

FALLFISH (*Semotilus corporalis*)



Image by Noel Burkhead

Other common names: Chub, silver chub, lake chub, stone roller, whitefish, dace.

Identification: Body is heavy set and more compressed laterally than the closely related creek chub. Head is blunt with a large mouth that is slightly overhung by the snout (obvious in large individuals). Eyes are large. Scales are large; adult fish have a dark crescent or triangular-shaped pigmentation at base of each scale on the back and upper sides. Dorsal fin rays closest to the back are often darkly pigmented but are not as limited to an anterior spot characteristic of the creek chub. **Coloration:** Back is olive to golden-brown; sides are very silvery, sometimes with purplish or bluish sheen; underside is silvery-white. Young individuals have a dark band along the sides and a spot at base of tail fin. **Size:** Average 5-8 inches, but large adults may attain 18 inches. Largest minnow species native to Vermont.

Habitat: An adaptable species inhabiting pools in moderate to large streams with gravel-rubble bottoms. It is also found in some lakes. The fallfish is widely distributed in Vermont.

Bait use: As a bait fish, the fallfish has many of the same attributes as the creek chub.