

2009 Sturgeon Fishing Report Card: Preliminary Data Report

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Bay Delta Region (East)
4001 North Wilson Way
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Summary

The 2009 Card was printed using Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp funds and then issued to any angler at no charge. Card data were managed using Sport Fish Restoration Act and Interagency Ecological Program funds.

One hundred forty thousand (140,000) Cards were printed at a cost of \$21,699 including tax and surcharge. Approximately 57,000 Cards were issued, of which 5,478 were returned to the Department and 1,914 of those Cards had data on sturgeon catch.

Anglers released 215 green sturgeon, retained 1,636 white sturgeon, and released 5,264 white sturgeon. Catch was between 10 and 16% of the total sturgeon catch (N = 7,165) for each of the following months: January; February; March; April; November; and December. Catch for all other months each was $\leq 7\%$ of the total catch.

Anglers reported total length measurements for 29 green sturgeon (range 12 to 72 inches, average 29 inches). Of the white sturgeon retained, anglers reported total length measurements for 1,617 (range 46 to 84 inches, average 55 inches). Three were over the legal limit of 66 inches, and none were below the legal limit of 46 inches. Of the white sturgeon released, anglers reported total length measurement for 1,067 (range 8 to 108 inches, average 38 inches).

Catch of green sturgeon was greatest in the Sacramento River from Rio Vista to Chipps Island and in Suisun Bay. Catch of white sturgeon was greatest in the Sacramento River from Rio Vista to Chipps Island and in Suisun Bay.

We recommend continuing use of Sturgeon Fishing Report Cards and a change to the 2011 Card. Aspects of sturgeon ecology and population dynamics can be better monitored by requiring anglers record the length of released fish.

Introduction

This report summarizes data from the 2009 California Sturgeon Fishing Report Card (Card). The Card became part of a suite of sport fishing regulations in March 2007 that was intended to protect California's year-round white sturgeon fishery while increasing protections for the federally-threatened green sturgeon population and adding resiliency to the conservation-dependent white sturgeon population.

The 2009 Card was distributed to any angler at no charge and was required of every angler — including minors, anglers fishing only from piers, and anglers fishing on “free fishing” days — who fished for and retained or released a sturgeon in California.

Cards were printed using Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp funds. Sport Fish Restoration Act and Interagency Ecological Program funds were used to manage Card data and prepare this report.

Cards included fields for contact information, retained fish, and released fish (Appendix 1). To aid the Department's efforts to reduce illegal commercialization of sturgeon and to enforce the daily and annual bag limits on white sturgeon, the Cards also included detachable single-use serially-numbered Card-specific tags to be placed on fish retained by anglers. Information on catch of sturgeon from 2009 Cards is complementary to on-going research conducted by the Department and others and will be used in planned articles and technical reports. Future year-specific California Sturgeon Fishing Report Card data reports will include a bibliography of documents that used Card data.

Card Distribution and Return

One hundred forty thousand (140,000) Cards were printed at a cost of \$21,699 (including tax and surcharge) then distributed beginning in late 2007 to Department offices and licensed sales

agents using the License and Revenue Branch “steelhead card distribution list”. Approximately 57,000 Cards were issued to anglers.

Anglers began returning Cards almost immediately after distribution. The few Cards returned during preparation of this report are not described here. Five thousand four hundred seventy-eight (5,478) Cards were returned and 1,914 of those had data on sturgeon catch.

Angler Data

The Card included fields for general, personal, and contact information, as well as for catch data (Appendix 1). Contact information included California fishing license number, street address, phone, and e-mail.

One hundred eighteen anglers supplied no California fishing license number, or submitted illegible or non-standard license numbers. Two of these anglers were specifically described as “under age” or under the age of 16.

Catch Data

The Card contained two sections for reporting sturgeon catch (1) Sturgeon Retained and (2) Sturgeon Released. Both sections included fields to report month, day, and location. The “Sturgeon Retained” section also contained a field for reporting length and reminded anglers only white sturgeon may be retained. The “Sturgeon Released” section also contained check boxes for species identification (green or white). Length was not required or requested for this section, but some anglers provided it.

Catch data — Anglers reported releasing 215 green sturgeon, while keeping 1,636 white sturgeon and releasing 5,264 white sturgeon (Table 1). Fifty sturgeon were not identified to species.

Table 1. White and green sturgeon catch reported on 2009 Cards

		White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon	Unidentified Sturgeon	Overall Total
Retained	Measured	1,617	0	0	1,617
	Not Measured	19	0	0	19
	Total	1,636	0	0	1,636
Released	Measured	1,067	29	0	1,096
	Not Measured	4,197	186	50	4,433
	Total	5,264	215	50	5,529
Overall Total		6,900	215	50	7,165

One thousand two hundred forty-two (1,242) anglers reported retaining white sturgeon (Table 2). These anglers retained an average of 1.3 sturgeon, and 80 anglers retained the limit of three.

One thousand two hundred fifteen (1,215) anglers reported catching and releasing white sturgeon (Table 2). Of these anglers, 131 each caught and released between 10 and 50 fish, and one angler caught and released 141 fish.

