

The
REDSIDE DACE
of the Morningside Tributary



REDSIDE DACE BIOLOGY

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Clinostomus elongatus*.
(Pronounced Cline-o-stow-mus
e-long-gate-us).

DISTRIBUTION: In Canada,
only a few small populations in
rivers and streams that flow
into Lake Ontario.

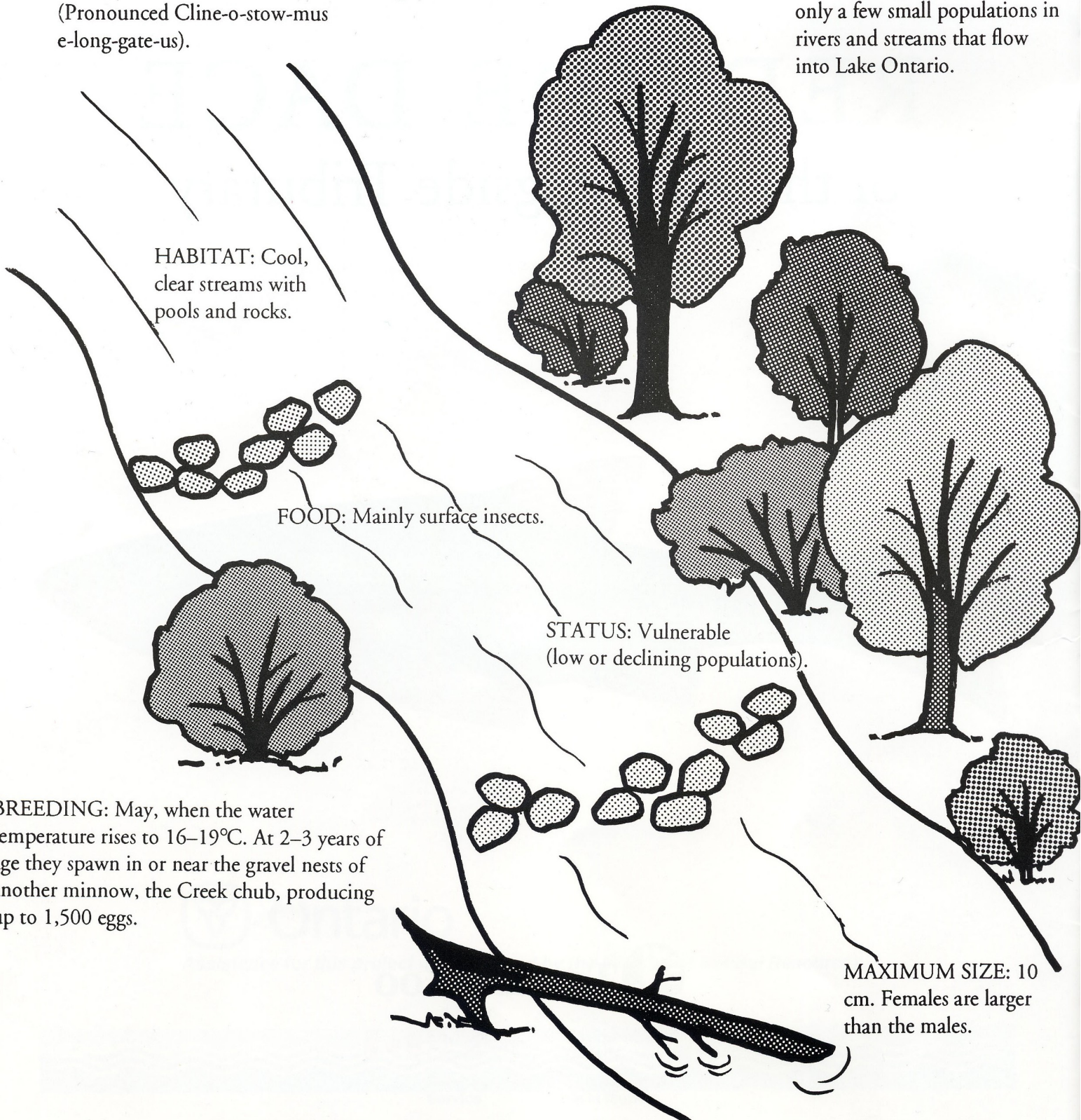
HABITAT: Cool,
clear streams with
pools and rocks.

