

NWSRI VIDEO SERIES

VIDEO 8 - NECHAKO WHITE STURGEON IN THE WINTER

This video shows live sturgeon overwintering in the river and describes the habitat needs for these sturgeon and research needs to continue to further support recovery.

Total Length: 2:07 minutes. The video is broken into two sections. Below are some key questions to think about in each section of the video.

Winter Habitat: 00:00 to 01:26

- What type of areas of the river do sturgeon use over the winter? Why do you think they use these areas?
- Why is conserving energy important? What other animals do the same behaviour in the winter?
- Why do you think juvenile sturgeon would use these deep overwintering areas year round?

Overwintering Research: 01:26 to 02:07

- What two main things are researchers trying to figure out by doing more overwintering research?

DEFINITIONS

Throughout the video, the narrator uses scientific language. Here are some definitions to support your understanding.

Overwintering: The place and behaviours sturgeon have during the winter months.

Converge: Come together in large numbers.

Migrate: Moving between areas over a time period to access different resources or habitats.

More available at:

www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org

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FURTHER EXPLORING:

This video explores one time period of a sturgeon's year. In small groups, discuss the following questions as a class:

How do sturgeon and other animals survive over the winter when they do not eat?

Draw out what overwintering sturgeon habitat looks like (try and draw a profile of the Nechako River and point out the overwintering habitats).

How do you think researchers can study sturgeon when the Nechako River and large lakes in the north are frozen over?