One hundred thirty-four (134) anglers reported catching and releasing green sturgeon (Table 2). These anglers caught and released an average of 1.6 sturgeon, and nine anglers each caught and released between 4 and 11 fish.

Table 2. Summary statistics for per-angler catch from 2009 Cards with catch data

	Number of Anglers	Number of Sturgeon	Maximum Number of Sturgeon per Angler	Average Number of Sturgeon per Angler
Retained White Sturgeon	1,242	1,636	3	1.3
Released White Sturgeon	1,215	5,264	141	4.3
Green Sturgeon	134	215	11	1.6
Unidentified Sturgeon	15	50	25	3.3

Of the 1,895 anglers who caught white sturgeon, 343¹ anglers retained and released white sturgeon on the same day (average = 2.0 anglers/day , maximum = 14 anglers/day). Of these 343 anglers, one released eight in the same day. Because the length of sturgeon released was not a required field on the Card, the number of white sturgeon voluntarily conserved could not be calculated.

Length data — Green sturgeon total length ranged from 12.0 to 72.0 inches and averaged 28.5 inches (Figure 1). Retained white sturgeon total length ranged from 5.0² to 84.0 inches and averaged 54.5 inches (Figure 2). Released white sturgeon total length ranged from 8.0 to 108.0 inches and averaged 38.1 inches (Figure 3).

Note: Length was not recorded for 19 retained white sturgeon.

Lengths of retained white sturgeon were skewed slightly to the lower end of the legal slot limit (46 to 66 inches total length; Figure 2). Of the released white sturgeon for which a length measurement was reported, 225 were within the slot limit (Figure 3). The majority was below the slot limit (N = 745). Only 97 were above the slot limit.

Note: The three lengths over the limit were legible and confirmed as accurate entries in the database. One angler retained another white sturgeon within the slot limit, one angler released a white sturgeon but did report a length, and one angler caught only the one oversized fish reported. Each angler used the appropriate number of tags for the number of fish retained. The undersized length of 5 inches was legible and confirmed as an accurate entry; this length was more than likely an entry error made by the angler.

¹ Fourteen individual anglers retained and released white sturgeon on three separate days, 39 individual anglers retained and released white sturgeon on two separate days, and 223 individual anglers retained and released white sturgeon on one day.

