



Hogchoker

Trinectes maculatus



Description:

- ◆ flat, oval body
- ◆ small mouth
- ◆ no pectoral fins
- ◆ dark brown with dark thin bars
- ◆ pale underside
- ◆ eyes on right side of fish
- ◆ dorsal and anal fins stretch from head to tail

Size:

- ◆ up to 8 inches

Range:

- ◆ Massachusetts to Florida; Gulf of Mexico to Panama

Facts:

- ◆ prefer coastal waters
- ◆ travel hundreds of miles upstream in freshwater
- ◆ spawn inshore from May to September
- ◆ larvae go upstream after hatching
- ◆ live up to 7 years
- ◆ feed on worms and crustaceans
- ◆ bottom dwellers
- ◆ farmers would feed hogchokers to their hogs and the hogs would often choke on them, hence their name



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