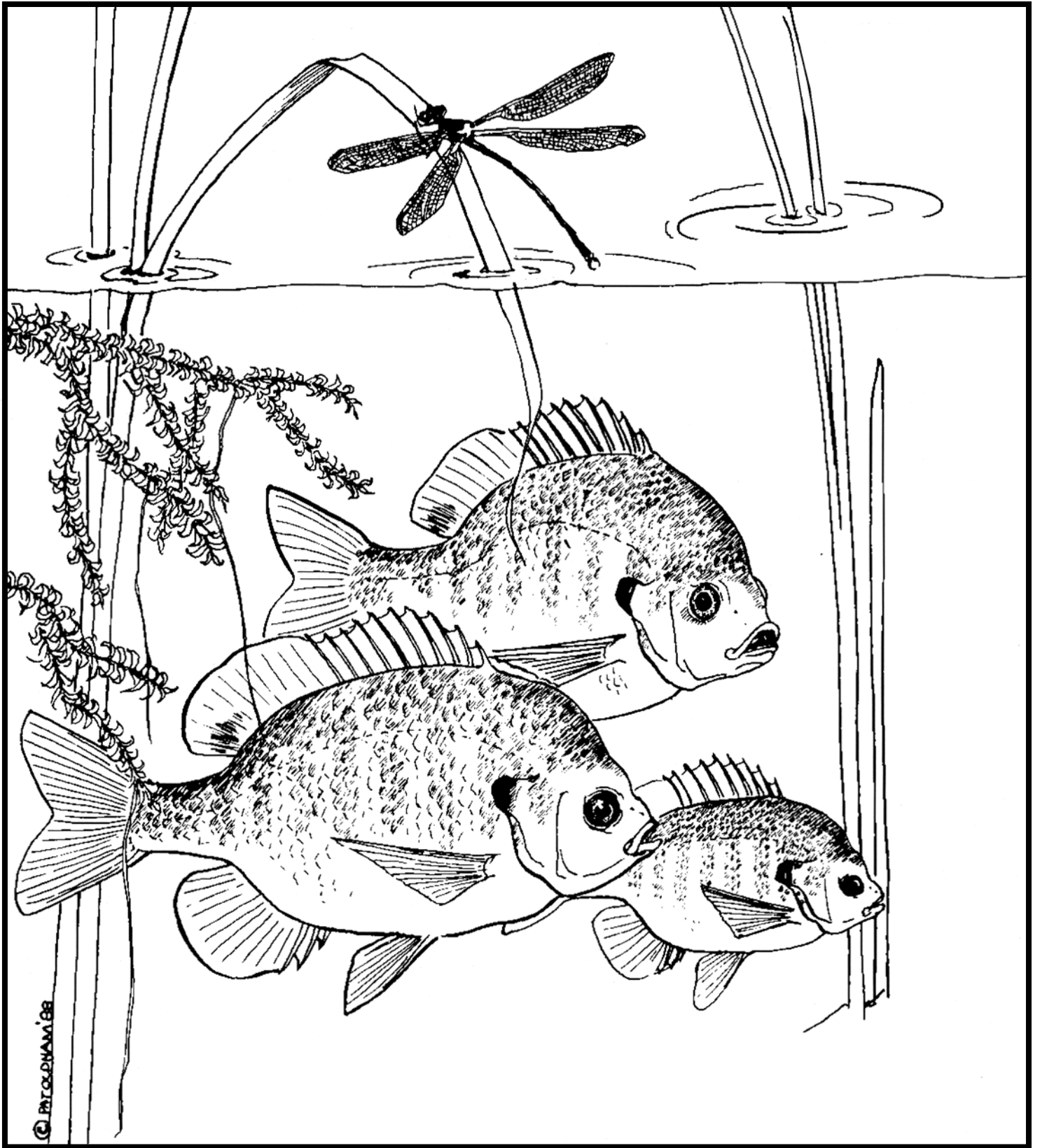


Largemouth Bass

This large-mouthed fish lives in many types of water habitats, but it prefers quiet warm rivers, lakes or ponds. It is seldom found in water deeper than 18 feet. Largemouth bass, as their name tells us, have a large terminal mouth with the upper jaw reaching past the center of the eye in adults. During breeding season, largemouth bass males are very protective of their underwater nest areas, not letting other males come near them. They are eager to attract females, however, which they do with special behavior and color pattern displays.



