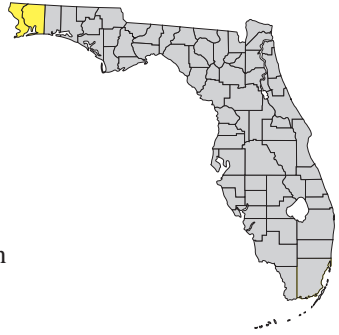


SALTMARSH TOPMINNOW

Fundulus jenkinsi



Order:	Atheriniformes
Family:	Cyprinodontidae
FNAI Ranks:	G2/S2
U.S. Status:	Candidate
FL Status:	Species of Special Concern



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Description: Small topminnow, averaging approximately 1.75 in. (44 mm). The most diagnostic feature is a series of small, round, black spots on the midside of the body that often form two rows. General coloration is a very light yellowish brown.

Similar Species: Marsh killifish (*Fundulus confluentus*) has a series of approximately 14 vertical bars along the midside. Gulf killifish (*F. grandis*) is much larger, 4 - 8 in. (102 - 203 mm), and lacks the black spots of saltmarsh topminnow.

Habitat: Saltmarsh ranging from small tidal meanders to areas just outside the mouth.

Seasonal Occurrence: Present in all seasons.

Florida Distribution: Perdido, Escambia, and East bays.

Range-wide Distribution: Spotty distribution along the Gulf coast from Galveston Bay to extreme western Florida.

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Conservation Status: The majority of the shoreline of Perdido, Escambia and East bays is privately owned. Areas that have not yet been developed will likely encounter developmental pressure in the near future.

Protection and Management: Conserve saltmarsh habitat within the species range. Protect water quality by prohibiting water contamination via septic systems and surface runoff from nearby developments.

Selected References: Gilbert (ed.) 1992, Walls 1976.



by Wendy Zomlefer from Gilbert (ed.) 1992
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