

Fish in the San Francisco Bay and Delta

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American shad: Now in decline, in the late 1800s, 800,000 fry were caught in New York and planted in the Sacramento River.

Bay goby: It is one of the few fish that actually expanded its territory and numbers during the drought, because it likes the saltier bays that are prevalent when less fresh river water flows.

Black crappie: The fish can be found almost anywhere in the state where there is warm, quiet water.

Bluegill: The fish can survive and reproduce under a wide variety of environmental conditions.

Carp: The common bottom feeders, originally from Asia, rip up aquatic plants and stir up silt when they feed.

Delta smelt: Once so plentiful they were almost a nuisance to fishermen who wanted bigger fish, now they're endangered.

English sole: They spawn outside the Golden Gate, enter the Bay as young to use it as a nursery, then return to the ocean as adults.

Largemouth bass: Sought-after game-fish, they live in warm-water farm ponds, reservoirs, sloughs and foothill streams above the San Joaquin Valley.

Longfin smelt: Once thriving in the estuary from sea water to fresh water, they are now in decline.

Northern anchovy: The most abundant fish in the Bay, they spawn in the ocean every summer and are a large commercial bait fishery.

Source: *Bay in Peril* (Examiner, October 1993), p. 9

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Nautilus Institute

608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email:

nautilus@nautilus.org