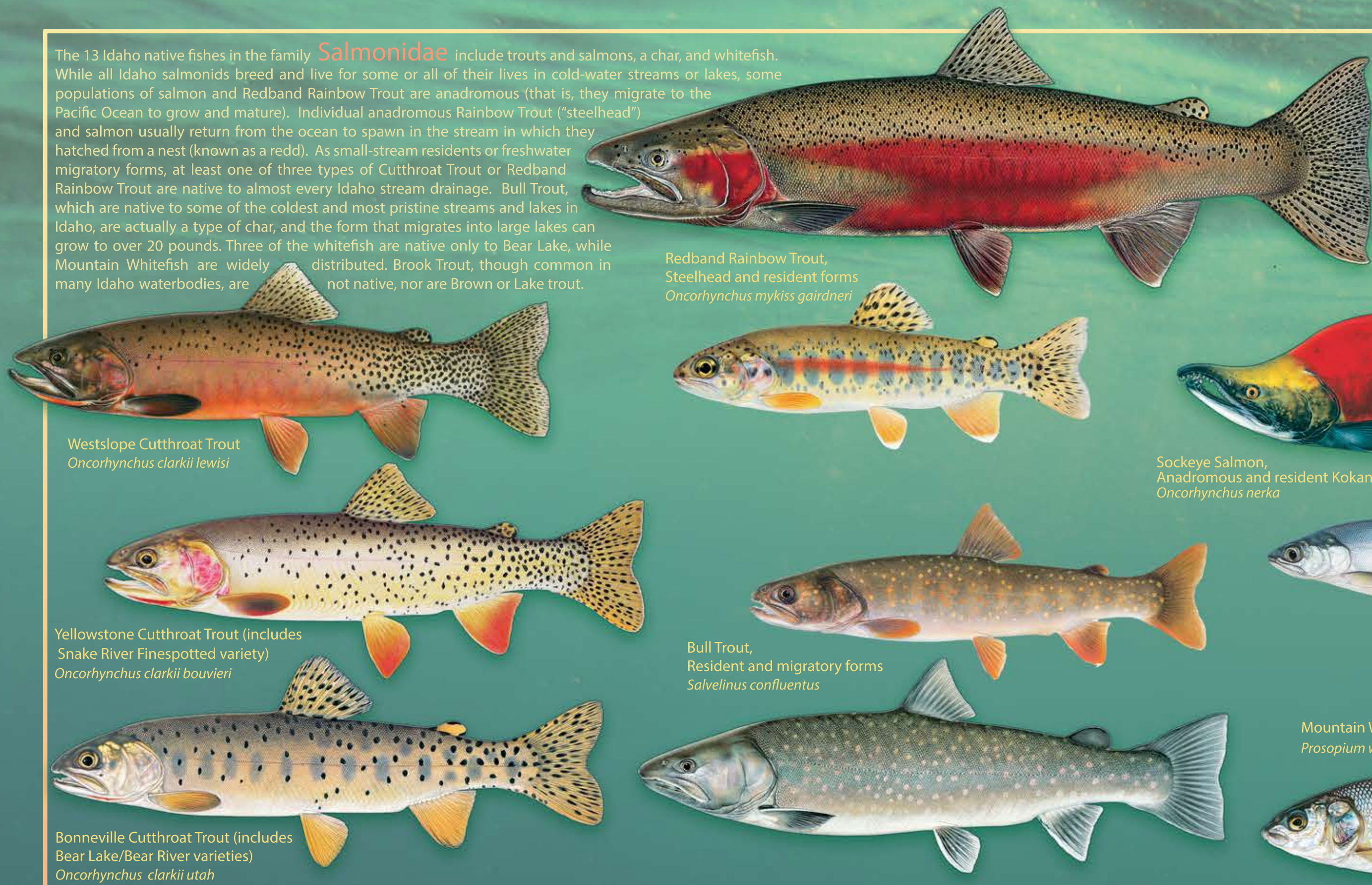


The 13 Idaho native fishes in the family **Salmonidae** include trouts and salmon, a char, and whitefish. While all Idaho salmonids breed and live for some or all of their lives in cold-water streams or lakes, some populations of salmon and Redband Rainbow Trout are anadromous (that is, they migrate to the Pacific Ocean to grow and mature). Individual anadromous Rainbow Trout ("steelhead") and salmon usually return from the ocean to spawn in the stream in which they hatched from a nest (known as a redd). As small-stream residents or freshwater migratory forms, at least one of three types of Cutthroat Trout or Redband Rainbow Trout are native to almost every Idaho stream drainage. Bull Trout, which are native to some of the coldest and most pristine streams and lakes in Idaho, are actually a type of char, and the form that migrates into large lakes can grow to over 20 pounds. Three of the whitefish are native only to Bear Lake, while Mountain Whitefish are widely distributed. Brook Trout, though common in many Idaho waterbodies, are not native, nor are Brown or Lake trout.



