

Scientific Name: *Catostomus species*
Common Name: Little Colorado sucker
BISON No.: 010517

Legal Status:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ➤ Arizona, Species of Special Concern | ➤ ESA, Proposed Threatened | ➤ New Mexico-WCA, Threatened |
| ➤ ESA, Endangered | ➤ ESA, Threatened | ➤ USFS-Region 3, Sensitive |
| ➤ ESA, Proposed Endangered | ➤ New Mexico-WCA, Endangered | ➤ None |

Distribution:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| ➤ Endemic to Arizona | ➤ Southern Limit of Range |
| ➤ Endemic to Arizona and New Mexico | ➤ Western Limit of Range |
| ➤ Endemic to New Mexico | ➤ Eastern Limit of Range |
| ➤ Not Restricted to Arizona or New Mexico | ➤ Very Local |
| ➤ Northern Limit of Range | |

Major River Drainages:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ➤ Dry Cimmaron River | ➤ Rio Yaqui Basin |
| ➤ Canadian River | ➤ Wilcox Playa |
| ➤ Southern High Plains | ➤ Rio Magdalena Basin |
| ➤ Pecos River | ➤ Rio Sonoita Basin |
| ➤ Estancia Basin | ➤ Little Colorado River |
| ➤ Tularosa Basin | ➤ Mainstream Colorado River |
| ➤ Salt Basin | ➤ Virgin River Basin |
| ➤ Rio Grande | ➤ Hualapai Lake |
| ➤ Rio Mimbres | ➤ Bill Williams Basin |
| ➤ Zuni River | |
| ➤ Gila River | |

Status/Trends/Threats (narrative):

State AZ: Threatened.

Distribution (narrative):

The Little Colorado sucker occurs abundantly throughout the upper part of the Little Colorado River basin. Introduced into Salt River and Becker Lake where it attains a large (> 0.5 m) size and weight (1 kg.) (Minckley 1973).

Key Distribution/Abundance/Management Areas:

Panel key distribution/abundance/management areas:

Breeding (narrative):

Spawning of the Little Colorado sucker occurs in early to mid-spring (Minckley 1973).

Habitat (narrative):

The Little Colorado sucker lives principally in pools with abundant cover (Minckley 1973).

Young move to and live in slow-moving riffles where they live sympatric with young and sub-adult bluehead suckers (Minckley 1973).

Breeding Season:

- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December

Panel breeding season comments:

Aquatic Habitats:

Large Scale:

- Rivers
- Streams
- Springs
- Spring runs
- Lakes
- Ponds
- Sinkholes
- Cienegas
- Unknown
- Variable

Small Scale:

- Runs
- Riffles
- Pools
- Open Water
- Shorelines

Panel comments on aquatic habitats:

Important Habitat Features (Water characteristics):

Current

- Fast (> 75 cm/sec)
- Intermediate (10-75 cm/sec)
- Slow (< 10 cm/sec)
- None
- Unknown
- Variable

Gradient

- High gradient (>1%)
- Intermediate Gradient (0.25-1%)
- Low Gradient (<0.25%)
- None
- Unknown
- Variable

Water Depth

- Very Deep (> 1 m)
- Deep (0.25-1 m)
- Intermediate (0.1-0.25 m)
- Shallow (< 0.1 m)
- Unknown
- Variable

Panel comments on water characteristics:

Important Habitat Features (Water Chemistry)

Temperature (general)

- Cold Water (4-15°C)
- Cool Water (10-21°C)
- Warm Water (15-27°C)
- Unknown
- Variable

Turbidity

- High
- Intermediate
- Low
- Unknown
- Variable

Conductivity

- Very High (> 2000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
- High (750-2000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
- Intermediate (250-750 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
- Low (< 250 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)
- Unknown
- Variable

Panel comments on water chemistry:

Important Habitat Features (Structural elements):

Substrate

- Bedrock
- Silt/Clay
- Detritus
- Sand
- Gravel
- Cobble
- Boulders
- Unknown
- Variable

Cover

- Rocks, boulders
- Undercut banks
- Woody debris
- Aquatic vegetation
- Rootwads
- Not important
- Overhanging vegetation
- Unknown
- Variable

Panel comments on structural elements:

Authors

- **Draft:** Rinne, J.N. and Magaña, H.A.
- **GP 2001:**
- **GP 2002:**
- **Revision:**

Bibliography:

Minckley, W. L. 1973. Fishes of Arizona. Arizona Game and Fish Department. Phoenix, Arizona. 239 pp.