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## Review of *Fishes of the Central United States* by Joseph R. Tomelleri and Mark E. Eberle.

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**Fishes of the Central United States.** By Joseph R. Tomelleri and Mark E. Eberle. Foreword by Frank Cross. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2011. xii + 192 pp. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$39.95 cloth, \$24.95 paper.

The second, enlarged edition is a timely and necessary revision of the comfortable first edition classic. Tomelleri and Eberle remain true to their initial intent of providing accurate yet readable species accounts and detailed illustrations of Great Plains fishes. Format and style are especially suited for nontechnical audiences (anglers, naturalists, fish enthusiasts), whereas detailed life history accounts, summaries of conservation threats, and an extensive bibliography serve as handy references for natural resource managers and researchers.

Upon first review, the “Revised and Expanded” label may seem suspect: this second edition has 34 fewer total pages. However, revision of taxonomy and addition of species accounts are quickly noticed and appreciated. Two families elevated since 1990 are added along with revised family and genera names. Notable additions are made to Cyprinidae, Ictaluridae, and Percidae. Among cyprinids, several genera (e.g., *Hybognathus*, *Macrhybopsis*, *Dionda*) are expanded or added, five new species accounts appear, and illustrations increase from 27 to 71.

Common names are assigned for a few genera, such as singing shiners, tallscale shiners, and finescale shiners. Though seemingly whimsical, these names are phylogenetically sound and morphologically useful for ichthyology students. Addition of several madtoms (*Noturus*) increases the number of ictalurid illustrations from 10 to 16, and addition of several “roughbelly darters” (*Percina*) and “smoothbelly darters” (*Etheostoma*) increases the number of percid illustrations from 12 to 32. Unfortunately, additions of black, silver, and bighead carps are necessary to account for exotic fishes established since 1990.

Except for the omission of plate numbers, the second edition is a flawless and artistic presentation of some of the most memorable and often encountered ichthyofauna of the Great Plains.

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