FOOD: Mainly surface insects.

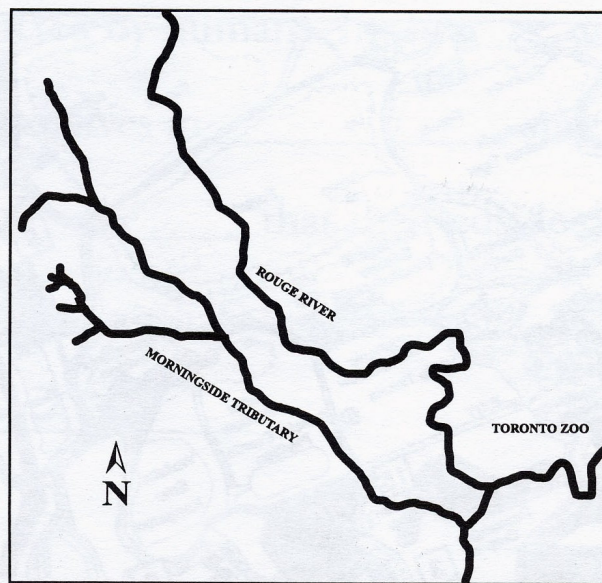
STATUS: Vulnerable
(low or declining populations).

BREEDING: May, when the water
temperature rises to 16–19°C. At 2–3 years of
age they spawn in or near the gravel nests of
another minnow, the Creek chub, producing
up to 1,500 eggs.

MAXIMUM SIZE: 10
cm. Females are larger
than the males.



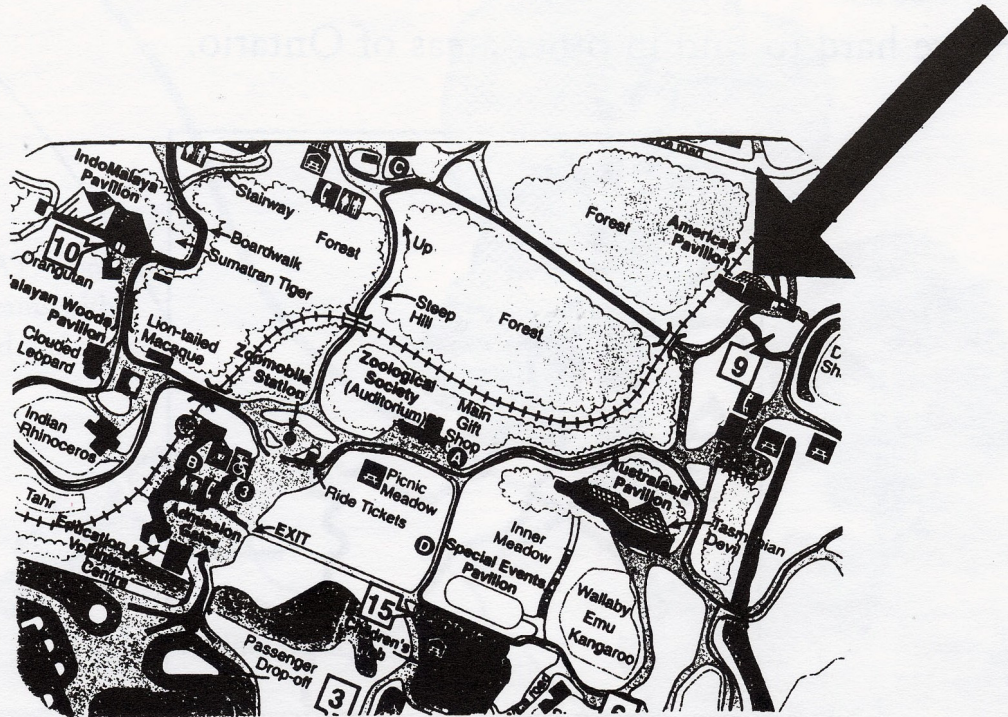
The **Morningside Tributary** is a major branch of the Rouge River and the two rivers meet on Toronto Zoo property! This area has many different kinds of wild animals. Some of the animals that live here are hard to find in other areas of Ontario.