² More than likely an angler entry error, value not included in average

Figure 1. Total lengths of green sturgeon as reported on 2009 Cards

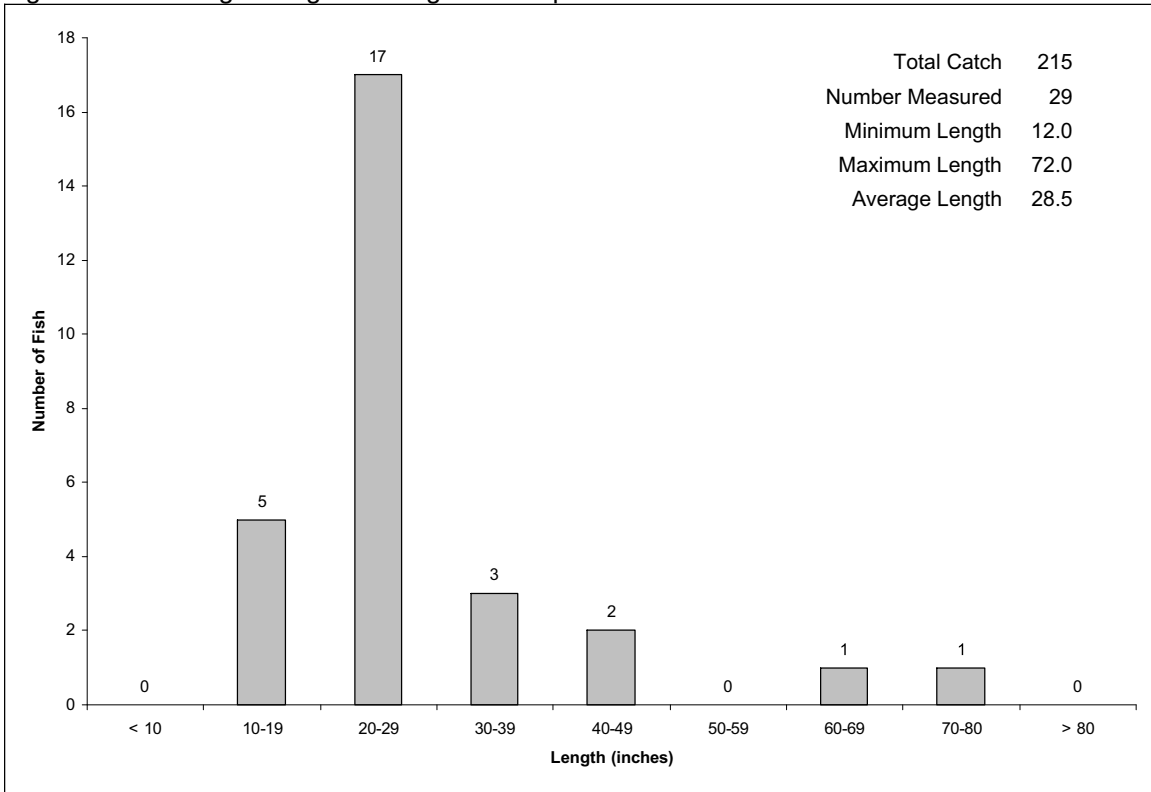


Figure 2. Total lengths of white sturgeon retained as reported on 2009 Cards

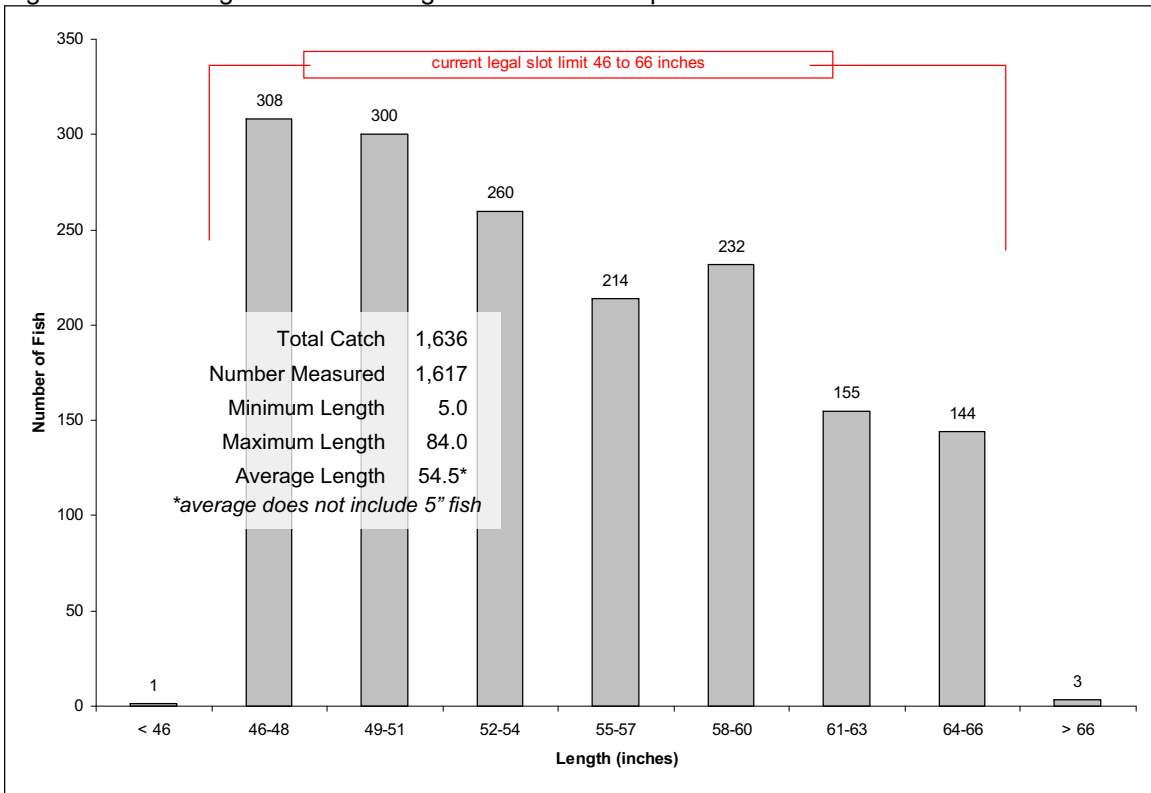
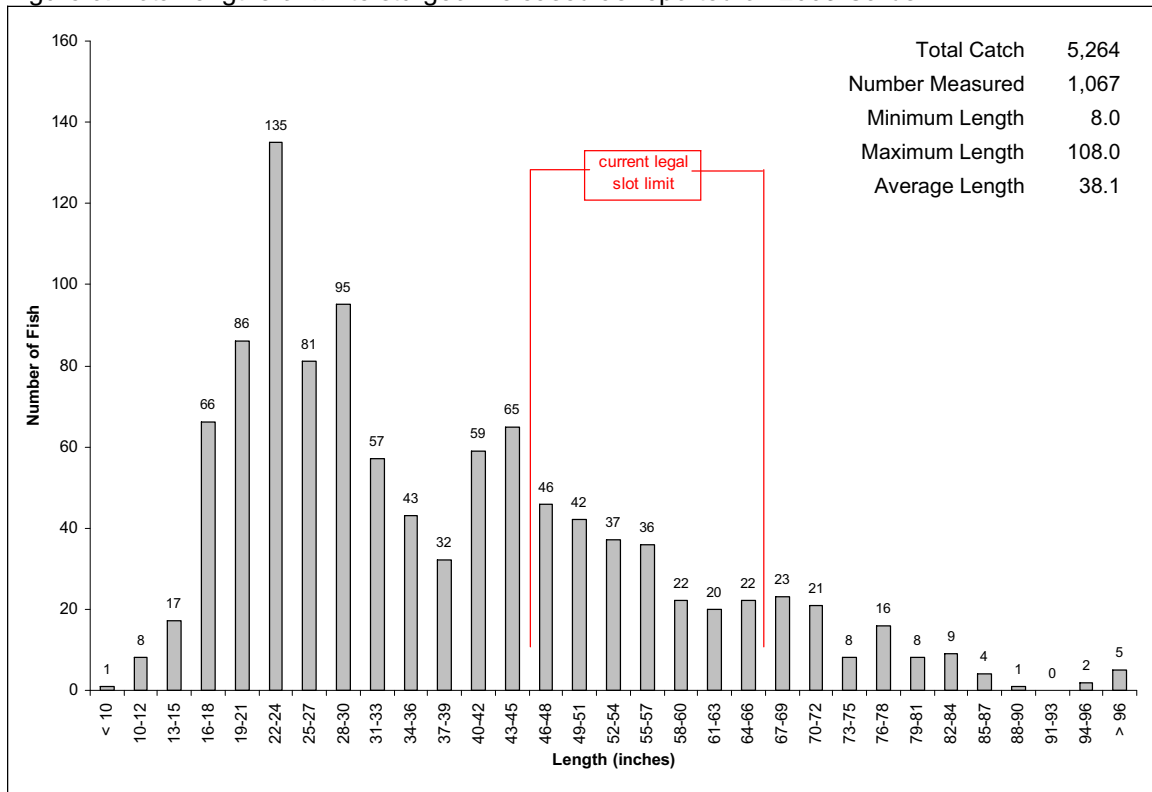


