

AN EXTENSION OF THE RANGE OF THE LONG-FINNED SMELT

On December 1, 1955, 23 long-finned smelt, *Spirinchus dilatus* (Schultz and Chapman), were taken from a fyke net beir in the Loleta Bottoms, 4.5 miles upstream from the mouth of the Eel River, Humboldt County, California (Figure 1). This locality is situated within the uppermost limit of tidewater in the Eel River. The fish, probably on a spawning migration, were sexually mature, eggs being extruded from the females at the slightest pressure, and milt flowing freely from the males.

The smelt had become entangled in the wire of a cylindrical fyke net being used by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to tag anadromous salmonids in the Eel River. The fyke net was located approximately 14 feet from the water's edge at a depth of 10 feet when the smelt were trapped.

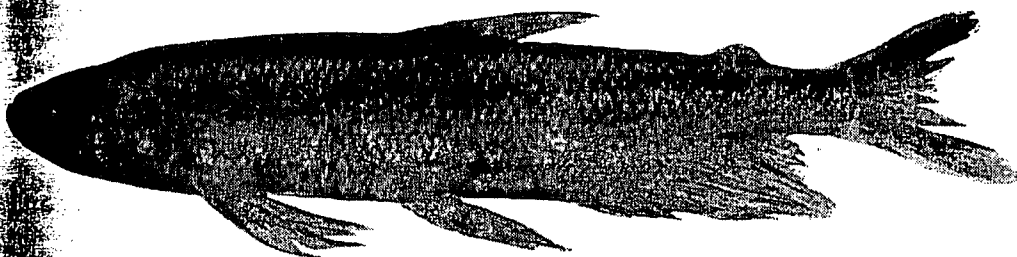


FIGURE 1. Long-finned smelt, *Spirinchus dilatus*, 105 mm. in standard length, taken in the Eel River, California, December 1, 1955. Photograph by Jack W. Schott.

Several specimens were examined and identified by Dr. Arthur Welander of the University of Washington. Specimens are now deposited in the U. S. National Museum and at Humboldt State College, Arcata, California.

The previous known southern limit of the range of the long-finned smelt was Tillamook Head, Oregon. Their presence in the Eel River is a southerly range extension of over 400 miles and adds a new species to the fish fauna of California.—Paul T. Jensen, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Eureka, California, July, 1956.

THE STATUS OF THE REDEYE BASS IN CALIFORNIA

Forty redeye bass (*Micropterus coosae*) were brought into California for brood stock by the writer from Sheeds Creek, tributary to the Conasauga River in southeastern Tennessee, on November 11, 1953 (Kimsey, 1954). These fish were taken to the California Department of Fish and Game Central Valleys Hatchery, Elk Grove. This note is intended to clarify the present status of the species in California.

The fish were held in a pond of about one surface acre, with a depth of from six inches to five feet, until February 23, 1954, when they were moved to a one-third-acre spawning pond. At this time it was found that 15 individuals from 7.4 to 10.0 inches in fork length had survived. The rigors of procurement and travel are believed to have been largely responsible for the mortality (62.5 percent).

The brood pond sloped gradually in depth from six inches at one end to six feet at the settling basin. Gravel with an average diameter of

three most recently lacking for the first permanent scientific record, 29, 1949, off Santa Catalina Island, abdominal, caudal, 47 = 64, 17 + 48

Island contained a few fish vertebrae, an unidentifiable shell

who suggested this collection in southern

Off California

Santa Catalina Island	Klamath River
365	376
1,079	1,066
251	234
123	117
051	056
032	047
025	027
179	162
063	066
329	309
574	561
197	213
249	239
98	102
74	73
47 = 63	
0+1+2	0+1+2
--	4+1+14
4+21	5+20
male	--

standard length.

1. Canada, Bull. 68,

Department of