

Aquatic Habitats Supporting Federally listed Endangered, Threatened, and Proposed Species in West Virginia (Updated July 2023)

There are nineteen federally listed endangered, threatened, or proposed species that are associated with specific aquatic habitats in West Virginia and are listed in the table below. Thirteen other species, that are not exclusively associated with specific aquatic habitats, are also known to occur in West Virginia. Those species are not addressed here.

MOLLUSKS ¹			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Critical Habitat in WV
Clubshell	<i>Pleurobema clava</i>	Endangered	No
Fanshell	<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i>	Endangered	No
James spiny mussel	<i>Pleurobema collina</i>	Endangered	No
Longsolid	<i>Fusconaia subrotunda</i>	Threatened	Yes
Northern riffleshell	<i>Epioblasma rangiana</i>	Endangered	No
Pink mucket	<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>	Endangered	No
Rayed bean	<i>Villosa fabilis</i>	Endangered	No
Round hickorynut	<i>Obovaria subrotunda</i>	Threatened	Yes
Sheepnose	<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>	Endangered	No
Snuffbox	<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>	Endangered	No
Spectaclecase	<i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i>	Endangered	No
PLANTS			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	
Harperella	<i>(Ptilimnium nodosum)</i>	Endangered	No
Northeastern bulrush	<i>(Scirpus ancistrochaetus)</i>	Endangered	No

¹ Please also note that freshwater mussels which are not federally listed are protected and managed by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR). Non-listed freshwater mussels may occur in the streams listed above, as well as additional streams throughout the State. For information on the distribution of freshwater mussel species and their protections please contact the WVDNR at (304) 637-0245.

Virginia spiraea	<i>(Spiraea virginiana)</i>	Threatened	No
CRUSTACEANS			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	
Big Sandy crayfish	<i>(Cambarus callainus)</i>	Threatened	Yes
Guyandotte River crayfish	<i>(Cambarus veteranus)</i>	Endangered	Yes
Madison Cave isopod	<i>(Antrolana lira)</i>	Threatened	No
FISHES			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	
Candy darter	<i>(Etheostoma osburni)</i>	Endangered	Yes
Diamond darter	<i>(Crystallaria cincotta)</i>	Endangered	Yes

The aquatic habitats below, listed alphabetically within the two U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulatory districts that operate in West Virginia (Huntington and Pittsburgh districts), represent the most current information on the known and potential distribution of the federally listed species described above. Prior to conducting any activities that could result in adverse impacts to these aquatic habitats (e.g., projects that involve the placement of rock or other fill material into or adjacent to these habitats, the withdrawal or diversion of water, projects that could introduce sediment or toxic chemicals into waterways, or which could alter water temperature, streamside vegetation, etc.), please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, West Virginia Field Office at fw5_wvfo@fws.gov. To determine if a Corps permit is required for activities in or near these or other aquatic habitats in West Virginia, please contact the Huntington District or the Pittsburgh District. Critical habitat is identified in bold text for the aquatic habitats listed below.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District

1. Beech Fork: Wayne County: Round hickorynut.
2. Big Coal River: Boone and Kanawha Counties: Round hickorynut.
3. Big Sandy Creek: Kanawha County: Snuffbox, round hickorynut, and longsolid.
4. Bluestone River: Mercer and Summers Counties (Bluestone Gorge to slackwater of Bluestone Reservoir): Virginia spiraea.
5. Cedar Creek: Braxton and Gilmer Counties: Snuffbox and round hickorynut (historic)
6. Coal River: Kanawha County: Round hickorynut
7. Cove Creek: Monroe County: James spynymussel.

8. **Elk River**: Braxton, Clay, and Kanawha Counties (below Sutton Dam), including the lower one-half mile reaches of its tributaries Birch River, Blue Creek, and Laurel Creek: Clubshell, pink mucket, northern riffleshell, rayed bean, snuffbox, **round hickorynut, and longsolid**. **The Elk River also contains the diamond darter. Critical habitat for this species is from King Shoals to slackwater below Coonskin Park.**

9. Gauley River Watershed:

Gauley River Headwaters, Straight Creek: Webster County: Candy darter.