Figure 3. Total lengths of white sturgeon released as reported on 2009 Cards



Seasonality — Catch of green sturgeon and white sturgeon was greatest during the winter and spring (Table 3). Catch per month was between approximately 10 and 16% of the total sturgeon catch (N = 7,165) for each of the following months: January; February; March; April; November; and December (Table 3). Catch for all other months each was ≤ 7% of the total catch.

Table 3. Green sturgeon and white sturgeon catch per month and per season (Winter=December-February, Spring=March-May, Summer=June-August, Fall=September-November)

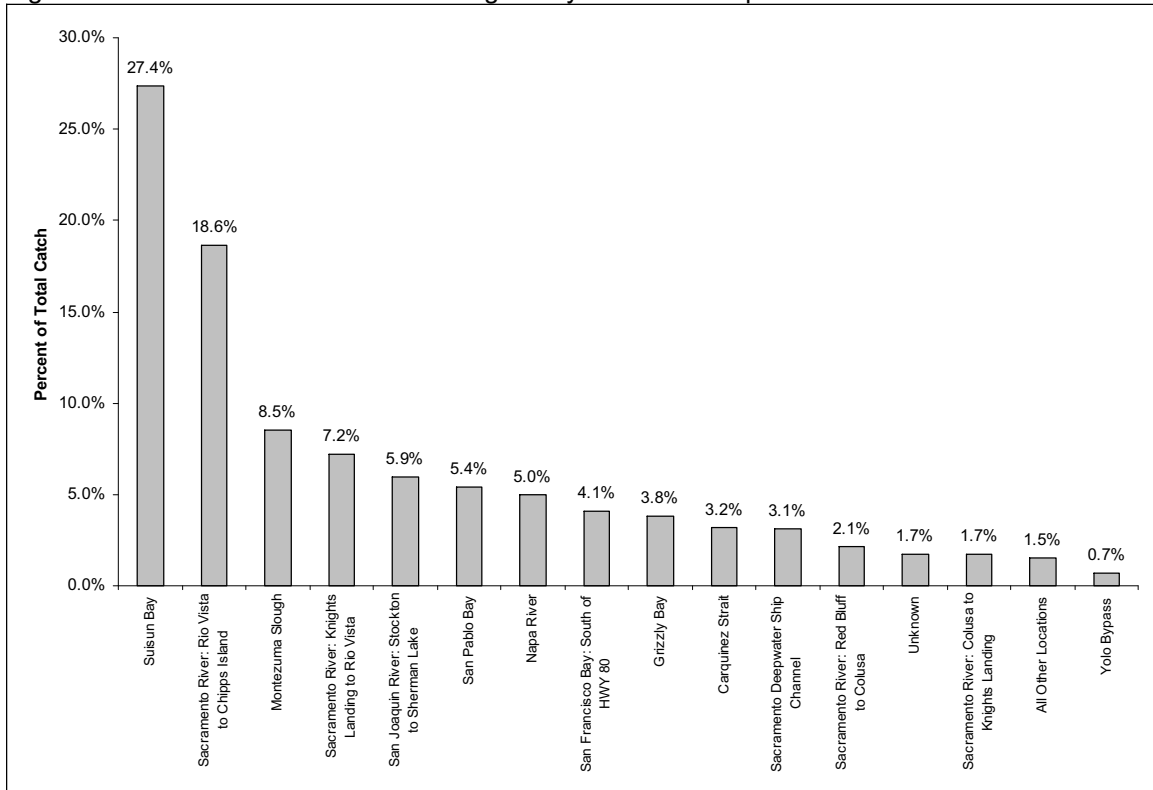
Month	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon	Unknown Sturgeon	Catch Total	Percent of Total
Not given	16	0	25	41	0.6%
January	913	24	6	943	13.2%
February	1,062	19	1	1,082	15.1%
March	1,131	24	6	1,161	16.2%
April	764	22	1	787	11.0%
May	415	23	3	441	6.2%
June	208	18	1	227	3.2%
July	155	10	0	165	2.3%
August	134	11	1	146	2.0%
September	194	10	0	204	2.8%
October	464	19	0	483	6.7%
November	719	17	4	740	10.3%
December	725	18	2	745	10.4%
Totals	6,900	215	50	7,165	

