

Fish Survey on Rainbow River

RRC participated in a Florida Springs Institute Rainbow River fish survey on Feb 15 2019. Led by Bob Knight and his great team of Heather and Hillary we began at the headspring and did two sections. Participants included Chris and Jason, fisheries biologists from FWC, Steve, a fisheries biologist from the US Geological Survey, Ann Coyne, several FSI interns, and several more staff FSI swimmers. We had two boats, Bob Knight's and Bill Vibbert's.

We were fortunate to have fisheries experts who knew all the species including the many minnow species. There were seven great swimmers. The survey counted a great number of fish of many species. We did not see shad, or a bowfin, but good numbers indicated a healthy aquatic system.

We interacted with a team from FWC who were doing electric shocking that stuns fish. We had several conversations and I learned that they had been working for the past week. I am hoping that the new data can assist RRC in our attempt to establish a catch-and-release zone in the upper river.

It was a perfect day on the river and we thank Bob Knight and his great team for the work they do. Heather, do you have a list of the people who participated? It was a wonderful group to work with. The results of the survey are listed in the Table below.

Bill Vibbert
2/21/19



Some of the fish caught and released during the fish survey



Underwater photography of fish In Rainbow River

Fish Survey Rainbow Springs and Rainbow River 2-15-19

Location	Method	Date	Common Name	Scientific Name	Count	Length (in)	Length (cm)
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Minnows	<i>Notropis sp.</i>	227	1.5	3.81
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Coastal Shiner	<i>Notropis petersoni</i>	66	2	5.08
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Largemouth Bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	587	8	20.32
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Redbreast Sunfish	<i>Lepomis auritus</i>	127	5	12.7
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Bluegill Sunfish	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	381	4.5	11.43
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Spotted Sunfish	<i>Lepomis punctatus</i>	194	4	10.16
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Redear Sunfish	<i>Lepomis microlophus</i>	209	9	22.86
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Sunfish Sp.	<i>Lepomis sp.</i>	362	2.5	6.35
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Inland Silverside	<i>Menidia beryllina</i>	57	3	7.62
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Lake Chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>	31	12.5	31.75
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Seminole Killifish	<i>Fundulus seminolis</i>	118	5.5	13.97
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Bluefin Killifish	<i>Lucania goodei</i>	159	1.5	3.81
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Florida Gar	<i>Lepisosteus platyrhincus</i>	1	24	60.96
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Longnose gar	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>	14	36	91.44
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Golden Shiner	<i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i>	19	4.5	11.43
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Redeye Chub	<i>Notropis harperi</i>	47	2.5	6.35
RS1-RS2	Visual	2/15/2019	Black Crappie	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	1	14	35.56
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Minnows	<i>Notropis sp.</i>	61	2	5.08
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Gizzard Shad	<i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>	1	10	25.4
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Coastal Shiner	<i>Notropis petersoni</i>	333	3	7.62
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Largemouth Bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	408	8	20.32
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Redbreast Sunfish	<i>Lepomis auritus</i>	419	6.5	16.51
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Bluegill Sunfish	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	611	6	15.24
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Spotted Sunfish	<i>Lepomis punctatus</i>	742	4	10.16
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Redear Sunfish	<i>Lepomis microlophus</i>	147	7	17.78
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Sunfish sp.	<i>Lepomis sp.</i>	576	6	15.24
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Inland Silverside	<i>Menidia beryllina</i>	184	2.5	6.35
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Lake Chubsucker Atlantic	<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>	62	14	35.56
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Needlefish	<i>Strongylura marina</i>	1	12	30.48
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Seminole Killifish	<i>Fundulus seminolis</i>	333	6	15.24
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Bluefin Killifish	<i>Lucania goodei</i>	49	2.5	6.35
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Florida Gar	<i>Lepisosteus platyrhincus</i>	7	22	55.88
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Longnose Gar	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>	9	28	71.12
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Golden Shiner	<i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i>	1	5	12.7
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Redeye Chub	<i>Notropis harperi</i>	127	2	5.08
RS2-RS3	Visual	2/15/2019	Metallic Shiner	<i>Pteronotropis metallicus</i>	100	1.5	3.81