The Morningside Tributary and the Rouge River on Toronto Zoo Property.

One of the rare animals found here is a fish called the **REDSIDE DACE**. This is an important area to the **REDSIDE DACE** and it should be taken care of and protected. Another fish called the Central stoneroller is at risk. Both fish species are considered “Vulnerable” by biologists.

THE REDSIDE DACE AT THE ZOO



The Redside dace is located in the Americas Pavilion.

After you have found the Redside dace exhibit you can begin to do the activities in this booklet, either at home or at school. **HAVE FUN!**

FILL IN THE BLANKS

The Redside dace is a _____ that lives in small _____ and _____ in southern Ontario. It is a _____ fish in Canada since much of its _____ has been impacted by humans. In the _____ Tributary the Redside dace lives in _____ and _____ water. The _____ that the Redside dace lives in needs to be _____ so that this _____ fish of the Rouge Valley can _____!

WORD LIST

ECOSYSTEM

COOL

RARE

MINNOW

HABITAT

STREAMS

SURVIVE

PROTECTED

MORNINGSIDE

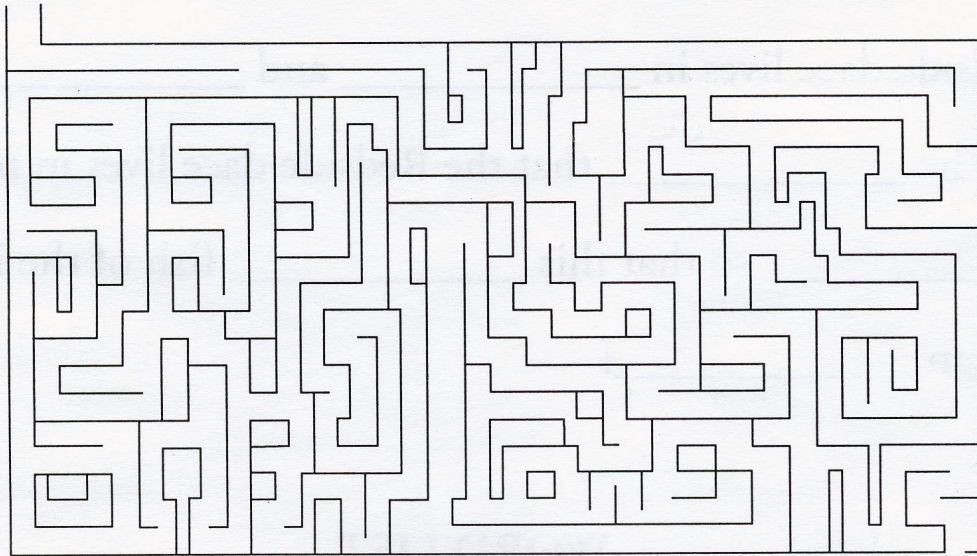
CLEAN

CREEKS

COLOURFUL

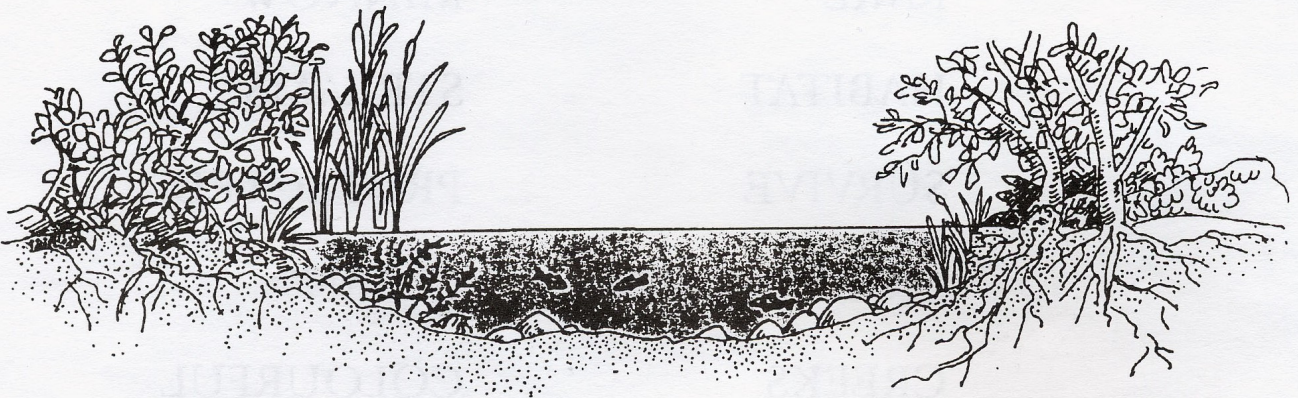
HELP THE REDSIDE DACE FIND ITS WAY HOME

**START
HERE**

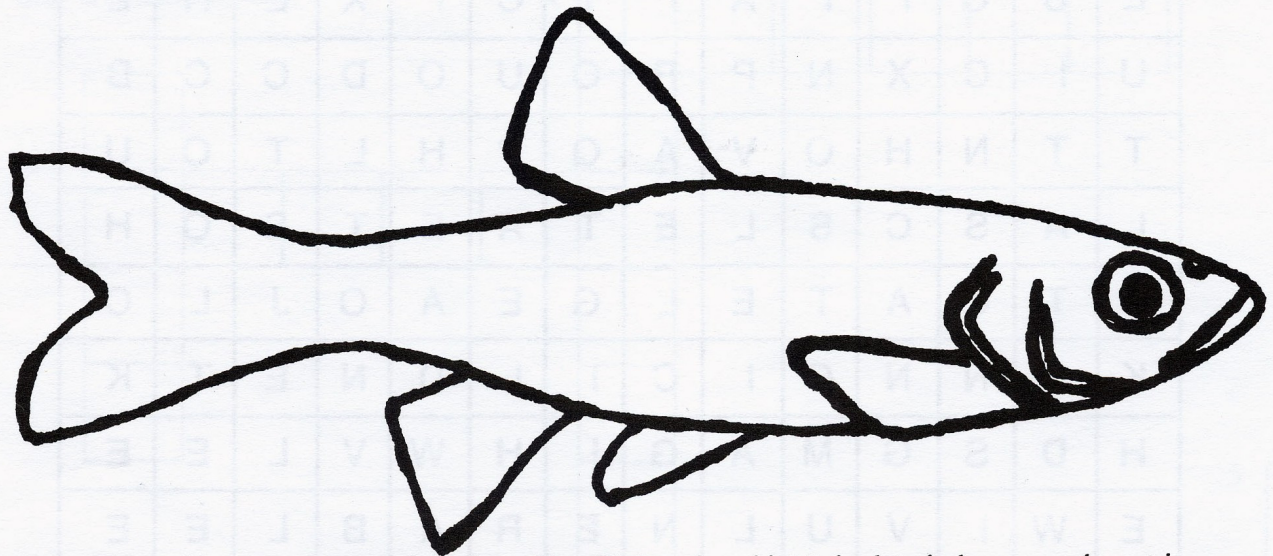


SWEET HOME!

HOME



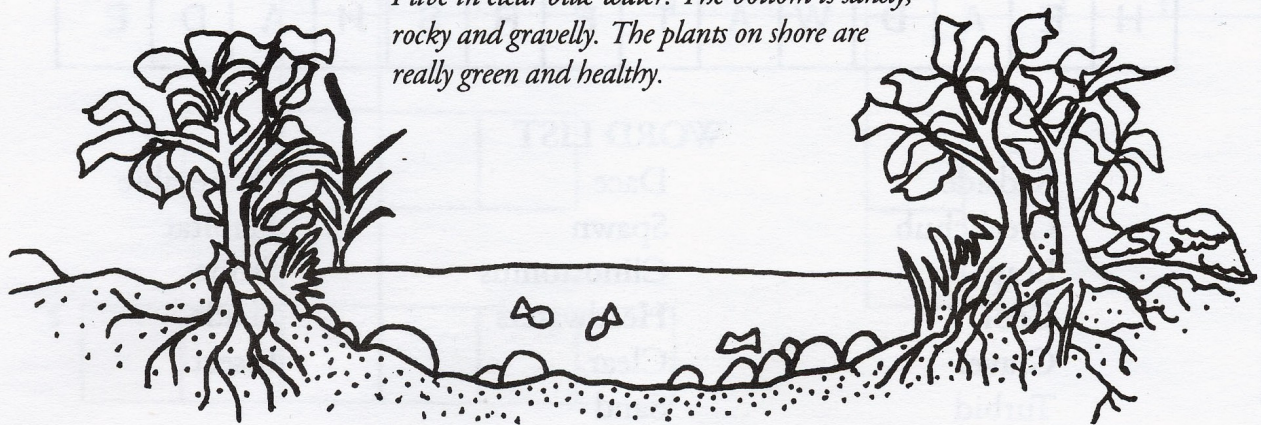
I'M A REDSIDE DACE COLOUR ME AND MY HOME



