CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bonytail Chub

Gila elegans

The Bonytail Chub is a rare freshwater fish endemic to the Colorado River Basin in the southwestern United States. It is easily recognized by its slender body, long bony tail base, and small head, ad…

Quick facts

Classification: Fish
Family: Cyprinidae
Habitat: Large, fast-flowing rivers with deep channels and backwaters
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Critically Endangered
Lifespan: 20-40 years
Weight: 0.5–1.5 kg
Scientific name: Gila elegans

Did you know?

- The Bonytail Chub's natural populations are so depleted that there are fewer than a few hundred individuals left in the wild, making them almost exti…
- Bonytail Chub can live for several decades, making them one of the longest-lived native desert fishes. Their elongated caudal peduncle (tail base) gi…

What I learned

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