

## ***Cottus kanawhae*, a new cottid fish from the New River System of Virginia and West Virginia**

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### **Abstract**

*Cottus kanawhae*, a member of the *Cottus carolinae* complex, is described from the New River System of Virginia and West Virginia.

**Key words:** Cottidae, *Cottus bairdii*, *Cottus carolinae*, *Cottus girardi*, *Cottus kanawhae*, sculpin, New River System

### **Introduction**

The purpose of this paper is to formally describe a species first proposed in a manuscript by Robins (1954) and thus make available a name for a common freshwater fish species so that it may be properly treated in state and regional works on ichthyology, and in other systematic treatments of the genus now underway by others. The new species is known from the New River System of West Virginia and Virginia. Much material has been collected in the years since 1954, and the author has made no effort to study and list this material. Counts and measurements are as defined by Robins and Miller (1957).

### ***Cottus kanawhae*, new species**

Kanawha sculpin

(Figures 1, Tables 1–2)

*Cottus bairdii* subspecies, Burton and Odum, 1945 (local distribution in Sinking Creek and neighboring streams in the Kanawha system).

*Cottus carolinae*, Lee, et al., 1980: 807 (in part, records from the Kanawha River System). Williams and Howell, 1979 (in part; data labeled New River drainage).