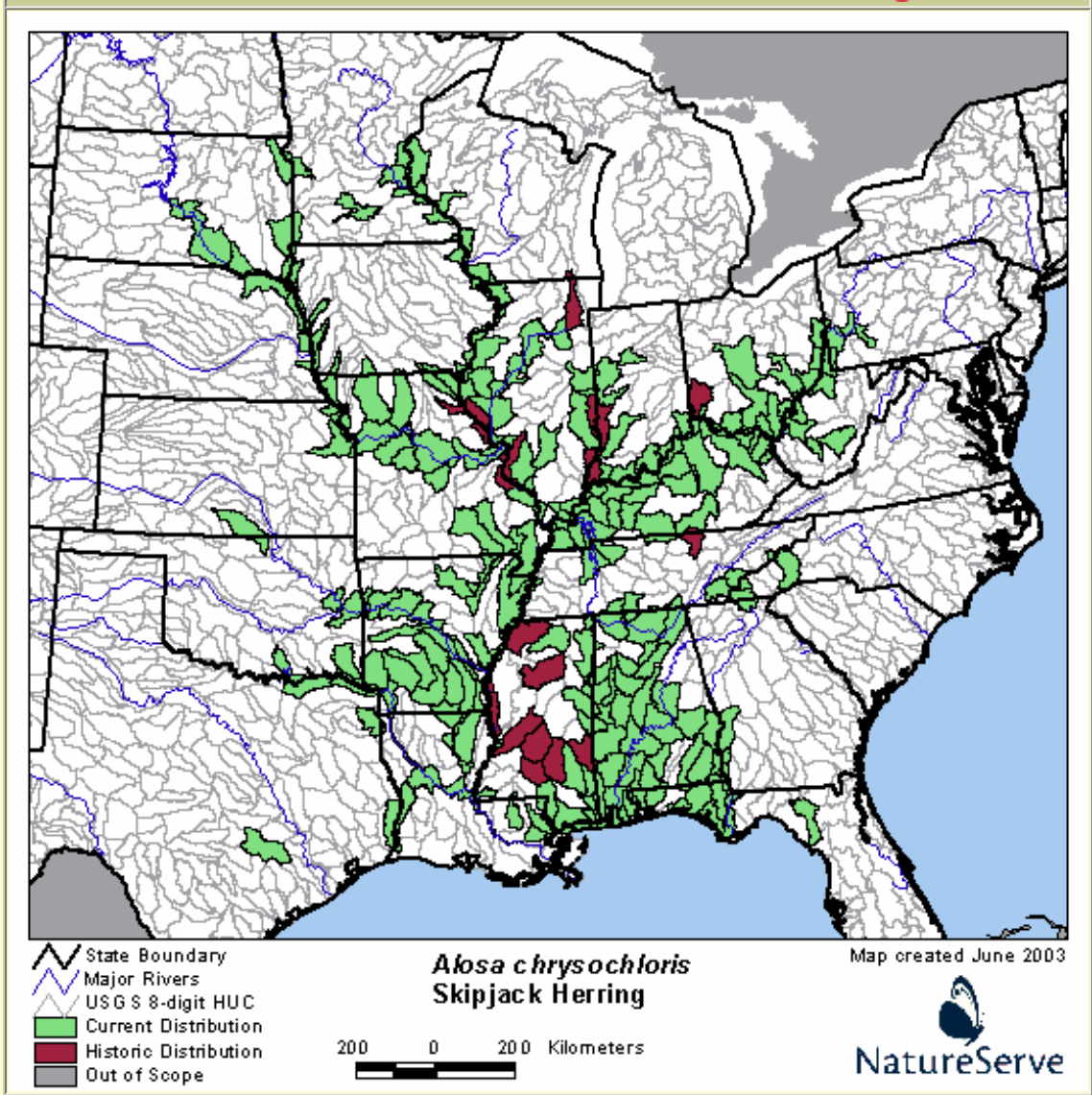
Global Short Term Trend Comments: Has increased in abundance in the lower Missouri River as a result of human-caused changes in the river (e.g, reservoir construction) (Cross, Copeia 1975:382-385; Pflieger and Grace 1987).

Threats: Extirpated from most of upper Mississippi system, apparently due to presence of dams (but see GTRENDCOM).

U.S. Distribution by County (based on available natural heritage records) ?	
State	County Name (FIPS Code)
MN	Goodhue (27049), Wabasha (27157), Winona (27169)
PA	Allegheny (42003), Beaver (42007)
SD	Yankton (46135)
WI	Buffalo (55011), Crawford (55023), Kenosha (55059), Pepin (55091), Pierce (55093), Vernon (55123)

U.S. Distribution by Watershed (based on available natural heritage records) ?	
Watershed Region ?	Watershed Name (Watershed Code)
04	Lake Michigan (04060200)
05	Upper Ohio (05030101)
07	Buffalo-Whitewater (07040003), Coon-Yellow (07060001)
10	Lewis and Clark Lake (10170101)

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



Economic Attributes

Management Summary

Ecology & Life History

Reproduction Comments: Spawns from early March to late April in Florida, early May to early July in upper Mississippi drainage.

Ecology Comments

A schooling species.

Habitat Type: Freshwater

Non-Migrant: N

Locally Migrant: Y

Long Distance Migrant: N

Mobility and Migration Comments: Migrates upstream for spawning.

