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The beautifully marked rainbow trout, one of the world's most popular gamefish, prefers water cooler than 70 degrees.



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Fish finders have come a long way, as this HD Lowrance unit shows. This split screen reveals what lies under and to the sides of the boat, and it includes GPS mapping as well.



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Found in freshwater across the country, the pugnacious bluegill is adored by anglers for its willingness to bite and its great taste.



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Like its relative the black crappie, the white crappie (shown here) can be taken with bait, like a minnow fished under a float, or on lures, such as the legendary Beetle Spin.



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The channel cat is a hard-fighting gamefish widely stocked in ponds, reservoirs, and lakes everywhere. Its barbels (whiskers) help it locate food even in clouded water.



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The walleye makes a challenging, worthy opponent for many anglers, who pursue this cool-water fish with livebait rigs or lures, like the XCalibur One Kocker.

The yellow perch tastes great, so anglers pursue this schooling panfish with livebait and lures like the Mimic Minnow Shad.



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The largemouth bass ranks as one of the most-recognized and prized gamefish the world over. A largemouth will take livebait, but it's usually caught on a wide range of lures, including the soft plastic Yum Big Show Craw.



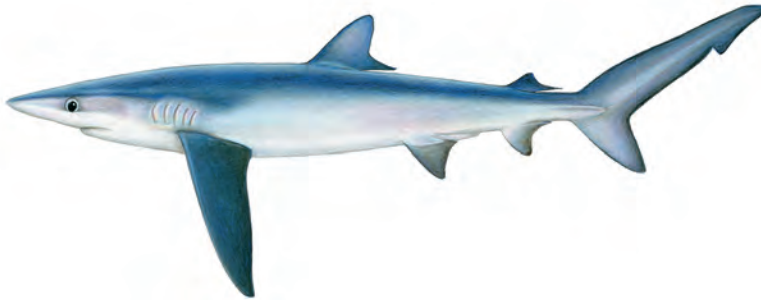
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Found in both fresh- and saltwater, the striped bass reaches weights in the triple digits. Anglers troll or cast lures or livebaits for stripers. This Spro Shad Swimbait mimics a common forage fish.



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Sharks, like the abundant blue shark, are sought by anglers for their hard, fast fight and feisty dispositions. Anglers often take them with livebaits like whole or cut fish.

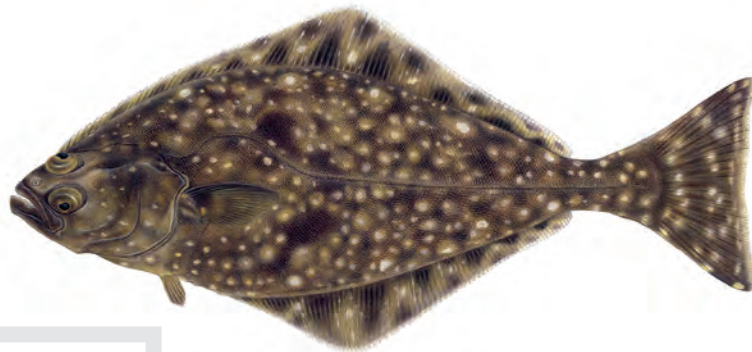


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The red drum, or redfish, is a beloved target for saltwater anglers fishing coastal regions. Often pursued by fly fishermen sight-fishing, red drum also take lures, like this Rapala X-Rap Shad.

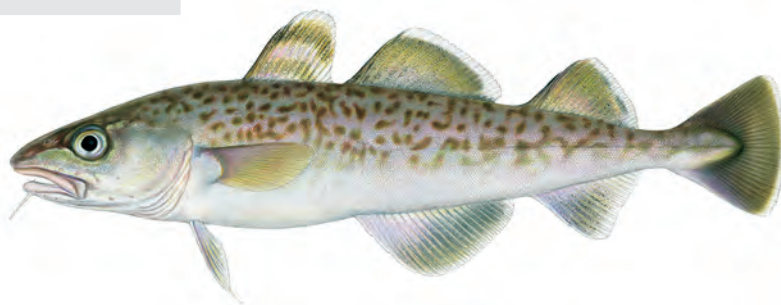
The halibut is a massive saltwater gamefish caught in the Pacific Northwest, where it prefers cool water. Caught on bait fished near the bottom, a halibut might fall for this Berkley Gulp! Saltwater Peeler Crab, made with natural, biodegradable ingredients.