Westslope Cutthroat Trout
Oncorhynchus clarkii lewisi

Redband Rainbow Trout, Steelhead and resident forms
Oncorhynchus mykiss gairdneri

Chinook Salmon
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha

Sockeye Salmon, Anadromous and resident Kokanee forms
Oncorhynchus nerka

Coho Salmon
Oncorhynchus kisutch

Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (includes Snake River Finespotted variety)
Oncorhynchus clarkii bouvieri

Bull Trout, Resident and migratory forms
Salvelinus confluentus

Pygmy Whitefish
Prosopium coulterii

Mountain Whitefish
Prosopium williamsoni

Bear Lake Whitefish
Prosopium abyscicola

Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (includes Bear Lake/Bear River varieties)
Oncorhynchus clarkii utah

Bonneville Whitefish
Prosopium spillanotus

Bonneville Cisco
Prosopium gemmifer

Fish in the family **Cottidae** are commonly called sculpins and include at least 10 species in Idaho, all of the genus *Cottus*. Idaho sculpins are exclusively freshwater species, live in cool and cold-water streams and lakes, and are typically no longer than about 6 inches. Sculpins are difficult to tell apart, and recent research suggests that more than 10 species may eventually be identified in Idaho. Sculpins mostly feed on aquatic insects and one or more species of sculpin are native to almost every stream system in Idaho with good water quality. Idaho sculpins typically live on the stream or lake bottom among or under rocks, and so are often overlooked. Three of the Idaho species have small ranges, including one found only in Bear Lake, and another native to only a few springs near and in the Snake River in Gooding County.



Bear Lake Sculpin
Cottus extensus

Columbia Sculpin
Cottus hubbsi

Torrent Sculpin
Cottus rhotheus

Mottled Sculpin Complex
Cottus bairdii

Paiute Sculpin
Cottus beldingii

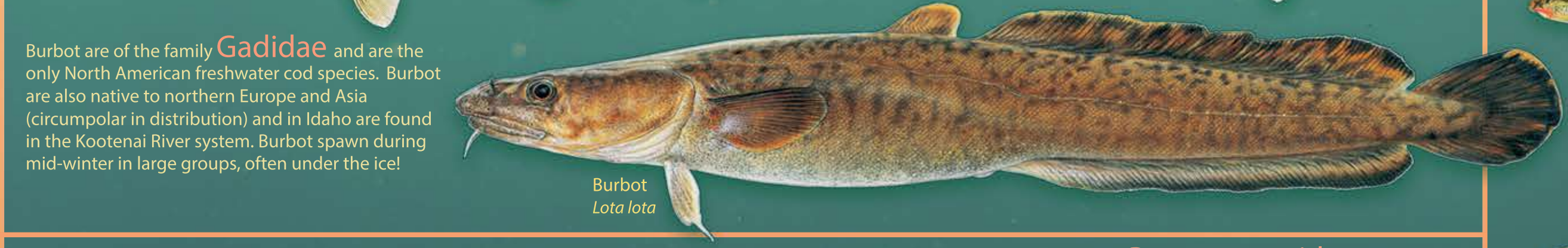
Shoshone Sculpin
Cottus greeni

Shorthead Sculpin
Cottus confusus

Wood River Sculpin
Cottus leiopomus

Slimy Sculpin
Cottus cognatus

Burbot are of the family **Gadidae** and are the only North American freshwater cod species. Burbot are also native to northern Europe and Asia (circumpolar in distribution) and in Idaho are found in the Kootenai River system. Burbot spawn during mid-winter in large groups, often under the ice!