Marine Habitat(s): Near shore

Estuarine Habitat(s): Bay/sound, River mouth/tidal river

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

Lacustrine Habitat(s): Deep water, Shallow water

Habitat Comments: Clear to moderately turbid medium to large rivers and large reservoirs; usually in current over sand and gravel; coastal brackish or salt water (Robins and Ray 1986, Page and Burr 1991).

Spawns probably in deep water of main channel over bars of coarse sand or gravel (Lee et al. 1980).

Adult Food Habits: Invertivore, Piscivore

Immature Food Habits: Invertivore, Piscivore

Food Comments: Eats zooplankton, small insect larvae, and small fishes.

Length: 46 centimeters

Population/Occurrence Delineation

Group Name: FISHES WITH ANADROMOUS POPULATIONS

Use Class: Freshwater

Subtype(s): Spawning & Rearing Area, Rearing & Migration Area

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. For anadromous populations, occurrences are based on collection or reliable observation and documentation of one or more spawning adults, redds, other evidence of spawning, or larvae or juveniles in appropriate spawning/rearing habitat.

Mapping Guidance: Conceptually, the occurrence includes the entire freshwater area used by the population, including spawning, rearing, and migration areas. For anadromous populations, an occurrence should extend from the most upstream spawning areas downstream to the ocean. However, it is desirable (and practical) to subdivide this sometimes very large occurrence, sometimes overlapping with many other spaghetti-like occurrences extending down from the upstream spawning areas to the ocean, into separate source features or sub-occurrences, labeled with a feature label that reflects the life history stage in that area. Moreover, it may make practical sense to treat the areas downstream of spawning and/or rearing areas as a mixed element animal assemblage: Freshwater Salmon Migration Corridor. This negates the need to separately map each occurrence down to the ocean from its upstream spawning location. Information about areas with different life-history uses can be generated by using best professional judgment by district or regional fish biologists and may or may not incorporate specific locational information from spawning surveys or other surveys.

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

Alternate Separation Procedure: For anadromous populations and migratory populations that have distinct and separate spawning and nonspawning areas, the area used by each population whose spawning area is separated by a gap of at least 10 stream-km from other spawning areas within a stream system is potentially mappable as a distinct occurrence that extends down to the ocean (but see mapping guidance), regardless of whether the spawning areas are in the same or different tributaries.

For other (e.g., nonanadromous) populations in streams, separation distance is 10 stream-km for both suitable and unsuitable habitat. However, if it is known that the same population occupies sites separated by more than 10 km (e.g., this may be common for migratory, nonanadromous populations), those sites should be included within the same occurrence. In lakes, occurrences include all suitable habitat that is presumed to be occupied (based on expert judgment), even if documented collection/observation points are more than 10 km apart. Separate sub-occurrences or source features may usefully document locations of critical spawning areas within a lake.

Separation Justification: The separation distance is arbitrary but was selected to ensure that occurrences are of manageable size but not too small. 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.

"Restricted movement is the norm in populations of stream salmonids during nonmigratory periods," but there is considerable variation in movements within and among species (Rodriguez 2002). Redband trout in Montana had October-December home ranges of 5-377 m, consistent with small movements observed for radio-tagged brook trout and cutthroat trout during fall and winter (Muhlfeld et al. 2001). For nonanadromous populations, little is known about juvenile dispersal (e.g., how far fishes may move between between their embryonic developmental habitat and eventual spawning site).

In summer and fall, radio-tagged cutthroat trout in Strawberry Reservoir in Utah had single-month home ranges that were usually about 3-4 km in maximum length (Baldwin et al. 2002). In the Blackfoot River drainage, Montana, radio-tagged westslope cutthroat trout moved 3-72 km (mean 31 km) to access spawning tributaries (Schmetterling 2001). This indicates that migratory but nonanadromous populations may use extensive areas and that one should not invoke the 10-km separation distance without considering the full extent of the population.

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Author: Hammerson, G., and L. Master

Notes: This Specs Group comprises fish species that include anadromous populations (may also include nonanadromous populations), such as lampreys, sturgeons, herrings, shads, salmonids, and smelts.

Criteria for marine occurrences (Location Use Class: Marine) have not yet been established. These may not be needed for marine occurrences of species that likely will be dealt with as mixed element assemblages (e.g., Salmonid Marine Concentration Area).

Feature Descriptor Definitions:

Spawning Area: area used for spawning but not for rearing or migration.

Rearing Area: area used for larval/juvenile development but not for spawning or migration.

Migration Corridor: area used for migration but not for rearing or spawning.

Population/Occurrence Viability

Authors/Contributors

Element Ecology & Life History Edition Date: 10Apr2001
Element Ecology & Life History Author(s): Hammerson, G.

Zoological data developed by NatureServe and its network of natural heritage programs (see [Local Programs](#)) and other contributors and cooperators (see [Sources](#)).

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Acknowledgement Statement for Bird Range Maps of North America:

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Citation for Mammal Range Maps of North America:

Patterson, B.D., G. Ceballos, W. Sechrest, M.F. Tognelli, T. Brooks, L. Luna, P. Ortega, I. Salazar, and B. E. Young. 2003. Digital Distribution Maps of the Mammals of the Western Hemisphere, version 1.0. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia, USA.

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