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ABSTRACT

Microhabitat for Chainback Darter (*Percina nevisense*) was quantified from April 2016 to September 2017 using snorkeling observations and measurement of depth, current velocity, and substrate size. Mean depth of observation was 60.5 cm (SD = 16.7), mean current velocity at observation points was 0.17 meters per second (SD = 0.12), and mean substrate size was 8.1 cm (SD = 11.4). None of these variables differed statistically between adults and subadults. Depth, current velocity, and substrate size were also measured at 30 evenly spaced spots within the study site during October 2016. None of the means for measured parameters of occupied points were significantly different from available habitat. However, the variances of occupied and available habitat for October 2016 were statistically different for depth and velocity, but not substrate size. All three measured variables were not uniform among months. These analyses suggest that *P. nevisense* occupy specific habitats and those habitats change from month to month with a shift to deeper and faster water over finer substrates during March to May during the likely spawning season.

*Keywords*: current velocity, depth, snorkeling, substrate.