Season*	White Sturgeon	Green Sturgeon	Unknown Sturgeon	Catch Total	Percent of Total
Winter	2,700	61	9	2,770	38.9%
Spring	2,310	69	10	2,389	33.5%
Summer	497	39	2	538	7.6%
Fall	1,377	46	4	1,427	20.0%
Totals	6,884	215	25	7,124	

*does not include fish from month "Not given"

Location data — Sturgeon were collected from 24 of the 25 locations listed on the Card (Figure 4). Locations where between 1 and 50 sturgeon were collected were grouped as “All Other Locations” (N = 10). Location codes were either not specified or were illegible (grouped as “Unknown”; Figure 4) for 39 retained white sturgeon, 59 released white sturgeon, and 26 unidentified sturgeon.

Figure 4. Percent of total catch of all sturgeon by location as reported on 2009 Cards



Catch of green sturgeon was greatest in the Sacramento River from Rio Vista to Chipps Island and from Suisun Bay (Table 4). Catch of white sturgeon was greatest from Suisun Bay and in the Sacramento River from Knights Landing to Rio Vista (Tables 5 and 6). About 66% of anglers who reported catching white sturgeon (N = 1,895), caught between 1 and 2 fish each (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Frequency distribution of white sturgeon catch per angler as reported on 2009 Cards (number of anglers above each column)

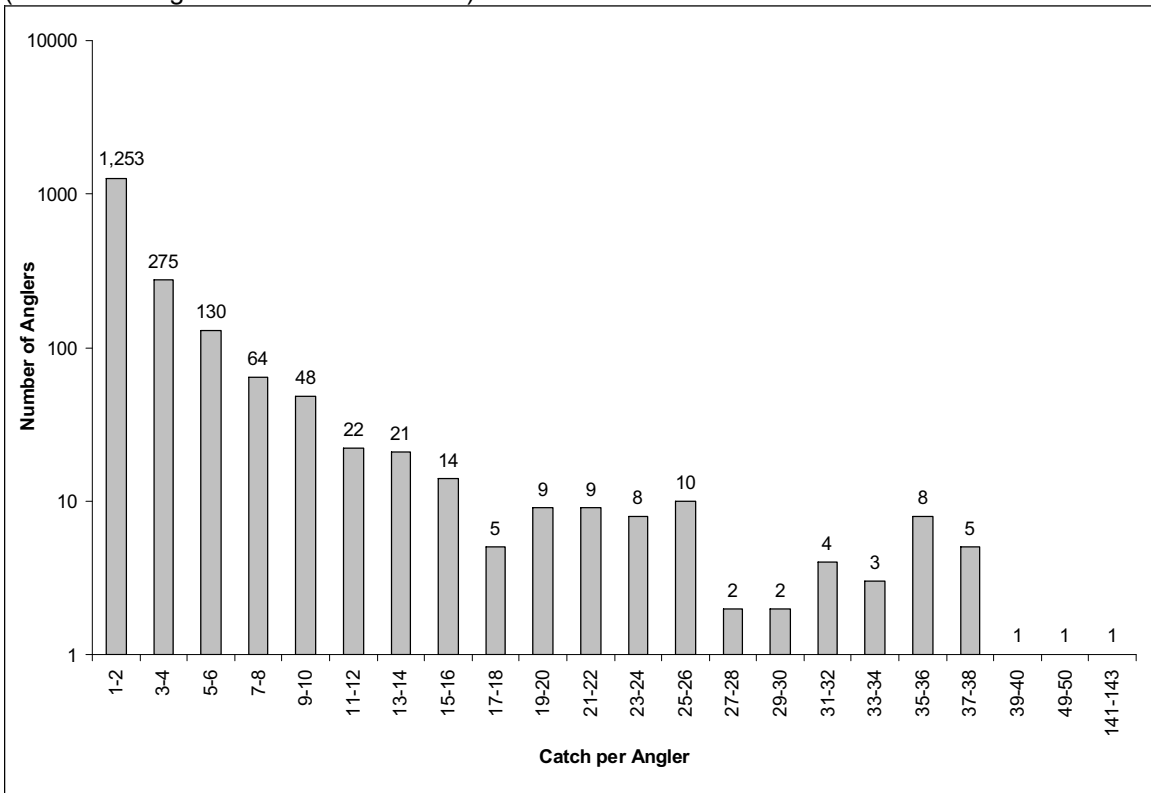


Table 4. Green sturgeon catch and associated length data by location and season as provided on 2009 Cards. The five locations where total catch was highest were ranked. Seasons were defined as follows: Winter=December-February, Spring= March-May, Summer=June-August, Fall=September-November