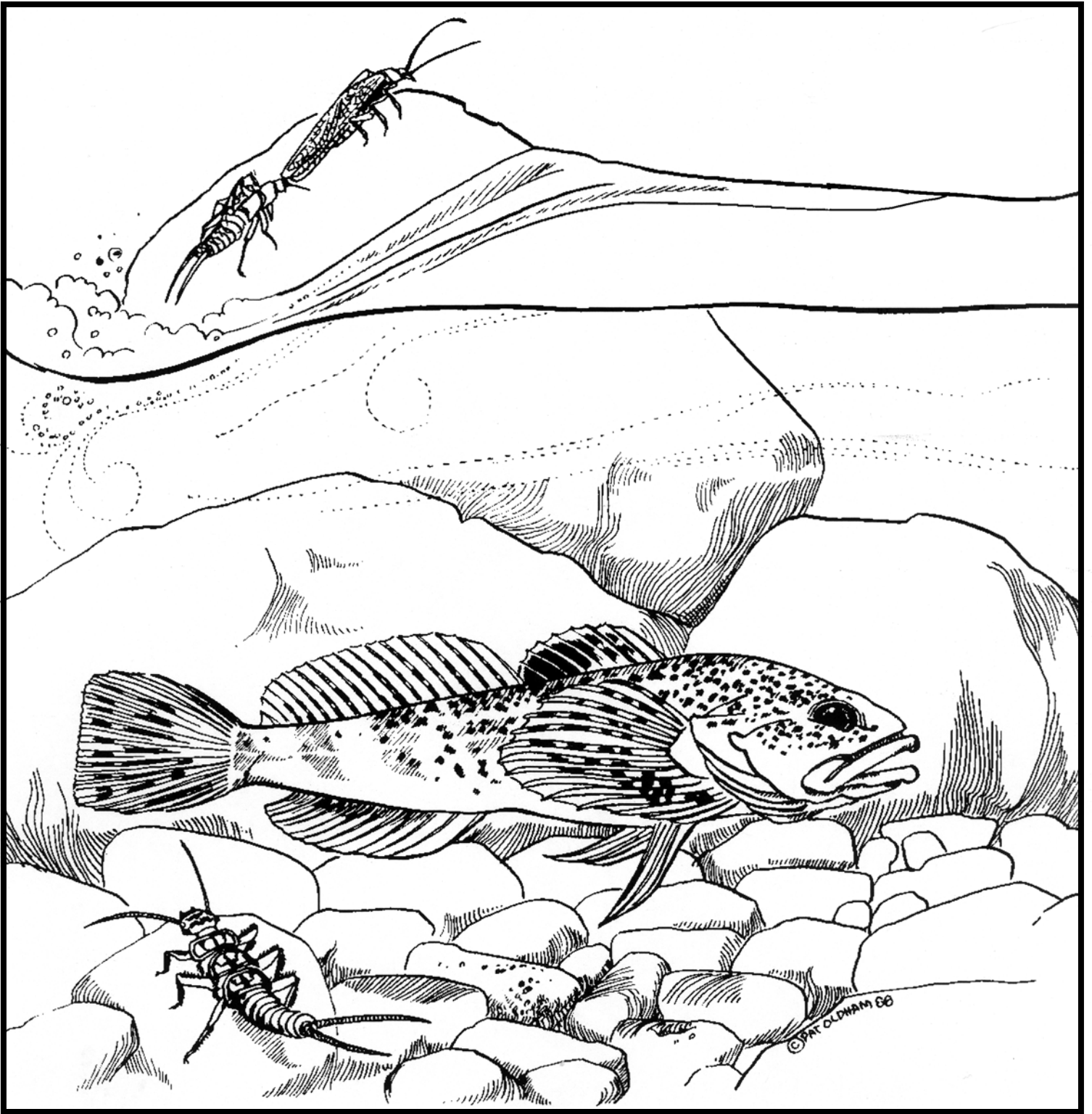
Bluegill

Bluegills are colorful fish with a dark patch of blue along their gills. The body is olive-green with vertical bars sometimes highlighted with blue and orange. Bluegills belong to a group of fish known as sunfish, which also includes black crappie and green sunfish. Bluegills live together in "schools" in lakes ponds and streams. During the summer, they lay their eggs in shallow-underwater holes. The holes are scooped out and then guarded by the males. Male bluegills make grunting sounds to attract females to these nests, which are usually found in clustered groups.



