



# Best Management Practices in Construction and Development Projects Central Mudminnow *Umbra limi*

**Common name** • Central Mudminnow  
**Scientific name** • *Umbra limi*  
**Federal status** • None  
**State status** • Endangered

## Purpose and Use

The information in this document is to be used to help avoid and minimize species impacts due to construction practices. It is not intended to be used as a guide to manage habitat for a given species. If that is the goal, please contact the Department of Conservation for habitat management information. Because every project and location differs, following the recommendations within this document does not ensure that impacts will not occur to the species and additional information might be required in certain instances. Following the recommendations within this document does not complete Endangered Species Act consultation that may be necessary for species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act; please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for more information.

## Ecology

Central Mudminnows historically occurred in lakes and ponds in central and eastern North America with the northern limit of their distribution in southern Manitoba, Canada. In Missouri, Central Mudminnows have only been recorded in areas along the Mississippi River. They are habitat specialists because they occupy still waters with abundant submerged vegetation and thick layers of organic material. These conditions are generally found in ponds, marshes and sloughs that are seasonally flooded. Central Mudminnows are tolerant of low oxygen and highly acidic waters. They also are generalized feeders that typically prey on small snails, crustaceans and insect larvae, as available. Spawning occurs between April and June. Adult Central Mudminnows reach a length of from 2-4 inches.

## Reason for Decline

Throughout much of their range, Central Mudminnows are fairly common. However, in Missouri loss of wetlands along the Mississippi River for agricultural and urban development has eliminated habitat for this species. Because Missouri's populations are isolated, predation from introduced fish species also could threaten Central Mudminnows.

## Specific Recommendations

Protection of wetland habitats and functions is an essential goal, not only for species like the Central

Mudminnow, but because wetlands provide important environmental services.

- Avoid draining or reducing wetland habitat throughout the Central Mudminnow's range.
- Project activities should not occur below water levels between April 1 and June 15.
- Practices that will increase siltation or erosion should be avoided.
- Erosion and sediment controls should be strictly implemented, maintained and monitored for the duration of the project.
- The potential for introductions of predatory fish species to wetlands, for example through excessive flood inundation or stockings, should be minimized.

## General Recommendations

Refer to Management Recommendations for Construction Projects Affecting Missouri Streams and Rivers and Management Recommendations for Construction Projects Affecting Missouri Wetlands.

If your project involves the use of Federal Highway Administration transportation funds, these recommendations may not fulfill all contract requirements. Please contact the Missouri Department of Transportation at 573-526-4778 or [www.modot.mo.gov/ehp/index.htm](http://www.modot.mo.gov/ehp/index.htm) for additional information on recommendations

## Information Contacts

For further information regarding regulations for development in rivers, streams and wetlands, contact:

For species information:

### [Missouri Department of Conservation](#)

Resource Science Division  
P.O. Box 180  
2901 W. Truman Blvd  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180  
Telephone: 573/751-4115

For species information and Endangered Species Act Coordination:

### [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)

Ecological Services  
101 Park Deville Drive, Suite A  
Columbia, MO 65203-0007  
Telephone: 573/234-2132

For Clean Water Act Coordination:

[Missouri Department of Natural Resources](#)

Water Protection Program  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176  
Telephone: 573/751-1300, 800/361-4827

[U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#)

Regulatory Branch  
700 Federal Building  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896  
Telephone: 816/983-3990

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division  
901 North 5th Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Telephone: 913/551-7307

[Missouri Department of Conservation](#)

Policy Coordination Section  
P.O. Box 180  
2901 W. Truman Blvd  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180  
Telephone: 573/751-4115

[Missouri Department of Natural Resources](#)

Division of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176  
Telephone: 573/526-3315

[U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#)

Regulatory Branch  
700 Federal Building  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896  
Telephone: 816/983-3990

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901 North 5th Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Telephone: 913/551-7307

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)

Ecological Services  
101 Park Deville Drive, Suite A  
Columbia, Missouri 65203-0007  
Telephone: 573-234-2132

development projects, and require permits and/or consultation with the appropriate agency. Following the recommendations provided in this document will help reduce and avoid project impacts to the species, but impacts may still occur. Please contact the appropriate agency for further coordination and to complete compliance requirements.

## **Disclaimer**

These Best Management Practices were prepared by the Missouri Department of Conservation with assistance from state and federal agencies, contractors and others to provide guidance to those people who wish to voluntarily act to protect wildlife and habitat. Compliance with these Best Management Practices is not required by the Missouri wildlife and forestry law nor by any regulation of the Missouri Conservation Commission. Other federal laws such as the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act, and state or local laws need to be considered for construction and