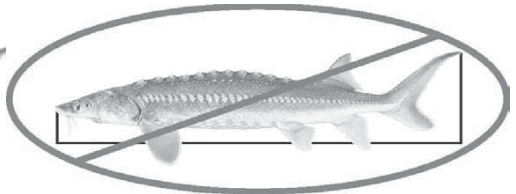


NEW STURGEON REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2013!

To protect threatened green sturgeon while allowing sturgeon fishing to continue in California waters, the Department of Fish and Wildlife has new regulations for sturgeon anglers effective January 1, 2013. Please note the following changes.

Legal size is 40 to 60 inches



New measurement method (fork length)

Old measurement method (total length)
Not legal in 2013

Size limit

Anglers may take or possess any legally caught white sturgeon between 40 and 60 inches. The fish must be measured from the nose to the tail fork. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 5.80 and 27.90)

Methods of take

Only one single barbless hook may be used on a line when taking sturgeon. Use of a snare to assist in landing or killing any sturgeon is prohibited. A snare is a flexible loop made from any material that can be tightened like a noose around any part of the fish (CCR, Title 14, Sec. 5.80 and 27.90)

Removal from water

Any white sturgeon greater than 68 inches fork length **may not be removed** from the water and shall be released immediately. (CCR, Title 14, Sec. 5.80 and 27.90)

Green sturgeon may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately. (CCR Title 14 Sections 5.81)

Clarification of Special Sierra and Valley District Sturgeon Closure

It is unlawful to take any sturgeon from the Sacramento River between Keswick Dam to the Highway 162 Bridge in Shasta, Tehama and Glenn counties. (CCR, Title 14, Sec. 5.80, 5.81)

Sturgeon report cards

2013 Sturgeon Fishing Report Card Permit Fees are \$7.50, plus a 3 percent ALDS application fee and a 5 percent license agent fee, where applicable. (CCR, Title 14, Sec. 701)

suitable material shall be passed through the tag at the location specified on the sturgeon tag and attached to the fish.

(4) Tags shall not be removed from the report card until immediately prior to affixing to a white sturgeon. Any tags detached from the report card and not affixed to a white sturgeon shall be considered used and therefore invalid. No person shall possess any used or otherwise invalid sturgeon tags.

(5) Records of Prior Activity. All tags must be accounted for at all times by entry of a record on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card corresponding to all tags that are not in possession. Any tag that was lost or destroyed shall be recorded as such on the corresponding line on the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card.

(6) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.

(c) Reporting Requirements for Released Fish.

(1) Whenever the cardholder catches and releases a sturgeon, the cardholder shall immediately record the month, day, location code, and species of sturgeon.

(2) If all lines in the "sturgeon released" field of the report card are filled, any additional sturgeon caught and released need not be recorded on the card.

(3) If the sturgeon has a department reward disk attached, write the reward disk number in the space provided on the report card.

(d) Sturgeon tags must be left affixed to the fish in place, including while stored at a residence or non-transient location, until the fish is processed for immediate consumption.

(e) The annual fee for the Sturgeon Fishing Report Card is specified in Section 701, Title 14, CCR.

STURGEON FISHING CLOSURE NOTE:

The Sacramento River from the Keswick Dam down to the Hwy 162 Bridge is closed to sturgeon fishing all year. No take or possession of sturgeon is allowed in this closed area. There will be no allowance for any catch and release fishing that targets sturgeon in this closed area of the Sacramento River. As a reminder, Section 1.80 defines take as "Hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill fish, amphibians, reptiles, mollusks, crustaceans or invertebrates or attempting to do so."

5.80. WHITE STURGEON.

(a) Open season: All year, except for closures listed under special regulations.

(b) Daily and annual bag limit: One fish per day. Three fish per year statewide.

(c) Size limit: No fish less than 40 inches fork length or greater than 60 inches fork length may be taken or possessed.

(d) Methods of take: Only one single point, single shank, barbless hook may be used on a line when taking sturgeon. The sturgeon must voluntarily take the bait or lure in its mouth. No sturgeon may be taken by trolling, snagging or by the use of firearms. Sturgeon may not be gaffed, nor shall any person use any type of firearm or snare to assist in landing or killing any sturgeon.

For the purposes of this section, a snare is a flexible loop made from any material that can be tightened like a noose around any part of the fish.

(e) Removal from water: Any sturgeon greater than 68 inches fork length may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately.

(f) Report card required: Any person fishing for or taking sturgeon shall have in their possession a nontransferable Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by CDFW and shall adhere to all reporting and tagging requirements for sturgeon defined in Sections 1.74 and 5.79, Title 14, CCR.

(g) Special North Coast District Sturgeon Closure (Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity and Siskiyou cos.). It is unlawful to take any sturgeon in the North Coast District at any time.

(h) For regulations on take and possession of sturgeon in ocean waters as defined in Section 27.00, see Sections 27.90, 27.91, and 27.95.

(i) Special Sierra and Valley District Sturgeon Closure from January 1 to December 31 (Shasta, Tehama and Glenn cos.)

(1) Sacramento River from Keswick Dam to the Highway 162 Bridge.

(A) It is unlawful to take any sturgeon.

(B) It is unlawful to use wire leaders.

(C) It is unlawful to use lamprey or any type of shrimp as bait.

5.81. GREEN STURGEON.

(a) Green sturgeon may not be taken or possessed.

(b) Green sturgeon may not be removed from the water and shall be released immediately.

(c) Green sturgeon taken and released incidentally to white sturgeon fishing shall be reported on a Sturgeon Fishing Report Card issued by the department, in accordance with procedures defined in Sections 1.74 and 5.79, Title 14, CCR.

(d) Special Sierra and Valley District Sturgeon Closure from January 1 to December 31 (Shasta, Tehama and Glenn cos.).

(1) Sacramento River from Keswick Dam to the Highway 162 Bridge.

(A) It is unlawful to take any sturgeon.

(B) It is unlawful to use wire leaders.

(C) It is unlawful to use lamprey or any type of shrimp as bait.

5.82. SUNFISH AND CRAPPIE.

(a) Open season: All year, except for closures listed under district or special regulations.