Location Code	Location Name	Rank of Catch	Number of Anglers	No Date of Capture	Winter Catch	Spring Catch	Summer Catch	Fall Catch	Total Catch	Number Measured	Minimum Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Length (inches)
	Unknown		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
1	Sacramento River: Red Bluff to Colusa		7	-	1	3	4	1	9				
2	Sacramento River: Colusa to Knights Landing		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
3	Sacramento River: Knights Landing to Rio Vista		8	-	3	3	2	1	9				
4	Sacramento River: Rio Vista to Chipps Island	1	35	-	26	9	16	20	71	10	18.0	72.0	38.0
5	Feather River		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
6	American River		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
7	Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel		1	-	1	-	-	-	1				
8	Yolo Bypass		1	-	1	-	-	-	1				
9	Montezuma Slough	3	14	-	8	6	3	-	17	1	19.0	19.0	19.0
10	Napa River	4	11	-	1	8	5	2	16	3	24.0	26.0	25.0
11	Petaluma River		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
12	San Joaquin River: Upstream of HWY 140 bridge		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
13	San Joaquin River: HWY 140 bridge to Stockton		1	-	-	3	-	-	3	3	24.0	31.0	27.3
14	San Joaquin River: Stockton to Sherman Lake	4	11	-	5	6	1	4	16	2	22.0	26.0	24.0
15	Old River		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
16	San Pablo Bay	5	12	-	1	9	2	2	14				
17	Carquinez Strait		7	-	1	6	1	1	9	1	21.0	21.0	21.0
18	Suisun Bay	2	25	-	10	14	4	11	39	7	12.0	30.0	20.7
19	Grizzly Bay		6	-	2	2	-	3	7	1	22.0	22.0	22.0
20	San Francisco Bay: North of HWY 80		1	-	-	-	-	1	1				
21	San Francisco Bay: South of HWY 80		2	-	1	-	1	-	2	1	35.0	35.0	35.0
22	Pacific Ocean: North of Golden Gate Bridge		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
23	Pacific Ocean: Golden Gate Bridge to Point Sur		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
24	Pacific Ocean: Point Sur to San Diego		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
25	Any reservoir or lake		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
Totals			142*	0	61	69	39	46	215	29			

* = 8 anglers fished and caught a green sturgeon at 2 different locations, 126 anglers fished and caught a green sturgeon at 1 location

Table 5. Retained white sturgeon catch and associated length data by location and season as provided on 2009 Cards. The five locations where total catch was highest were ranked. Seasons were defined as follows: Winter=December-February, Spring= March-May, Summer=June-August, Fall=September-November

Location Code	Location Name	Rank of Catch	Number of Anglers	No Date of Capture	Winter Catch	Spring Catch	Summer Catch	Fall Catch	Total Catch	Number Measured	Minimum Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Length (inches)
	Unknown		32	-	12	17	3	7	39	38	46.0	66.0	53.9
1	Sacramento River: Red Bluff to Colusa		49	-	3	51	1	-	55	53	46.0	84.0	56.9
2	Sacramento River: Colusa to Knights Landing		61	-	24	45	-	1	70	70	46.0	66.0	56.7
3	Sacramento River: Knights Landing to Rio Vista	2	174	-	67	139	-	11	217	217	46.0	66.0	55.7
4	Sacramento River: Rio Vista to Chipps Island	3	162	-	80	53	9	58	200	197	46.0	67.0	54.7
5	Feather River		4	-	1	3	-	-	4	4	59.0	66.0	61.3
6	American River		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
7	Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel		38	-	27	9	2	16	54	54	46.0	66.0	54.6
8	Yolo Bypass		14	-	9	7	-	2	18	18	48.0	65.0	54.2
9	Montezuma Slough		84	-	39	44	9	16	108	107	46.0	65.0	54.2
10	Napa River		80	-	34	42	11	2	89	83	46.0	66.0	53.5
11	Petaluma River		6	-	1	5	-	-	6	5	49.0	65.0	58.0
12	San Joaquin River: Upstream of HWY 140 bridge		1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	64.0	64.0	64.0
13	San Joaquin River: HWY 140 bridge to Stockton		13	-	4	10	-	2	16	16	47.0	62.0	54.3
14	San Joaquin River: Stockton to Sherman Lake		51	-	25	19	2	18	64	64	46.0	66.0	52.8
15	Old River		2	-	1	-	1	-	2	2	46.0	47.0	46.5
16	San Pablo Bay	5	95	-	32	66	7	7	112	109	46.0	65.0	53.0
17	Carquinez Strait		45	-	13	17	16	9	55	54	46.0	66.0	54.4
18	Suisun Bay	1	266	-	101	110	35	79	325	324	46.0	66.0	53.7
19	Grizzly Bay		47	-	26	14	6	13	59	59	46.0	65.0	52.8
20	San Francisco Bay: North of HWY 80		11	-	7	3	1	3	14	14	49.0	65.0	57.2
21	San Francisco Bay: South of HWY 80	4	107	-	108	6	2	11	127	127	5.0	65.0	55.1**
22	Pacific Ocean: North of Golden Gate Bridge		1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	63.0	63.0	63.0
23	Pacific Ocean: Golden Gate Bridge to Point Sur		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
24	Pacific Ocean: Point Sur to San Diego		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
25	Any reservoir or lake		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
Totals			1,343*	0	615	661	105	255	1,636	1,617			

