

Etheostoma fusiforme (Swamp Darter)

Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: *Actinopterygii* (Ray-finned Fishes)

Order: *Perciformes* (Perch-like Fishes)

Family: *Percidae* (Perches)

General comments: none

Species Conservation Range Maps for Swamp Darter:

Town Map: [Etheostoma fusiforme_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Etheostoma fusiforme_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation:

Maine Status: Threatened

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern: NA

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority: NA

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Swamp Darter:

Formation Name Freshwater Aquatic

Macrogroup Name

Lakes and Ponds

Habitat System Name: Eutrophic **Notes:** *prefers slow, stagnant, boggy areas with detritus and aquatic vegetation*

Habitat System Name: Mesotrophic or Intermediate **Notes:** *prefers slow, stagnant, boggy areas with detritus and aquatic vegetation*

Macrogroup Name

Rivers and Streams

Habitat System Name: Medium River **Notes:** *prefers slow, stagnant, boggy areas with detritus and aquatic vegetation*

Habitat System Name: Small River **Notes:** *prefers slow, stagnant, boggy areas with detritus and aquatic vegetation*

Stressors Assigned to Swamp Darter:

Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat

Other Options

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Lack of knowledge

Severity: Moderate Severity

Actionability: Highly actionable

Notes: Basic understanding of species status and conservation needs in Maine is poor.

IUCN Level 1 Threat

Natural Systems Modifications

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Dams and Water Management-Use

Severity: Moderate Severity

Actionability: Moderately actionable

Notes: Town water supply and management issues associated with some darter habitats are a concern.

Etheostoma fusiforme (Swamp Darter)

Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: *Actinopterygii* (Ray-finned Fishes)

Order: *Perciformes* (Perch-like Fishes)

Family: *Percidae* (Perches)

IUCN Level 1 Threat **Pollution**

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Domestic and Urban Waste Water

Severity: Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable

Notes: Nutrient loading from residential runoff degrades water quality, affects vegetation, and dissolved oxygen levels.

IUCN Level 1 Threat **Invasive and Other Problematic Species, Genes and Diseases**

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Invasive Non-native-Alien Species-Diseases

Severity: Severe **Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty

Notes: Poor competitors with large predatory fishes.

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Problematic Native Species-Diseases

Severity: Severe **Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty

Notes: Poor competitors with large predatory fishes.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Swamp Darter:

**Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

Conservation Action **Category:** Survey and Monitoring **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
Implement targeted professional surveys to better understand the distribution and status of this species and to help direct conservation actions to newly documented populations

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action **Category:** Research **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** new
Conduct research to develop an improved understanding of seasonal habitat requirements for all size and age classes

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action **Category:** Research **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** new
Conduct research to develop an improved understanding of spawning ecology

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action **Category:** Research **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** new
Conduct research to develop an improved understanding of trophic ecology

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Guild Level Conservation Actions:

This Species is currently not attributed to a guild.

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

***Etheostoma fusiforme* (Swamp Darter)**
Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: *Actinopterygii* (Ray-finned Fishes)

Order: *Perciformes* (Perch-like Fishes)

Family: *Percidae* (Perches)

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.