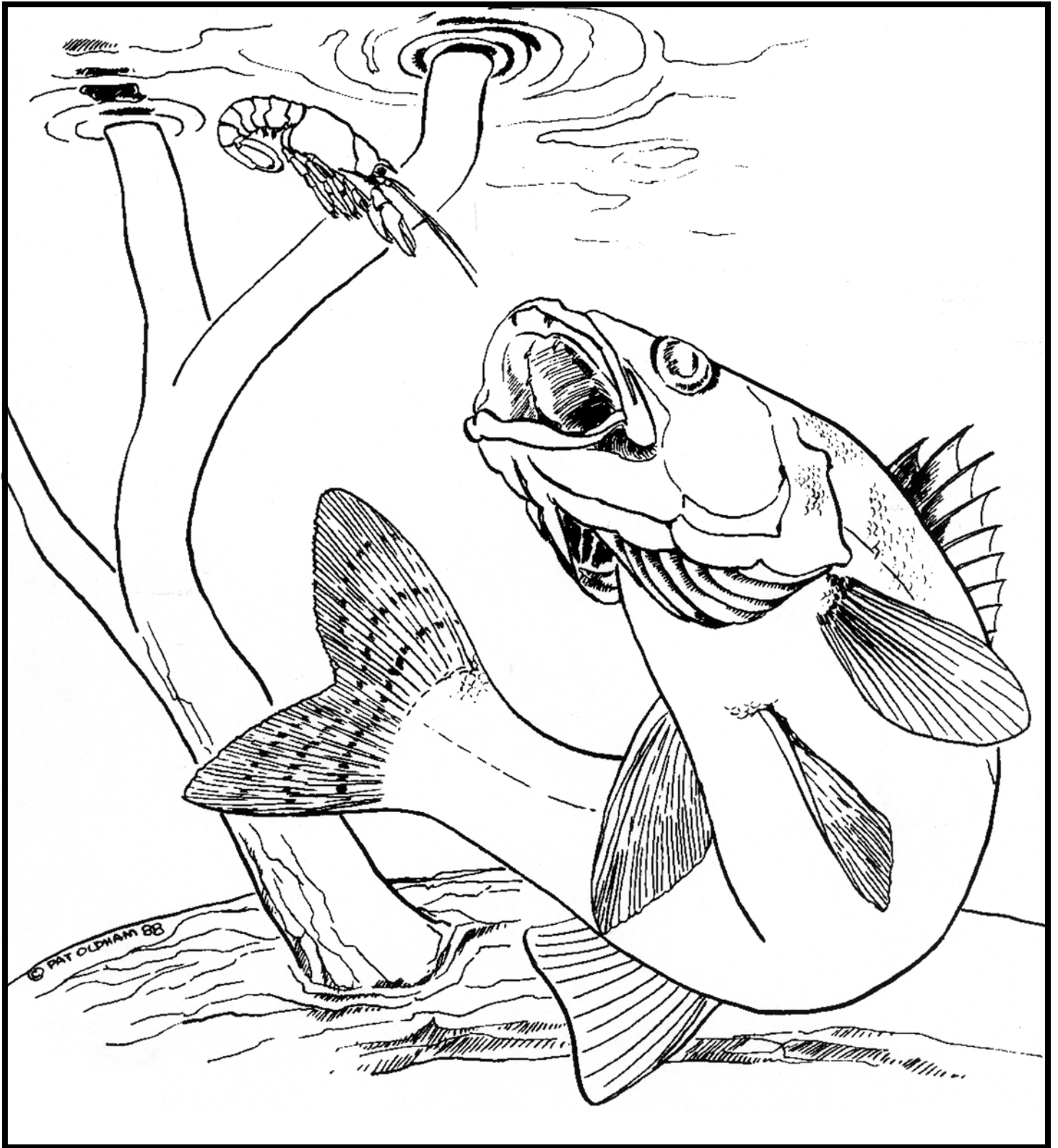
Channel Catfish

The channel catfish is most active from sundown to midnight. It uses its barbells (head "whiskers") to search for aquatic insects and other tiny creatures that live on the bottom of the lakes and reservoirs where they live. Extremely adaptable, this fish can be found in a wide range of water habitats, from cool to very warm waters.



Mottled Sculpin

This unusual-looking fish spends much of its time on the bottom of cool streams and lakes. The sculpin feeds at night among the rocks at the bottom, searching for insects, invertebrates and plant material. During spawning, sculpins lay their eggs in nests made among the gravel at the bottom. Male sculpins are known to be cannibalistic, sometimes eating smaller females of their same species. Beneath the sculpin shown above is a stonefly nymph, an important food source for fish and an indicator of good water quality.



Walleye

The walleye is easily identified by its large, silvery eyes. It lives in large rivers and reservoirs where it likes to eat other fish, taking whatever it can find. Its large predatory canine-like teeth distinguish it from its smaller cousin, the yellow perch. Spring and fall are the times of year when walleye are the most active.