

# The Pikes



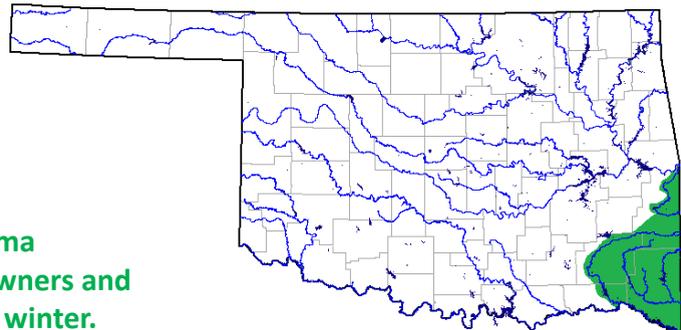
# Redfin Pickerel



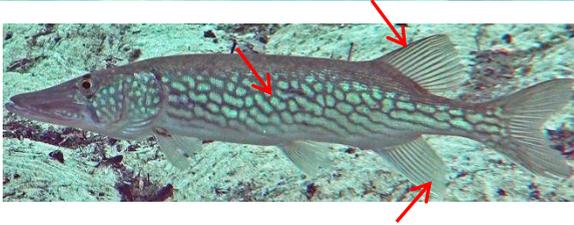
- Redfin pickerel look much like their larger cousin, the northern pike, but seldom grow larger than 8 to 10 inches in Oklahoma.
- They somewhat resemble gar, but the snout is much shorter and like a duck bill. The jaws are well toothed. The dorsal fin is far back and sits near the tail. They have a black bar below the eye.
- Coloration and patterning can vary and large individuals
- can look very much like the rarer chain pickerel.
- Also called “grass pickerels.”



**Fish Fact: The largest redfin pickerel documented in Oklahoma weighed 7 ounces. They are one of Oklahoma's earliest spawners and have even been documented spawning in late fall and early winter.**



# Chain Pickerel



- Chain pickerel are rare and unlikely to be encountered by Oklahoma anglers. They are occasionally caught in weedy waters of extreme southeastern Oklahoma.
- Larger chain pickerel are readily identified by the silver and green reticulations on their sides. Smaller individuals can look very much like redbfin pickerel, but have 14 dorsal and 13 anal fin rays (redfins have 11 or 12). They also has about 125 lateral line scales compared to the redfins less than 110.

**Fish Fact: Chain pickerels are rare in Oklahoma, which is the extreme western fringe of their range. They are vicious predators and especially active during the winter and early spring months.**

