

RS_28

Bella Marsicano

Chattahoochee Sculpin



Collection Data:

September 19, 2024

550 Rock Springs Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30043

Shannon Index:

H' : 1.042

Var H' : 0.00406

Taxonomic Information:

Kingdom: Animalia

Class: Actinopterygii

Family: Cottidae

Genus: Cottus

Species: C. Chattahoochee

Morphology:

The Chattahoochee Sculpin are small fish with dark and light brown bands along its body. It has prickly dorsal and pectoral fins which resemble those of the *Cottidae* family. They are typically small in size, running about 3-5 inches at mature adult age. C. sculpins have a broad and flat head.

Ecology:

C. Sculpin are typically found towards the bottom of the water beds near the rocky surfaces. Their lean bodies allow for easy movement along these rocky surfaces, while their scales provide much needed camouflage from predators. Regardless of their natural camouflage, these fish are classified as a species of concern, mostly due to pollution and habitat loss. They are only found in Southeastern waters, above the Georgia fall line.

These fish typically reproduce in the springtime when the water is warmer, when the males do a show of their elegant fins as well as provide shelter for eggs. Male fish tend to guard the eggs until they hatch. After hatching, most C. sculpins remain in solitary areas until breeding season.

DNA Sequence:

>RS28

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CCCCTATATCTAGTTATTTGGGTGCTTGAGCCGGAATAGTAGGCACAGCTTTAAGCCTCCTAATTCGAGCAG
AATT
AAGTCAACCCGGCGCCCTTTTGGGGGACGATCAGATTTACAATGTAATTGTTACAGCCCATGCTTTCGTAAT
AATTT
TCTTTATAGTAATACCGATTATGATCGGAGGTTTCGGGAACCTGGCTCGTTCCCCTAATGATTGGCGCTCCTG
ATATA
GCCTTTCCTCGAATGAATAATATGAGCTTTTGACTTCTTCCCCCATCTTTTTTACTCCTCCTTGCCTCTTCGGG
AGTCG
AAGCAGGGGCCGGAACCGGATGAACAGTTTATCCACCCCTCGCCGAAATCTCGCCACGCAGGAGCTTC
TGTTG
ACCTAACAATCTTCTCCCTCACCTAGCAGGTATCTCCTCTATTCTTGGGGCAATCAACTTTATCACAACATC
ATTA
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ATATAAAACCCCCTGCTATTTACAATACCAGACCCCGCTATTTGTGTGGTCTGTTCTTATTACTGCTGACTG
CTGC
TTCTCTCCCTCCCCGTTCTTGCCGCCGGCATCACAATACTCCTGACAGACCGAAATCTTAACACCACCTTCTT
TGACC
CTGCCGAGGAGGGGACCCAATCCTTTACCAACATCTCTTCTGATTCTTCGGTCACCCTGAAGTGTCATAG
CTGGG
TTTCTGAANN

References:

Chattahoochee sculpin (Cottus Chattahoochee) - marine life identification. Marine Life ID. (2024, August 21). <https://www.marinelifeid.com/identification/chattahoochee-sculpin-cottus-chattahoochee/>

Wikimedia Foundation. (2023, January 18). *Chattahoochee sculpin*. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chattahoochee_sculpin