* = 3 anglers caught and retained fish at 3 different locations, 95 anglers caught and retained fish at 2 different locations, and 1,144 anglers caught and retained fish at 1 location

** Average not including minimum length (5") is 55.5; minimum length for location excluding 5" fish is 46.0

Table 6. Released white sturgeon catch and associated length data by location and season as provided on 2009 Cards. The five locations where total catch was highest were ranked. Seasons were defined as follows: Winter=December-February, Spring= March-May, Summer=June-August, Fall=September-November

Location Code	Location Name	Rank of Catch	Number of Anglers	No Date of Capture	Winter Catch	Spring Catch	Summer Catch	Fall Catch	Total Catch	Number Measured	Minimum Length (inches)	Maximum Length (inches)	Average Length (inches)
	Unknown		26	12	16	10	5	16	59	13	16.0	96.0	60.1
1	Sacramento River: Red Bluff to Colusa		24	-	30	56	3	-	89	3	69.0	82.0	73.7
2	Sacramento River: Colusa to Knights Landing		32	-	11	41	1	-	53	5	67.0	80.0	73.0
3	Sacramento River: Knights Landing to Rio Vista	5	124	-	103	128	10	46	287	18	16.0	80.0	48.0
4	Sacramento River: Rio Vista to Chipps Island	2	245	-	545	180	53	281	1,059	160	12.0	108.0	33.7
5	Feather River		3	-	1	2	-	-	3				
6	American River		1	-	-	-	-	1	1				
7	Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel		43	-	83	34	15	34	166	34	12.0	96.0	40.1
8	Yolo Bypass		10	-	10	7	-	15	32	11	8.0	42.0	29.5
9	Montezuma Slough	3	152	1	204	195	51	30	481	73	14.0	103.0	37.4
10	Napa River		106	-	62	134	34	20	250	68	18.0	78.0	37.6
11	Petaluma River		7	-	2	6	5	5	18				
12	San Joaquin River: Upstream of HWY 140 bridge		6	-	1	1	2	4	8	1	24.0	24.0	24.0
13	San Joaquin River: HWY 140 bridge to Stockton		3	-	-	7	-	-	7	6	31.0	61.0	44.8
14	San Joaquin River: Stockton to Sherman Lake	4	81	-	148	96	20	85	349	51	10.0	77.0	28.3
15	Old River		2	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	20.0	20.0	20.0
16	San Pablo Bay		108	-	88	135	10	22	255	32	14.0	77.0	44.6
17	Carquinez Strait		70	-	40	51	33	41	165	23	15.0	66.0	32.8
18	Suisun Bay	1	346	3	517	501	125	450	1,596	436	10.0	98.0	34.7
19	Grizzly Bay		62	-	89	47	23	48	207	54	22.0	82.0	53.5
20	San Francisco Bay: North of HWY 80		3	-	3	1	-	6	10				
21	San Francisco Bay: South of HWY 80		47	-	130	16	2	14	162	77	24.0	84.0	52.5
22	Pacific Ocean: North of Golden Gate Bridge		3**	-	-	-	-	3	3				
23	Pacific Ocean: Golden Gate Bridge to Point Sur		1	-	-	-	-	1	1				
24	Pacific Ocean: Point Sur to San Diego		1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	69.0	69.0	69.0
25	Any reservoir or lake		-	-	-	-	-	-	0				
Totals			1,506*	16	2,085	1,649	392	1,122	5,264	1,067			

* = 2 anglers caught and released fish at 5 different locations, 11 anglers caught and released fish at 4 different locations, 44 anglers caught and released fish at 3 different locations, 162 anglers caught and released fish at 2 different locations, and 996 anglers caught and released fish at 1 location
 **Anglers contacted - confirmed fish caught in Humboldt Bay

Discussion

The 2009 Sturgeon Fishing Report Cards provided pertinent information for relatively little cost. We recommend continuing use of Sturgeon Fishing Report Cards.

Highlights of information from 2009 Cards include the following:

- (1) Thousands of anglers took great care completing the Cards and many volunteered information and/or comments that proved both interesting and helpful.
- (2) Most anglers who took the time to submit their Card never caught a sturgeon, and an average successful angler retained less than half the annual bag limit of three white sturgeon.
- (3) Just three strong white sturgeon age-classes appeared susceptible to sport fishing gear.

From the 2009 Card data, it was clear that minor changes to subsequent-year Sturgeon Fishing Report Cards and management of the Program could provide more and better information for little or no cost. These changes include at least the following:

- (1) The number of white sturgeon caught but voluntarily released and aspects of sturgeon population dynamics can be monitored better if the length of legal- and under-sized released fish is required.
- (2) Additional outreach via the internet would likely increase the proportion of Cards that are returned and the quality of information on Cards that are returned.

