Rare minnow turns up in Rouge

A recent survey of the Rouge River found a surprise catch.
Joe Derek, Farmington Hills naturalist and two men with the North American Native Fishes Association recently discovered an endangered red side dace.
The description of the minnow was confirmed by a University of Michigan 2000gy professor to be a rare fish that usually doesn't swim this far north.

rare fish that t this far north.

rare fish that usually doesn't swim
this far north.

"It means our water quality is pretty good," said Derek. "It's kind of
exeiting."

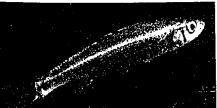
He said the group and he were surveying the Rouge for fish to see which
species to add to the Nature Center
aquarium.

The fish was photographed, videotaped and put back in the Rouge,
Derek said.

Because the fish is endangered in
Michigan, the fish cannot be permanently captured, Derek said. The
minnow is rare in Michigan, but not
in warmer states such as Ohio, where
it is not considered endangered.
Leo S. Long and Bob Muller of the
North American Native Fishes
Association were on hand to do the
survey of the Rouge.

"If there's one there's definitely
more," Long said. "We only checked a
small area.

Long said the metro area is the
northern limit for the minnow, which
grows up to 4.5-inches long and has
red sides. Its characteristics also



Joe Derek, Farmington Hills naturalist and two men with the North American Native Fishes Association recently discovered this endangered red side dace in the Rouge River in Farmington Hills.



Local and state naturalists used nets to get an idea what's swimming in the Rouge River.

include a pointed nose and large mouth along with gold-colored stripes.

"I think it's possible but we may have seen it around here about 10-12 years ago," said Long.

CAMPUS PIPELINE

U of M Grads
The following Farmington/
Farmington Hills residents recently
earned degrees from the University of

Dokyun Kim, Andrew Knepley, Marie Law, Karen Ludke, Kelly Moug, Julie Samantray, Katie Seed and Cecilia Tsang.

Environmental coordinator hired by Farmington Hills

Tracy Slintak grew up traveling the country during summers with her parents, who had the time because they

ents, who had the time because they were teachers.

That love of visiting the outdoors grew into her professional life as an adult. Slintak's experience with environmental study and jobs makes her a worthy choice as the city of Farmington Hills' new environmental coordinator. Keeping the environment from being damaged and protecting citizens' health and well-being is all part of her focus, she said.

The 37-year-old admitted looking

damaged and protecting citizens health and well-being is all part of her focus, she said.

The 37-year-old admitted looking out for everything from the West Nile virus to figuring out which method residents should use for lawn care is a heavy responsibility.

"Feople here in Farmington Hills dork know we have two separate sewer systems," here and. One is for what goes through your house and the other sin the street and ditches which ends up in the rivers. It doesn't get treated. She said studies show what most residents do every day than industry.

She said studies show what most residents do every day than industry.

On the rivers and lakes," she said.

Slintak brings with her a weath of environmental knowledge, both through her education and previous work experience. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology with a concentration in ecosystems from Eastern Michigan University and is working loward her master's degree at EMU in geography with a concentration in copystems from Eastern Michigan University and is working loward her master's degree at EMU in geography with a concentration in urban and regional planning.

Prior to working in Farmington Hills, Slintak was employed as the environmental specialist for Troy's engineering department.

Previously, she was an environmental scientist in Hillsborough County in Florid and allow orked as a naturalist for the Huron-Clinton Metroparks while attending college.

While Hills city officials are questioning what they can do about homeowners using fertilizers that could damage the waterways, she said mandating lawn care is difficult.

"Alot of people don't read the instructions," she said of spreading fertilizers and pesticides. They tend to put three to four times the amount they need and the excess washes off (in the rivers and streams)."



Farmington Hills new environmentalist, Tracy Slintah, stands in hiking boots and skirt in the Rouge River.

Rouge River.

So is the answer mandating how people treat their lawns?

Such an ordinance would be difficult to enforce, Slintak said. A better approach just may be suggested ways to treat lawns with less harmful methods, she said. It's something we'll be working on.

Either way, the Ypsilanti resident said she's happy to be working in Farmington Hills.

It think it's a great place to be," she said. "The people here are open to dideas. The homeowners want to protect their property values."

Keeping the natural aesthetic of the community adds to that goal, she said. "It's up to us to keep (the creeks and rivers) nice and not pass the problem to other communities," she said.

She and her husband, Martin, have two children, Julia, 11 and Kristopher, 6.

Slintak will also net as a liaison

6.

Slintak will also act as a liaison between the city and various environmental agencies.

She is chairwoman of the Michigan Storm Water/Floodplain Association and is the first certified floodplain manager in Michigan.

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GAME PLAN SEPTEMBER 19TH - SEPTEMBER 22ND

Thursday September 19

rew the work of Jedde DeCoamo, the arrise behind the plenuresque wearouler that I become the controller of the The Village beterising campaign.

10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. Thursday wey9.30 am. 10.00 am.

Ribon caraing ceremony
9.30 am. 2000 pm.

View the work of Jackle DeConno, the strict behind
the electroscape westercolor that become the

Friday September 20

Friday September ... Chatis, the singing hot dog man from Tiper Sto 11:50 a.m. - 4:50 p.m. Chalien he singing hot dog man from Tiper Sto moonwalls, and art, spin art and a nattoo purior

Saturday September 21

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Children's activities throughout the center include Gulden's activities throughout the center include hand versing, breaft table, candle art, and art, spin art and a terroo purfox.

Clown

Carlonarist

Alapcian - Face painting - Yo Yo demonstrations & centers

Tamos Artist

Manical Internationant "Marcas Belerive Group"

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Musical entertainment "Marcus Belgrave Group"
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Charlie, the singing hot dog man from Tiger Studium

Sunday September 22

Lander in advision and the opposite the center had been table.

1200 p.m. - 100 p.m.

1200 p.m. - 400 p.m.

1200 p.m. - 500 p.m.

Alsoid enternation

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