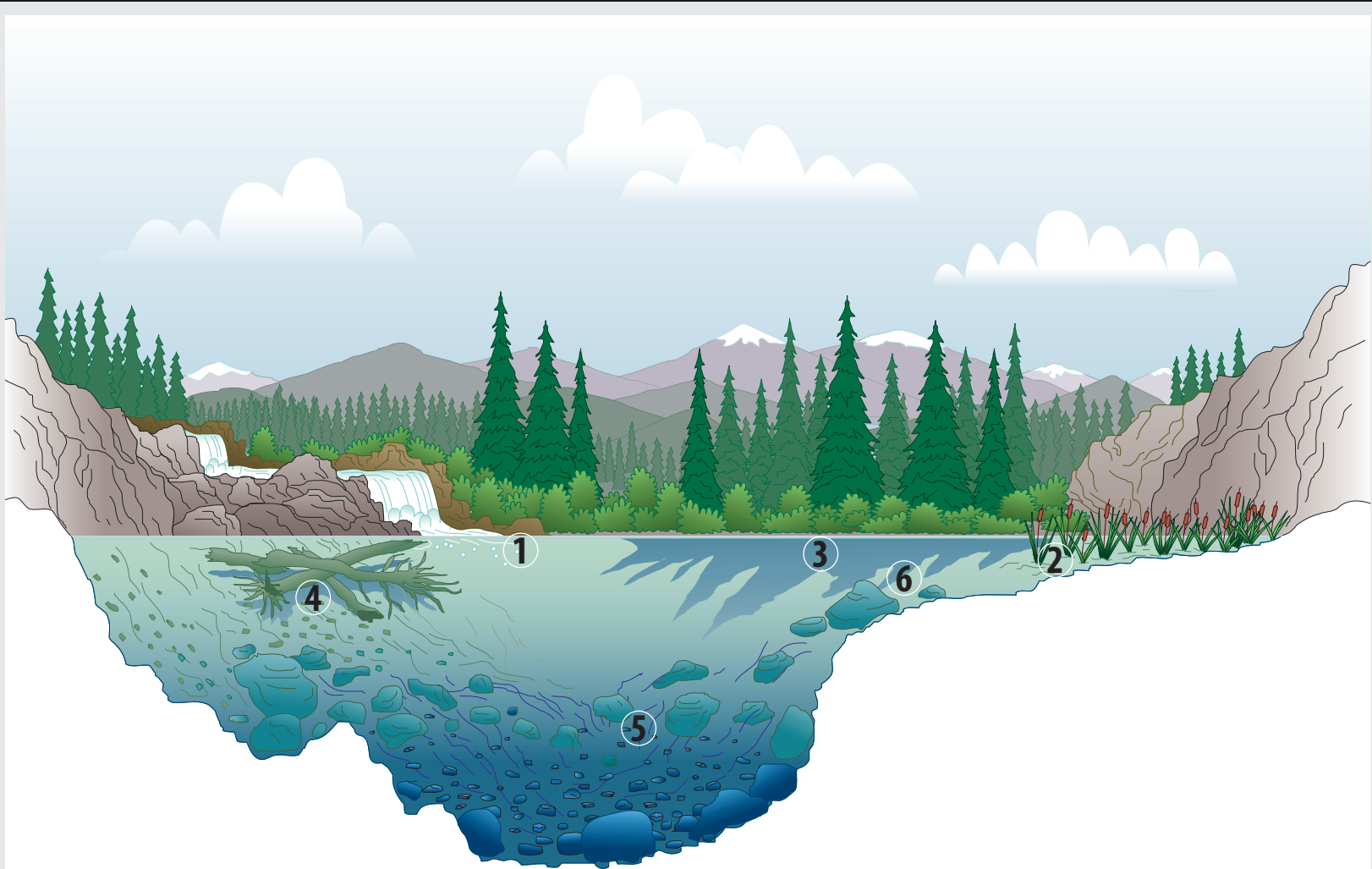
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The Pacific cod, like its relative the Atlantic cod, prefers cool water and can be found feeding near the bottom. Fished commercially for food, cod eat small fish and crabs, and maybe this Berkley Gulp! Shrimp.



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In this cutaway view of a typical lake, you can see features that are likely to concentrate gamefish. Look for visible clues, such as 1) places where streams enter or leave the lake, 2) weedbeds or stands of cattails, bulrushes, or other plants, and 3) shade, which can attract fish during high-sunlight periods. Also seek out cover and structure hidden beneath the surface, such as 4) submerged logs, 5) drop-offs and ledges, and 6) points where land trails into deeper water.