I have a thin golden stripe on my side and a red band below the gold. My back is dark green and my sides are sprinkled with dark scales.

NOW COLOUR MY HOME

I live in clear blue water. The bottom is sandy, rocky and gravelly. The plants on shore are really green and healthy.



FISHING FOR WORDS

T I L S C A L E S H S G A W
M L I T T E R O R R E R A A
E A B O E O S L L I G E T M
D E M R E T R A D D N A S P
E A V M G I L M E H E T O H
Y L C S A S L Y S R D L R I
L C N E L L S I O E L A A B
N A I W F S F V R U W K R I
T R S E U E I E T S A E N A
A N M R O N G I C M P S R N
T I L W M N O R N T E E L O
I V V O A N E I I C R S T M
B O T D C T O L T H G I S L
A R N A R N E O X Y G E N A
H E R B I V O R E T L E H S

WORD LIST

dace
sand darter
endangered
extinct
habitat
pollution
storm sewer

camouflage
sight
gills
shelter
mammal
great lakes
carnivore

herbivore
omnivore
eel
insect
scales
salmon
water

oxygen
reptile
amphibian
fish
litter

CROSSWORDS

DOWN

1. A species is labelled this when it is uncommon in a natural area.
2. Overhanging _____ creates cover for the Redside dace.
3. Redside dace do this near the nests of Creek chubs in May.
4. Redside dace can be found in deep _____.
5. The Redside dace is present in only a few of these in southern Ontario.

ACROSS

1. Its destruction threatens the survival of the Redside dace.
2. Redside dace are sensitive to _____ waters.
3. Another rare fish in the Morningside Tributary is the Central _____.
4. Redside dace prefer bottom substrates of rock, sand or _____.
5. The Redside dace is a part of the _____ family.

The crossword puzzle grid is composed of the following words and their lengths:

- Down 1:** 1 square
- Down 2:** 10 squares
- Down 3:** 10 squares
- Down 4:** 10 squares
- Down 5:** 10 squares
- Across 1:** 10 squares
- Across 2:** 4 squares
- Across 3:** 10 squares
- Across 4:** 1 square
- Across 5:** 6 squares

TRUE OR FALSE?

