



<http://gwsphotos.com/images/1151.jpg>

# Grass Pickerel

*Esox americanus vermiculatus*

## Characteristics

- gill cover and cheek fully scaled
- row of 4 sensory pores along underside of lower jaw
- 11-12 slender bones (branchiostegal rays) in membrane on lower edge of gill cover
- black suborbital bar (teardrop) slanted rearward



<http://www.nativefish.org/Gallery/Esox-americanus-vermiculatus-1.jpg>

## Ecology and Distribution

- lakes, swamps, backwaters, and sluggish pools of streams
- usually among vegetation in clear water
- especially prominent in beaver-influenced streams in FCW