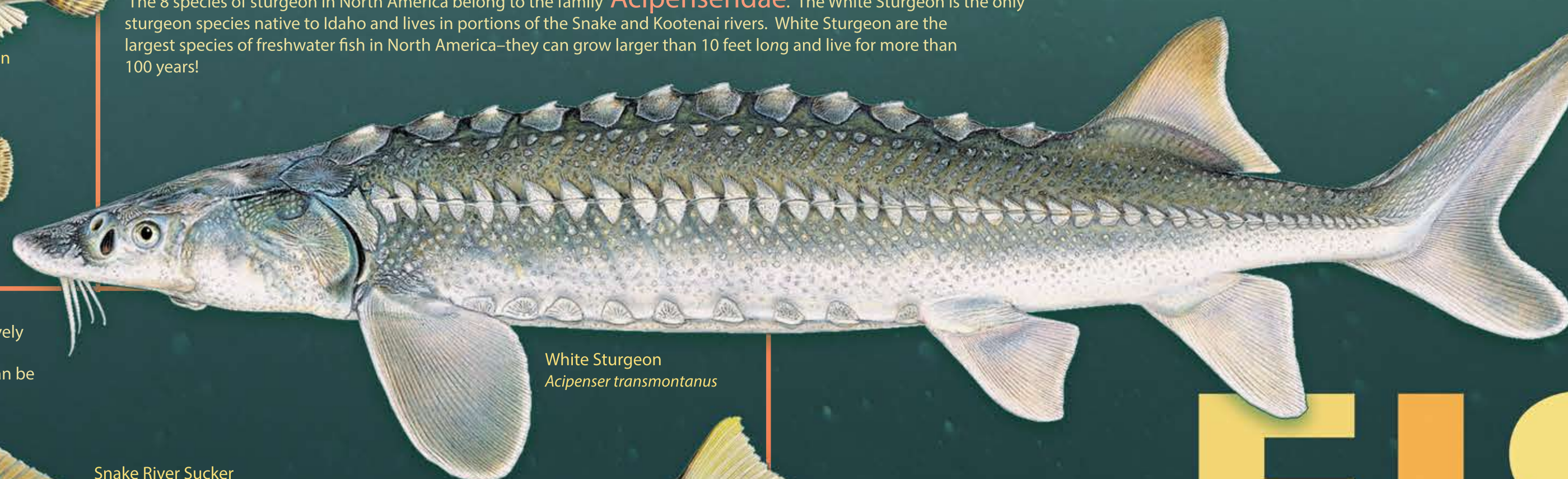
Burbot
Lota lota



Pacific Lamprey
Entosphenus tridentatus

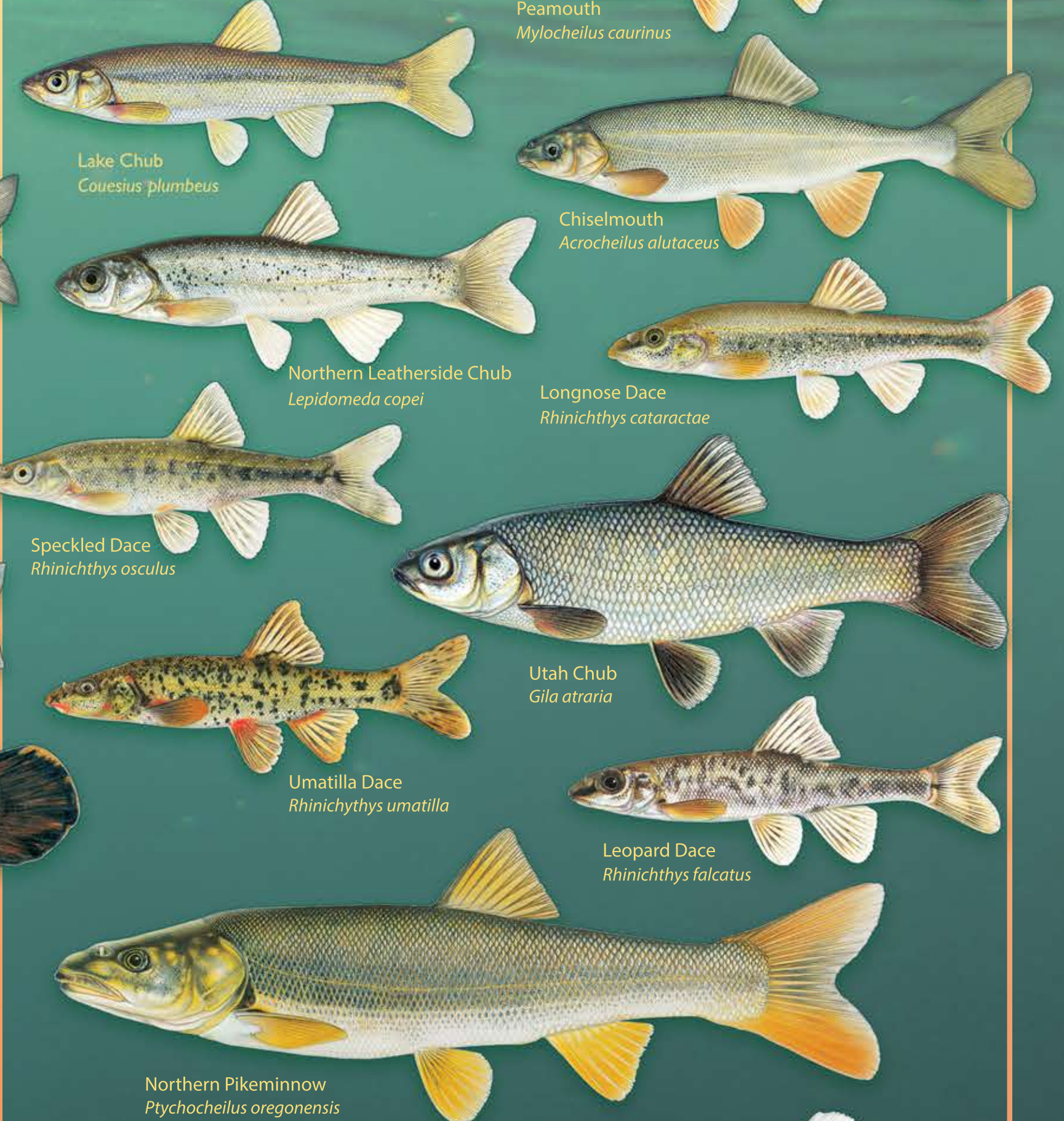
Lampreys belong to the family **Petromyzontidae**. The Pacific Lamprey is the only family member native to Idaho. Lampreys are a jawless, non-bony fish that are characterized by a sucking disc-like mouth. Both Pacific Lamprey and White Sturgeon (below) migrate within rivers and between rivers and the ocean, so dams can affect access to spawning areas and other vital habitat.

