

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

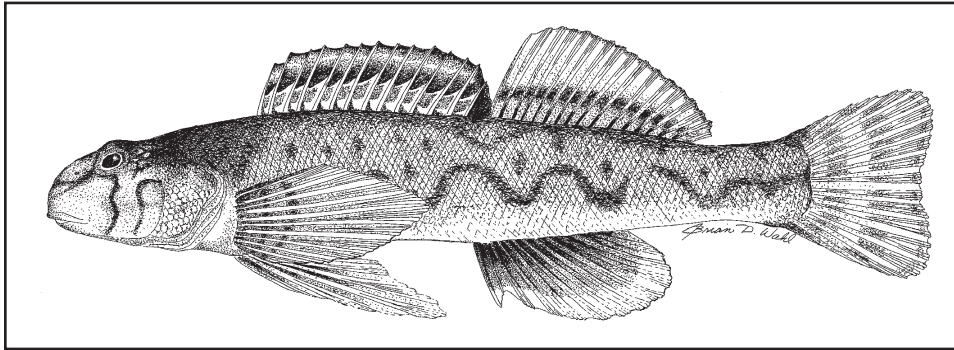
Division of Wildlife

Life History Notes

Greenside Darter

Common Names: Green-sided darter

Scientific Name: *Etheostoma blenniodes*



Publication 328
(999)

Identification:

Greenside darters are small fish that are found skimming along the bottom of streams. The mouth is overhung by a blunt, rounded snout. The back is olive-green to green and the sides are greenish yellow with 4 to 10 "v" or "w" shaped marks. The stomach is whitish-green to white.

Range and Habitat:

Greenside darters are widely distributed in Ohio. They prefer riffles in moderate to high gradient streams.

Life History:

Adults move upstream to spawn in riffles of small streams in May. The eggs are attached to strands of filamentous algae and aquatic moss. The male then defends the area where the eggs were laid. Adults feed almost exclusively on aquatic insects.

Adult Size:

Greenside darters average 2.4 to 3.5 inches in length. The largest known specimen was 4.3 inches.

Fishing Methods:

Due to their size anglers do not target greenside darters.