Acknowledgements

This effort was funded by the Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp, the Sport Fish Restoration Act, and the Interagency Ecological Program. Special thanks to Bill Beckett and Tim Matt for sorting thousands of returned Cards, entering data, and error-checking entered data. Very special thanks to all anglers who returned Cards and provided valuable information on Card format/function.

Appendix 1. 2009 California Sturgeon Fishing Report Card (front and back, color = yellow)

2009 CALIFORNIA STURGEON FISHING REPORT CARD		FG 683 (Rev. 9/06)																																
NO FEE <i>(Card invalid after December 31, 2009)</i>																																		
NAME		DATE ISSUED																																
STREET ADDRESS																																		
CITY		STATE	ZIP																															
HOME PHONE NUMBER ()	E-MAIL ADDRESS																																	
DATE OF BIRTH	DRIVER'S LICENSE/DMV ID NUMBER																																	
CA FISHING LICENSE NUMBER	CARD NUMBER 005520-04																																	
STURGEON RETAINED <i>(Only white sturgeon may be retained)</i>																																		
MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	LENGTH																															
STURGEON RELEASED																																		
MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	WHITE	GREEN	MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	WHITE	GREEN																									
<p>2009 STURGEON TAG 005520-04 3</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>MONTH</th> <th>DAY</th> <th>LOCATION CODE</th> <th>LENGTH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2009 STURGEON TAG 005520-04 2</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>MONTH</th> <th>DAY</th> <th>LOCATION CODE</th> <th>LENGTH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2009 STURGEON TAG 005520-04 1</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>MONTH</th> <th>DAY</th> <th>LOCATION CODE</th> <th>LENGTH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>											MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	LENGTH					MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	LENGTH					MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	LENGTH				
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR STURGEON ANGLERS

Title 14, Sections 1.74, 5.79 and 27.92, of the California Code of Regulations require that this card be in your possession while fishing for sturgeon in California waters and that you record your catch and tag each sturgeon taken in accordance with these instructions. Use a ball point pen with indelible ink to make a new entry for each sturgeon retained or released.

If you retain a sturgeon, immediately record the following information on the front of this card under the heading **STURGEON RETAINED**:

- Record the month, day, location, using the codes listed below, and the total length of the sturgeon (inches).
- Use tags in sequential order. Do not remove sturgeon tags from the report card until immediately prior to affixing to a sturgeon. Any tags detached from the report card and not affixed to a sturgeon shall be considered used and therefore invalid.
- Record the month, day, location, and the total length (inches) of the sturgeon retained on the tag located at the bottom of this card and attach the tag to the sturgeon. To affix the tag a "zip tie", string, line or other suitable material shall be passed through the tag at the location specified on the tag and attached to the fish.
- Once a sturgeon has been retained, you must stop fishing for the day. Once three sturgeon have been retained, you must stop fishing for sturgeon for the year.

If you release a sturgeon, immediately record the following information on the front of this card under the heading **STURGEON RELEASED**:

- Record the month, day and location code from the list below.
- Indicate the species of sturgeon released by marking an "X" in the WHITE or GREEN column.


Example: While fishing the Sacramento River (Red Bluff to Colusa) on December 7th, you catch 2 white sturgeon: 1 of which you released. One sturgeon tag would be completed and attached to the white sturgeon you retained and this information would be recorded as follows:

STURGEON RETAINED <i>(Only white sturgeon may be retained)</i>			
MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	LENGTH
12	7	1	52"

STURGEON RELEASED									
MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	WHITE	GREEN	MONTH	DAY	LOCATION CODE	WHITE	GREEN
12	7	1	X						


<p>CODE LOCATION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sacramento River: Red Bluff to Colusa Sacramento River: Colusa to Knights landing Sacramento River: Knights Landing to Rio Vista Sacramento River: Rio Vista to Chipps Island Feather River American River Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel Yolo Bypass Montezuma Slough Napa River Petaluma River San Joaquin River: Upstream of HWY 140 bridge 	<p>CODE LOCATION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> San Joaquin River: HWY 140 bridge to Stockton San Joaquin River: Stockton to Sherman Lake Old River San Pablo Bay Carquinez Strait Suisun Bay Grizzly Bay San Francisco Bay: North of HWY 80 San Francisco Bay: South of HWY 80 Pacific Ocean: North of Golden Gate Bridge Pacific Ocean: Golden Gate Bridge to Point Sur Pacific Ocean: Point Sur to San Diego Any reservoir or lake
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Green Sturgeon have barbels closer to mouth than to tip of snout.



Midlateral plates 23-30

White Sturgeon have barbels closer to tip of snout than to mouth.



Midlateral plates 38-48

Title 14, Section 1.74 of the California Code of Regulations, requires you to return this report card by January 31, 2010. Mail your card to:
 California Department of Fish and Game, Fisheries Branch
 Sturgeon Fishing Report Card
 P. O. Box 944209
 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

REFER TO THE SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS FOR SIZE LIMITS.
ONLY ONE STURGEON FISHING REPORT CARD MAY BE ISSUED PER LICENSE YEAR.
CARD CAN NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER PERSON