

Fishes of Lake Joanis and Schmeckle Reserve (listed by Family)

Species handled or observed, 1985 to 2011

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Note: Distribution and abundance are noted for each species with a pair of letters separated by a colon. The first letter in the pair denotes the bodies of water on the Reserve in which the species are found and the second letter denotes the water body-specific level of abundance.

Occurrence key:

J = Lake Joanis, M = Moses Creek, W = Other minor creeks and wetlands on the Reserve

Abundance key:

C = Common, P = Present, R = Rare, N = Not found or unknown

List of Species:

Family Cyprinidae: carps and minnows

- Fathead Minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) J:R, M:R, W:N
- Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) J:P, M:R, W:N
- Goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) J:R, M:R, W:N

Family Catostomidae: suckers

- White Sucker (*Catostomus commersoni*) J:P, M:N, W:N

Family Ictaluridae: bullhead catfishes

- Black Bullhead (*Ameiurus melas*) J:P, M:N, W:N
- Yellow Bullhead (*Ameiurus natalis*) J:P, M:N, W:N
- Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) J:R, M:N, W:N

Family Esocidae: pikes

- Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*) J:C, M:N, W:N
- Muskellunge (*Esox masquinongy*) J:P, M:N, W:N

Family Umbridae: mudminnows

- Central Mudminnow (*Umbra limi*)* J:R, M:C, W:C

Family Gasterosteidae: sticklebacks

- Brook Stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*)* J:R, M:C, W:C

Family Percidae: perches and darters

- Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*) J:P, M:R, W:N
- Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*)** J:R, M:N, W:N
- Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) J:R, M:N, W:N

Family Centrarchidae: sunfishes and black basses

- Bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) J:C, M:P, W:N

- Pumpkinseed (*Lepomis gibbosus*) J:C, M:N, W:N
- Green Sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*) J:C, M:P, W:N
- Bluegill X Pumpkinseed hybrids J:P, M:N, W:N
- Rock Bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*) J:P, M:N, W:N
- Black Crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*) J:C, M:N, W:N
- White Crappie (*Pomoxis annularis*) J:R, M:N, W:N
- Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) J:C, M:N, W:N
- Smallmouth Bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) J:R, M:N, W:N

* Because of their physiological tolerance of extremely low dissolved oxygen, high temperatures and bad water quality, these two species can literally be found in any body of water on the Reserve. In fact it is common to find these fish all summer in stagnant mid-forest pools in the northwest part of the Reserve

** Yellow perch were the dominant fish species in Lake Joanis in the mid-1990s; however, now (2009-2011) they are not encountered at all in population surveys. It is possible that the species has been extirpated from Lake Joanis by natural forces.