

Esox americanus americanus* (Redfin Pickerel)*Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)**Class: *Actinopterygii* (Ray-finned Fishes)Order: *Esociformes* (Pikes And Mudminnows)Family: *Esocidae* (Pikes)**General comments: none****Species Conservation Range Maps for Redfin Pickerel:**Town Map: [Esox americanus americanus_Towns.pdf](#)Subwatershed Map: [Esox americanus americanus_HUC12.pdf](#)**SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:****Risk of Extirpation:**

Maine Status: Endangered

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 Redfin Pickerel:****Formation Name Freshwater Aquatic**

Macrogroup Name Lakes and Ponds

Habitat System Name: Eutrophic ****Primary Habitat****

Macrogroup Name Rivers and Streams

Habitat System Name: Headwaters and Creeks ****Primary Habitat**** Notes: Coastal Stream/RiverHabitat System Name: Small River ****Primary Habitat**** Notes: Coastal Stream/River**Formation Name Intertidal**

Macrogroup Name Intertidal Water Column

Habitat System Name: Confined Channel Notes: migration corridor

Stressors Assigned to Redfin Pickerel:

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 Pollution**IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Agricultural and Forestry Effluents**Severity:** Severe**Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Nutrient loading from agricultural runoff severely degrades water quality, vegetation type, and dissolved oxygen level. One RPK population is known to be affected.

Esox americanus americanus* (Redfin Pickerel)*Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)****Class:** *Actinopterygii* (Ray-finned Fishes)**Order:** *Esociformes* (Pikes And Mudminnows)**Family:** *Esocidae* (Pikes)**IUCN Level 1 Threat Transportation and Service Corridors****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Roads and Railroads**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Improving connectivity at road/stream crossings may allow RPK to colonize proximal habitats and move to better quality habitats as conditions change; however, the intrusion of additional fish species (whether native or non-native) is likely problematic for this species.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Agriculture and Aquaculture****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Annual and Perennial Non-timber crops**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** RPK inhabit areas of clean and clear water quality. Sedimentation and siltation degrade water quality.**IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Livestock Farming and Ranching**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** RPK inhabit areas of clean and clear water quality. Sedimentation and siltation degrade water quality. Livestock grazing is known to affect one RPK site.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Climate Change and Severe Weather****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Habitat Shifting or Alteration**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** Sea level rise may affect some RPK sites since the fish occurs in FW streams in extremely close proximity to saltmarshes. Maintaining migration corridors and stream connectivity between saltmarsh and proximal FW systems is important for species persistence as sea level rises.**IUCN Level 1 Threat Residential and Commercial Development****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Housing and Urban Areas**Severity:** Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable**Notes:** RPK occur in coastal, southern ME areas with high development pressures.**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:** RPK are poor competitors with large predatory fishes. Carp degrade vegetation and physical habitat of at least one RPK population.**IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Problematic Native Species-Diseases**Severity:** Severe **Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty**Notes:** RPK are poor competitors with large predatory fishes.**Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Redfin Pickerel:**

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

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Conservation Action **Category:** Habitat Management **Biological Priority:** critical **Type:** on-going
 Work with landowners to enhance and restore riparian buffers on redfin pickerel occupied streams within agricultural lands.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Agricultural and Forestry Effluents

Conservation Action **Category:** Habitat Management **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** on-going
 Work with agricultural landowners to restrict or eliminate livestock access to streams occupied by redfin pickerel.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Agricultural and Forestry Effluents

Conservation Action **Category:** Habitat Management **Biological Priority:** critical **Type:** on-going
 Enhance and improve fish passage to proximal habitats so redfin pickerel can migrate to and colonize new habitats as necessary.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Roads and Railroads

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:

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.