Amanda Nguyen

Bluegill_LMF07

Taxonomic Information:

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Actinopterygii

Order: Perciformes

Family: Centrarchidae

Genus: Lepomis

Species name: Lepomis macrochirus

The Shannon index value (H') for Little Mulberry Park where Bluegill_LM07 was collected was 1.74. The value specifies the biodiversity of the park.

Morphological characteristics of the Bluegill fish, as pictured above, include a very deep and highly compressed body. They are "tall" and "flat" with a notably small mouth on a short head. Bluegills are a type of sunfish, and the bluegill has a continuous dorsal fin. The front of the dorsal fin is spiny and the back part of the dorsal fin is soft and round, with a dark coloration at the base. Mature bluegills are typically about 6 inches long, and body coloration may vary from blackish-blue, greenish-brown, yellowish-green, or deep green. There is often vertical banding on their bodies, and their cheeks may have dark purple or blue coloration.

Bluegills often establish themselves in rugged creeks, lagoons, marshes, lakes, reservoirs, and ponds, with a likeness towards relatively still waters. Bluegills consume many little creatures they can easily slide into their small mouths, such as caterpillars, worms, spiders, snails, larvae, crayfish, water insects, and crustaceans. Bluegills may sometimes feed on plants

like algae and occasionally fellow fish and their eggs. Bluegill reproduction takes place during the end of spring and start of summer. Nests are established and protected by males, and nests are often in close proximity to other fellow bluegills. Males lure females into nests by guttural sounds, and once a female is within the nest, eggs and sperm are given off after massaging stomachs against one another.

DNA Sequence:

LMF7_CO1

ATCCGGGTGCTGATAGAGGATTGGGTCCCCGCCCCCCGCTGGGTCAAAGAAAGTGGTGTT

TAGATTACGGTCTGTAAGTAGTATTGTGATGCCTGCAGCAAGGACTGGAAGGGAAAGCAG

GAGTAAGACGGCAGTAATTAGGACTGATCAGACAAATAAAGGGGTCTGGTACTGGGAAAT

AGCAGGGGGCTTCATGTTAATAATTGTGGTAATAAAATTAATAGCTCCCAGGATTGAAGA

GACCCCTGCGAGATGCAGGGAGAAGATAGTAAGGTCGACTGATGCTCCTGCATGGGCTAG

GTTACCAGCGAGAGGGGGGTAAACGGTTCATCCTGTGCCAGCCCCGGCTTCAACCCCGGA

GGAGGCGAGAAGAAGAAGGAAAGAGGGGGGGAGAAGTCAAAAGCTTATGTTATTTATTCG

GGGGAATGCTATATCGGGGGCTCCAATCATTAATGGGACAAGTCAGTTGCCAAAGCCACC

AATCATAATTGGTATTACTATAAAGAAAATTATTACGAATGCATGTGCTGTCACAATTAC

GTTATAAATTTGGTCGTCGCCCAGGAGAGCGCCTGGTTGGCTGAGCTCTGCTCGAATGAG

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AATGTCTTTGTGGGGGGTTGACTGGCCGGGGGGTTTTACAATANN