The 8 species of sturgeon in North America belong to the family **Acipenseridae**. The White Sturgeon is the only sturgeon species native to Idaho and lives in portions of the Snake and Kootenai rivers. White Sturgeon are the largest species of freshwater fish in North America—they can grow larger than 10 feet long and live for more than 100 years!



White Sturgeon
Acipenser transmontanus

The minnow family **Cyprinidae** includes 11 native species in Idaho out of about 2,000 worldwide species. A few of the Idaho native cyprinid species are widely distributed across the state in a variety of habitat types, but several have sparse or restricted distributions. Many native minnows are present in the same high-quality stream reaches as salmonids or cottids, but several species can also live in relatively warm or polluted waterbodies. A few species, particularly Redside Shiner, Northern Pikeminnow, Utah Chub, and Speckled Dace, can be very abundant in suitable habitat. Minnows mostly eat insects, plankton, and small fish, and are in turn often eaten by larger salmonids and non-native gamefish. Some cyprinids eat aquatic vegetation, particularly Chiselmouth, which have a specially-adapted lower jaw that is used to scrape algae from rocks.



Redside shiner
Richardsonius balteatus

Peamouth
Mylocheilus caurinus

Lake Chub
Couesius plumbeus

Chiselmouth
Acrocheilus alutaceus

Longnose Dace
Rhinichthys cataractae

Northern Leatherside Chub
Lepidomeda copei

Speckled Dace
Rhinichthys osculus

Utah Chub
Gila atraria

Umatilla Dace
Rhinichthys umatilla

Leopard Dace
Rhinichthys falcatus

Northern Pikeminnow
Ptychocheilus oregonensis

The Sand Roller (of the **Percopsidae** (Trout-perch) family, is native to the Columbia River system. Sand Rollers are one of only two surviving Trout-perch species in the world. In Idaho, Sand Rollers live in the Snake and Clearwater rivers near Lewiston. They are only about 4 inches long and are seldom caught or seen.



Sand Roller
Percopsis transmontana



Mountain Sucker
Catostomus platyrhynchus

Suckers belong to the family **Catostomidae**. There are seven species of suckers native to Idaho, where they are found in waterbodies across the state. While some species of sucker can be present in relatively warm or somewhat degraded water, many native suckers thrive in the same cold and high-quality stream reaches as salmonids or cottids. A few of the native species, particularly Largescale and Bridgelip suckers, can be very abundant in suitable habitat. On the other hand, the Snake River Sucker, native to the upper parts of that river system, is thought to be extinct. Idaho suckers are characterized by a protrusible downward-facing mouth which allow them to forage for food on the stream or lake bottom.



Largescale Sucker
Catostomus macrocheilus



Snake River Sucker
Chasmistes muriei



Bridgelip Sucker
Catostomus columbianus



Utah Sucker
Catostomus ardens



Bluehead Sucker (Green Sucker form)
Catostomus discobolus



Longnose Sucker
Catostomus catostomus

Native FISHES of IDAHO

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