

Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*)

Description: the Topeka shiner is a small minnow reaching a typical body length of 2.25 inches. For most of the year, the fish has little color to its silvery body. However, during late spring and early summer, the fins of the male Topeka shiner turn red.

Status: The Topeka Shiner is federally listed as endangered and Kansas-listed as threatened. The fish was historically a common species of the prairie, but its current range is severally restricted. It has been found in five streams on Fort Riley.

Habitat: Topeka shiners require small to medium-sized streams with high water quality to meet their biological needs. They prefer streams with clean gravel bottoms that have ground water inputs. Increased water turbidity, stream eutrophication, streambed modification, and stream channel impoundments diminish and/or destroy habitat quality for this species.

Conservation Goals for Fort Riley: Fort Riley strives to protect individual Topeka shiners present on the installation from any negative impacts, and to maintain and improve current Topeka shiner habitat.

Actions taken by Fort Riley:

- Conduct annual surveys of all streams in which Topeka shiners are known to occur.
- Survey streams with apparently suitable habitat, but without known Topeka shiners, at least twice every five years.
- Review activities that may affect Topeka shiners prior to action initiation to ensure they don't harm the species.
- Educate Fort Riley personnel on stream quality maintenance.
- Restore and preserve stream habitats.
- Control construction of water impounding dams on streams containing Topeka shiners and/or their habitat.
- Minimize siltation of streams containing Topeka shiners and/or their habitat.