

Subject Rough Fish
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Date February 21, 2023

Summary

This bill would appropriate \$134,000 annually to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for native fish conservation and classification. It also requires the DNR to:

- 1) provide a written update to the legislature, by August, 1, 2023, on the progress of identifying necessary protection and conservation measures for native fish that are currently designated as rough; and
- 2) submit a report to the legislature, by December 15, 2023, with recommendations for statutory and rule changes necessary to provide protection and conservation measures and research needs for native fish currently designated as rough fish.

Currently, designated rough fish include carp, buffalo, sucker, sheepshead, bowfin, gar, goldeye, and bullhead. Fish designated as rough fish are generally not subject to as restrictive possession limits, seasons, and other regulations as game fish (e.g., walleye).