



NORTHERN HOGSUCKER

Hypentelium nigricans

Description:

- ◆ dark olive or bronze to red-brown on top
- ◆ often light stripes along scale rows on sides
- ◆ pale yellow or white belly
- ◆ blue-black snout
- ◆ four dark brown bars on body
- ◆ large rectangular head, body wide in front and tapering behind the dorsal fin
- ◆ large fleshy lips, horizontal mouth
- ◆ large individual has black tipped dorsal fin
- ◆ 11 dorsal rays
- ◆ 32-38 total pectoral rays (both sides)

Size:

- ◆ average between 7 and 14 inches but can get up to 24 inches

Range:

- ◆ Great Lakes, Hudson Bay and Mississippi River basins from New York and southern Ontario to Minnesota, and south to northern Alabama, southern Arkansas and eastern Louisiana; Atlantic slope drainages from Mohawk – Hudson River, New York to Altamaha River, northern Georgia; Gulf slope drainages from the Pascagoula River, Missouri to the Comite River, Louisiana

Facts:

- ◆ eats insects and other organisms from beneath the substrate
- ◆ uses long snout and bony head to push aside rocks to feed
- ◆ likes rocky runs and pools of clear creeks and small rivers, occasionally larger rivers
- ◆ often migrate long distances in the spring to spawn in smaller streams
- ◆ good indicators of waterway health, as they are intolerant of polluted water

NORTHERN HOGSUCKER CATCH TOTALS

Year	Total
2007	2
2012	1
Grand Total	3

*Northern hogsuckers were only caught during the years shown

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Bureau of Marine Fisheries
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