Populations of Redside dace are

decreasing in Canada?.....T F

Redside dace prefer fast moving water

at high temperature?.....T F

Redside dace are a warmwater fish species?.....T F

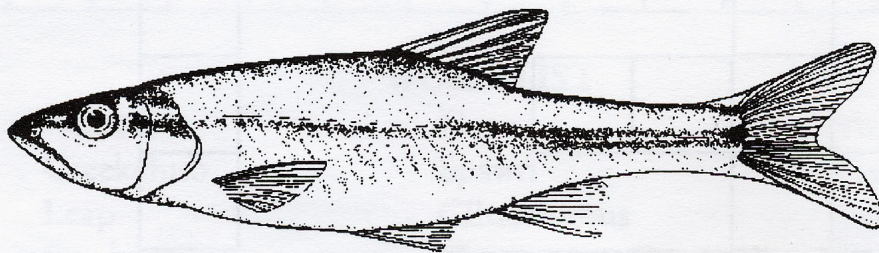
Planting vegetation on stream banks is

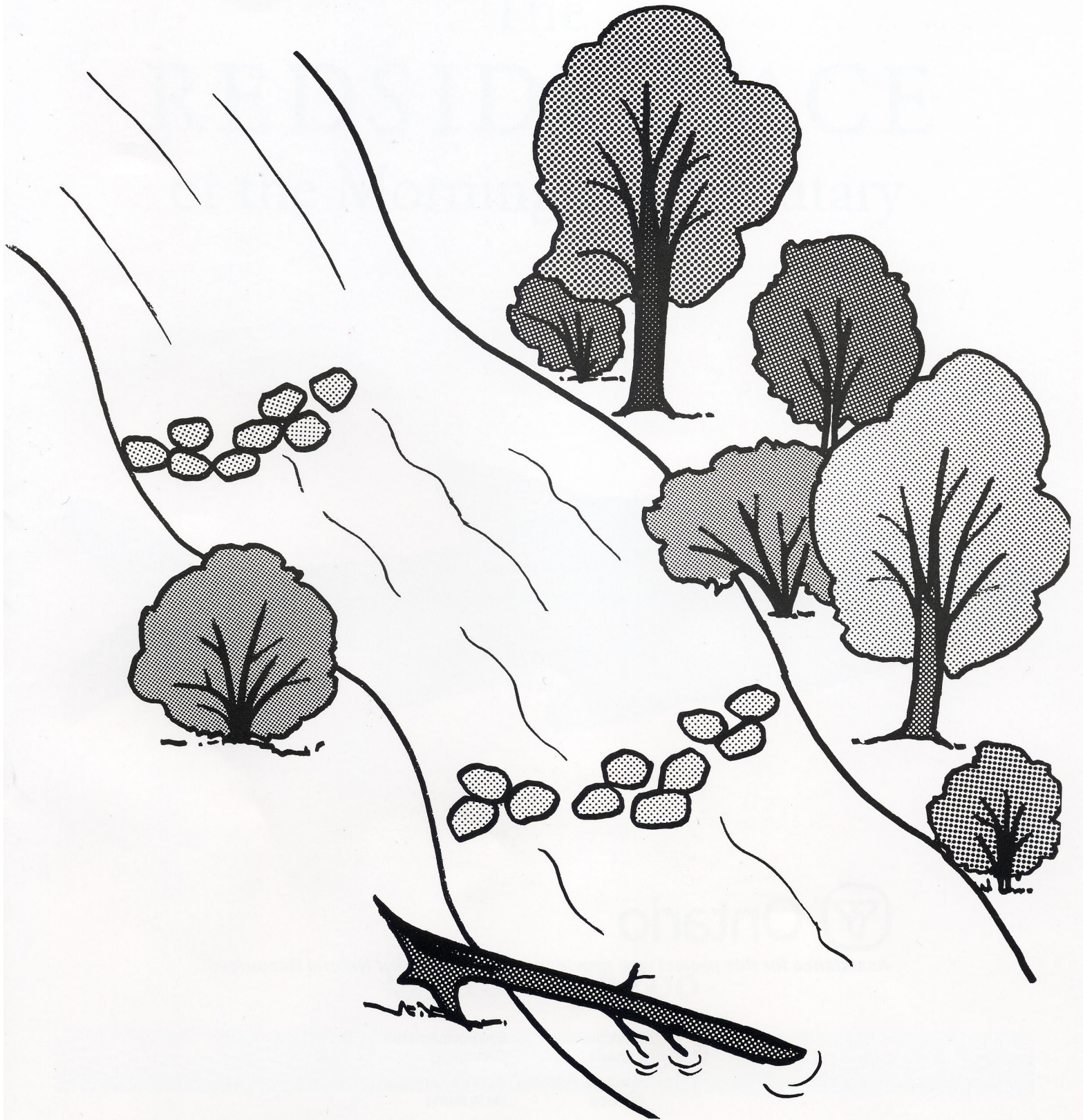
positive for the Redside dace of the Morningside?T F

The Toronto Zoo has an exhibit on the Redside dace

in the Americas Pavilion?.....T F

The Redside dace is an average of 8cm long?.....T F





IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Ontario Streams



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