



(a)

Bowfin ***Amia calva***

<http://fish.dnr.cornell.edu/nyfish/Amiidae/bowfin.html>

Characteristics

- **stout, cylindrical body**
- **dorsal fin extends more than half the length of the back**, with more than 45 rays
- **rounded tail fin**, with backbone flexed upward and into upper part of fin (a)
- **head without scales, rest of body covered with scales**
- **each nostril with a prominent barbel-like flap**
- **fins without spines**

Ecology and Distribution

- **occurs in low-gradient portions of streams and their backwaters, oxbows, and adjacent lowland lakes; mainly encountered in main stem of French Creek**

Conservation – [PA species of special concern](#)