



# Aquatic Species At Risk

## LAKE STURGEON

*Acipenser fulvescens*

**SARA\* status: Designatable Unit - DU3 (Special Concern)**  
**COSEWIC\*\* status: DU1 & DU2 (Endangered), DU4 (Threatened)**

Pointed snout and a downward turned mouth for bottom feeding

5 rows of bony scutes

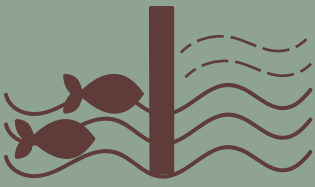
Illustration © Joseph R. Tomelleri



Four barbels in the front of the mouth

Heterocercal (shark-like) tail

## THREATS INCLUDE



Barriers and flow alteration



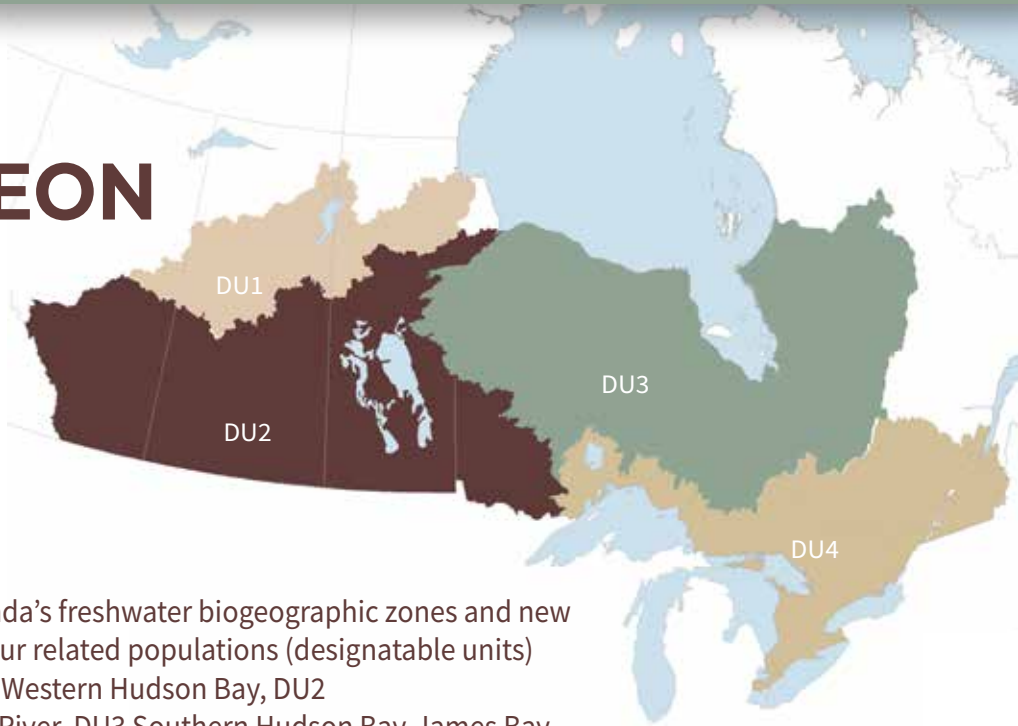
Commercial overfishing



Habitat degradation

## LAKE STURGEON

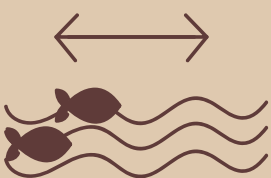
is one of Canada's largest, longest-lived, freshwater fish species and has special significance to Indigenous Peoples.



In 2017, based on Canada's freshwater biogeographic zones and new genetic information, four related populations (designatable units) were identified as DU1 Western Hudson Bay, DU2 Saskatchewan-Nelson River, DU3 Southern Hudson Bay-James Bay, and DU4 Great Lakes-Upper St. Lawrence.

## ACTIVITIES IN OR NEAR WATER CAN HARM AQUATIC SPECIES

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Maintain natural flows and fish passage



Follow fishing regulations. Report illegal harvest



Protect sensitive habitat. Contact DFO before doing any in-water work



For more information about the Lake Sturgeon, visit us online:  
[dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaticspeciesatrisk](http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaticspeciesatrisk)

\* Species at Risk Act \*\* Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada

