



SPOTFIN SHINER

Cyprinella spiloptera

Description:

- ◆ dusky olive above
- ◆ black stripe along back
- ◆ sometimes a dusky bar on sides behind head
- ◆ breeding male has blue back, yellow to white fins and dusky dorsal fins
- ◆ black blotch on rear half of dorsal fin
- ◆ 8 anal rays

Size:

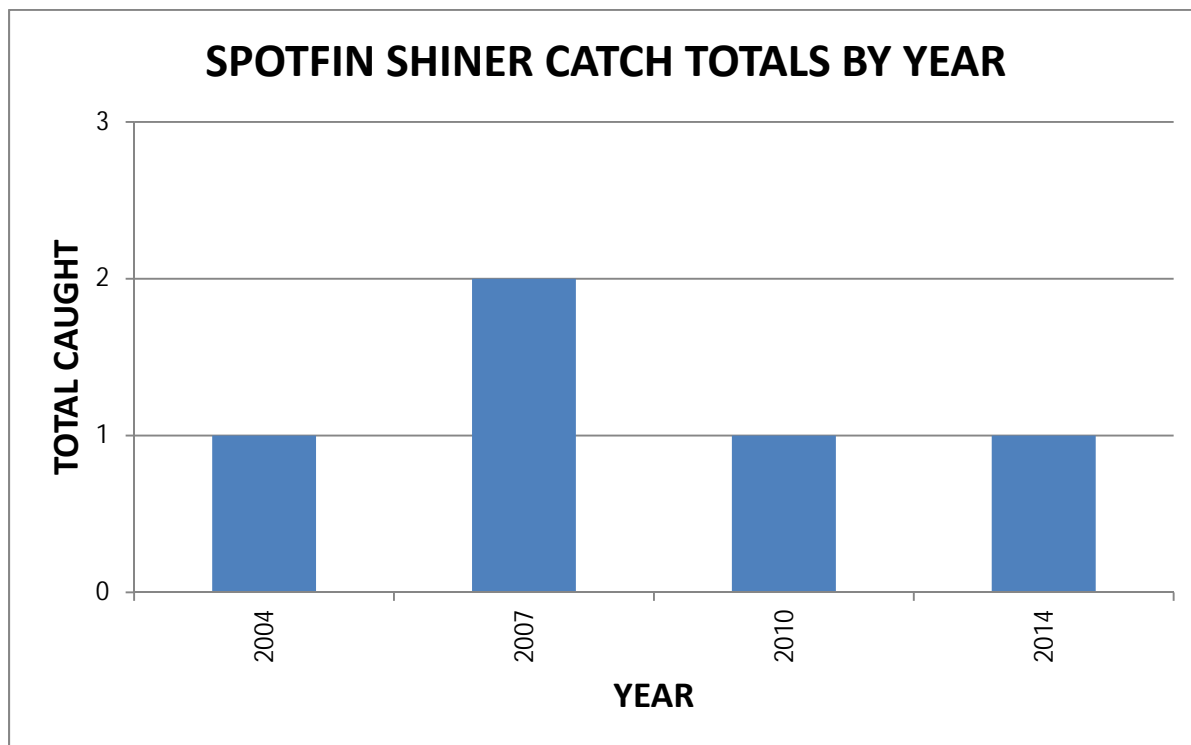
- ◆ up to 5 inches, typically 2-4 inches

Range:

- ◆ Atlantic slope from St. Lawrence drainage, Quebec to Potomac River drainage, Virginia; Great Lakes (except Lake Superior), Hudson Bay and Mississippi River basins from Ontario and New York to southeastern North Dakota and south to Alabama and eastern Oklahoma

Facts:

- ◆ likes sand or gravel runs, and pools of creeks and rivers
- ◆ males establish territories and will fight others
- ◆ spawns in horizontal crevices in rocks and logs
- ◆ adults feed on surface insects
- ◆ more tolerant of turbidity, siltation, and pollution than other shiners



*spotfin shiners 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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