

# golden redhorse

## *Moxostoma erythrurum*

### FEATURES

The golden redhorse averages eight and one-half to 15 inches in length and one-half to one pound in weight. Its average life span is six or seven years. The long, slender body has a golden color with a yellow or white belly and a gray or green tail. A sucker-type mouth with big lips is present on the lower side of the animal. There is a groove between the upper lip and the snout. The tail fin is forked, and there are teeth in the throat.

### BEHAVIORS

The golden redhorse lives in creeks and small rivers with a rock or gravel bottom. This fish travels in large schools on the bottom. It spawns April through May over rubble with gravel and sand. It feeds most actively in the evening, eating bottom ooze, insect larvae and other invertebrates.

### TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Chordata  
Class: Actinopterygii  
Order: Cypriniformes  
Family: Catostomidae

### ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

### ILLINOIS RANGE





**Aquatic Habitats**

rivers & streams

**Woodland Habitats**

none

**Prairie and Edge Habitats**

none