

# INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

## WHITE CLOUD MOUNTAIN MINNOW

(*Tanichthys albonubes*)

**PROHIBITED IN BC**

### NATIVE RANGE

White Cloud Mountain Minnows are native to China and Vietnam.

### DESCRIPTION

White Cloud Mountain Minnows ...

- Grow to a maximum of 3-4 cm long
- Have a black dot on base of tail fin
- Have white tipped dorsal and ventral fins
- Have a yellow-orange to red dorsal (back) fin
- Have a pink mid-lateral band with a black pin-stripe
- Have an iridescent golden-green backside
- Have a lower jaw that projects slightly forward and a blunt snout

### WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

The White Cloud Mountain Minnow is a cold water tolerant fish that can survive water temperatures as low as 5 °C. When water bodies freeze over during the winter months, there is potential for White Cloud Mountain Minnows to survive in warmer waters at deeper depths.

This species feeds on plankton, aquatic invertebrates and the larva of aquatic insects, which could impact the dynamics of B.C. ecosystems if they were to become established. White Cloud Mountain Minnows are also potential carriers of diseases and parasites that could impact native fish if this species were to be released into the wild.

### BIOLOGY & SPREAD

If released into the wild, White Cloud Mountain Minnows could potentially establish and spread into regions B.C. This would be possible due to their low temperature tolerance and wide ranging diet (plankton and small invertebrates). Their preference for living in schools and their ability to spawn several times per year could further magnify their impacts if introduced.



### PRIMARY IMPACT:

**The potential impact of White-cloud mountain minnow's introduction is not known. They are not here yet, and owning or moving them in BC is ILLEGAL.**

### DID YOU KNOW?

**White-cloud Mountain Minnows are sold in the aquarium trade under a variety of names, including White Cloud, Canton, and Cardinal Fish.**

There are two variations also distributed in the aquarium trade called Golden Clouds and Meteor Minnows.

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## HABITAT

White Cloud Mountain Minnows prefer slow moving waters with thick vegetation. They can survive in water temperatures as low as 5 degrees Celsius.

## ARE THEY HERE YET?

**No.** White Cloud Mountain Minnows are not present in B.C.

## LOOKALIKES

There are no native species in B.C. that resemble White Cloud Mountain Minnow.

## HOW CAN WE STOP THEM?

- Do not possess, breed, release, sell or transport live White Cloud Mountain Minnows in B.C. **(It is illegal!)**
- Be aware of species that you buy for aquariums, as it could be PROHIBITED in B.C.
- Raise awareness to avoid the spread of this species into B.C. waters

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I FIND ONE?

Report White Cloud Mountain Minnows, or any other invasive species via the **Report Invasives phone app**, or via the **webform** available on the B.C. Inter-Ministry Invasive Species Working Group website:

[www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species](http://www.gov.bc.ca/invasive-species)



**REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES**  
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