



Desert Pupfish Species Information

Scientific Name: *Cyprinodon macularias*

Family: Cyprinodontidae

Description: Freshwater fish, grows up to 3 inches, its life expectancy is 1 year. The body is iridescent light-to-sky blue, especially on the dorsal surface body which is slightly rounded.

Status: Endangered, March 31, 1986

Native Area: The desert pupfish was once common in desert springs, marshes, and tributary streams of the lower Gila and Colorado River drainages in Arizona, California, and Mexico. It also formerly occurred in the slow-moving reaches of some large rivers, including the Colorado, Gila, San Pedro, and Santa Cruz. The species is also believed to inhabit the Colorado River system in the Rio Sonoyta drainage and Santa Clara Slough in Sonora, Mexico.

Additional Comments: The Dexter National Fish Hatchery & Technology Center in Dexter, New Mexico, maintains a captive broodstock.



Information and photo provided by Dexter National Fish Hatchery

<http://fws.gov/southwest/fisheries/dexter/index.html>