Williams River, Tea Creek: Webster and Pocahontas Counties: Candy darter

Upper Gauley River (from a point 1 mile upstream of the confluence with Big Beaver Creek to the confluence with the Williams River): Nicholas and Webster Counties: Candy darter

Panther Creek: Nicholas County, Candy darter

Cherry River, North Fork Cherry River, South Fork Cherry River, Laurel Creek: Nicholas, Greenbrier, Webster, and Pocahontas Counties: Candy darter.

Cranberry River: Nicholas, Webster, and Pocahontas Counties: Candy darter.

Lower Gauley River (C.H. from below Summersville Dam to confluence with Collison Creek): Nicholas County: Candy darter. Candy darter extant from Summersville Dam to Swiss, WV: Nicholas/Fayette Counties

Gauley River: Fayette and Nicholas Counties: Virginia spiraea.

10. Greenbrier River Watershed:

Greenbrier River- mainstem (upstream of confluence with Knapp Creek to the split into East and West Forks); Knapp Creek; Deer Creek, North Fork of Deer Creek, Sitlington Creek: Pocahontas County: Candy darter. Candy darter also extant in Douthat Creek and Stony Creek of the Greenbrier, but these are not C.H. units

East Fork Greenbrier River, Little River of East Fork Greenbrier River (C.H. up to ~0.6 stream miles upstream of confluence with Slabcamp Run), Buffalo Fork (from confluence with Little River on the East Fork of the Greenbrier to the Buffalo Fork dam): Pocahontas County: Candy darter

West Fork Greenbrier River (C.H. extends upstream to Wildell), Mountain Lick Creek, Little River of West Fork Greenbrier (C.H. extends upstream to confluence with Lukins Run): Pocahontas County: Candy Darter

Greenbrier River mainstem: Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties: Virginia spiraea.

11. Henry Fork: Calhoun and Roane Counties: Snuffbox.

12. Hughes River: Doddridge, Ritchie, and Wirt Counties, including the lower one-half mile reach of its tributary Goose Creek, Middle Fork South Hughes River, and North Fork Hughes River: Snuffbox, round hickorynut, and longsolid.

13. **Kanawha River**: Fayette, Kanawha, Mason, and Putnam Counties: Fanshell, pink mucket, sheepnose, spectaclecase, northern riffleshell, snuffbox, **round hickorynut, and longsolid.**
14. Leading Creek: Gilmer and Lewis Counties, including the lower one-half mile reach of its tributary Fink Creek: Snuffbox and round hickorynut
15. Little Coal River: Kanawha, Lincoln, and Boone Counties: Round hickorynut.
16. **Little Kanawha River**: Braxton, Calhoun, Gilmer, Wirt, and Wood Counties, including the lower one-half mile reaches of its tributaries Leading Creek (Calhoun County), Pine Creek, Sand Fork, Slate Creek, Straight Creek, Tanner Creek, Tucker Creek, and Walker Creek: Clubshell, snuffbox, **round hickorynut, and longsolid.**
17. Marsh Fork River including Dingess Branch and Millers Camp Branch and associated palustrine emergent and scrub-shrub wetlands: Raleigh County: Virginia spiraea.
18. McElroy Creek: Doddridge and Tyler Counties: Snuffbox and round hickorynut.
19. Meadow River: Fayette, Greenbrier, and Nicholas Counties: Virginia spiraea.
20. **Meathouse Fork of Middle Island Creek**: Doddridge County, including the lower one-half mile reach of its tributary Toms Fork: Clubshell, snuffbox, **round hickorynut, and longsolid.**
*Critical Habitat does not extend beyond the first 1 mile of Meathouse Fork
21. Middle Fork: Doddridge and Ritchie Counties: Round hickorynut.
22. **Middle Island Creek**: Doddridge, Pleasants, and Tyler Counties, including the lower one-half mile reaches of its tributaries **Arnold Creek**, Bluestone Creek, Buckeye Creek, Indian Creek, McKim Creek, Point Pleasant Creek, Sancho Creek, and Sugar Creek: Clubshell, snuffbox, **round hickorynut, and longsolid.**
*only the first ½ mile of Arnold Creek is Group 2
23. Mud River: Boone, Cabell, and Lincoln Counties: Round hickorynut.
24. New River (Lower): Fayette County (Route 19 to Gauley Bridge): Virginia spiraea.
25. North Fork Hughes River: Ritchie and Wirt Counties, including the lower one-half mile reaches of its tributaries Addis Run, Bonds Creek, Devilhole Creek, and Gillespie Run: Snuffbox, clubshell, and round hickorynut (Bonds Creek is historic round hickorynut stream)
26. Ohio River south of Hannibal Locks and Dam: Cabell, Jackson, Mason, Pleasants, Tyler, Wayne, Wetzel, and Wood Counties: Fanshell, pink mucket pearlymussel, sheepnose, snuffbox, and round hickorynut.
27. Pocatalico Creek: Jackson and Kanawha Counties: Round hickorynut.
28. Pocatalico River: Kanawha, Putnam, and Roane Counties: Round hickorynut
29. Potts Creek and South Fork of Potts Creek: Monroe County: James spinymussel.

30. Reedy Creek: Roane and Wirt Counties, including Left Fork Reedy Creek: Snuffbox and round hickorynut.
31. South Fork Hughes River: Doddridge, Ritchie, and Wirt Counties, including the lower one-half mile reaches of its tributaries Bone Creek, Indian Creek, Leatherbark Creek, Otterslide Creek, Slab Creek, and: Clubshell, snuffbox, and round hickorynut.
32. Spring Creek: Roane and Wirt Counties: Snuffbox and round hickorynut.
33. Spruce Creek: Ritchie County: Snuffbox and round hickorynut (historic).
34. Steer Creek: Braxton, Calhoun and Gilmer Counties, including Left Fork Steer Creek: Snuffbox and round hickorynut (historic).
35. Tug Fork Watershed: Tug Fork River including tributaries: Barrenshe Creek, **Bradshaw Creek**, Buffalo Creek, **Dry Fork**, Elkhorn Creek, Grapevine Creek, Hite Fork, Jacobs Fork, **Laurel Fork of Pigeon Creek**, Little Indian Creek, Marrowbone Creek, Mate Creek, **Panther Creek**, **Pigeon Creek**, Rockhouse Fork, South Fork Tug Fork, and Spice Creek: McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, and Wayne Counties: **Big Sandy crayfish** and round hickorynut (Buffalo Creek).
36. Twelvepole Creek: Wayne County, including West Fork Twelvepole Creek: Round hickorynut.
37. Upper Guyandotte Watershed: Guyandotte River including tributaries: Barkers Creek, Big Cub Creek, Brier Creek, Buffalo Creek, **Clear Fork**, Elk Creek, Gilbert Creek, Horsepen Creek, **Huff Creek**, Indian Creek, **Island Creek**, **Laurel Fork of Clear Fork**, Little Huff Creek, **Pinnacle Creek**, Rockcastle Creek, Rum Creek, Slab Fork, Still Run, Stonecoal Creek, Right Fork Stonecoal Creek, Tommy Creek, and Turkey Creek: Logan, Mingo, Raleigh, and Wyoming Counties: **Guyandotte River crayfish** and round hickorynut.
38. West Fork Little Kanawha River: Calhoun, Roane, and Wirt Counties: Snuffbox and round hickorynut.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District

39. Back Creek: Berkeley County: Harperella.
40. Cacapon River: Morgan County: Harperella.
41. Dunkard Creek: Monongalia County: Snuffbox.
42. Hackers Creek (of the West Fork River): Harrison and Lewis Counties: Clubshell, snuffbox, and round hickorynut.
43. Jesse Run: Lewis County: Round hickorynut.
44. Kincheloe Creek: Harrison County: Round hickorynut.
45. Potomac River: Morgan County (from the mouth of the Cacapon River to the mouth of Sleepy Creek): Harperella.

46. Sleepy Creek: Morgan County: Harperella.
47. West Fork River: Harrison, Lewis, and Marion Counties, including Right Fork West Fork River: Snuffbox, clubshell, and round hickorynut.
48. Streams, springs, and wetlands connected to the groundwater system including caves, areas near sinkholes, and other groundwater/surface interfaces, from the Potomac River west to Opequon Creek, especially in the Rippon and Leetown Areas, and the Evitts Run Watershed: Jefferson and Berkeley Counties: Madison Cave isopod.
49. Wetlands: Berkeley and Hardy Counties: Northeastern bulrush.