

# Citizen Resolution # 133722

(For Hearing Officer completion)



## **The Department of Natural Resources should not develop of Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of Lake Winnebago Sturgeon**

The sturgeon in Lake Winnebago and connecting waterways are unique in that they contain the single largest population of lake sturgeon in the world. Despite sturgeon numbers being relatively stable in Wisconsin, overall sturgeon numbers across the United States are not doing well. Due to habitat loss, pollution, dam construction, overfishing and poaching have lead to dwindling populations; the ICUN, International Union for Conservation of Nature suggests that over 85% of sturgeon species are at risk of extinction. Due to their late age of maturity, and the fact that they do not usually spawn every year, sturgeon populations have a difficult time bouncing back. Sturgeon are very sensitive to poor water quality, and as such are very valuable bioindicators of water quality and health. In addition, sturgeon take decades to reach their full sizes. The USFWS is considering a petition to list the lake sturgeon on the Endangered Species Act. The population of sturgeon in Lake Winnebago should be considered in that assessment . We should be proactive in their conservation efforts, not first concerned with harvest and caviar of this wonderful but endangered species. Outside of indigenous rights, the sturgeon should be protected

### **Would you support directing the WI DNR to not work on creating a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) for the USFWS but protect the Lake Sturgeon?**

Additional Information provided by author:

<https://www.envirosienceinc.com/90-day-finding-lake-sturgeon/?print=print>

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Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.