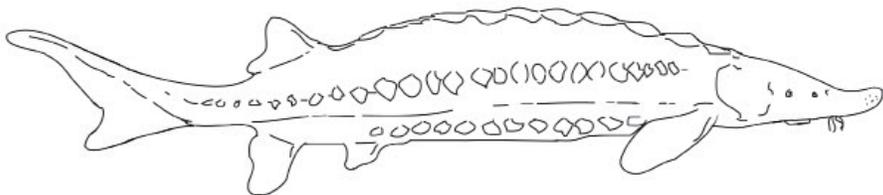




Atlantic Sturgeon

ESA Listed Species



Atlantic Sturgeon are Protected

If you incidentally catch an Atlantic sturgeon which is responsive and lively, return the fish to the water immediately. However:

- **If the fish is nonresponsive, it is important that you try to resuscitate the fish**

Atlantic sturgeon that have appeared nonresponsive, have been successfully resuscitated after being placed in oxygenated water or set up with a hose of water running out and over the gills for at least 30 minutes.

For a complete description of the prohibitions and exemptions for Atlantic sturgeon, call NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Northeast Region Protected Resources Division at 978-281-9328, or visit the Atlantic sturgeon recovery website at http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/atlsturgeon/.

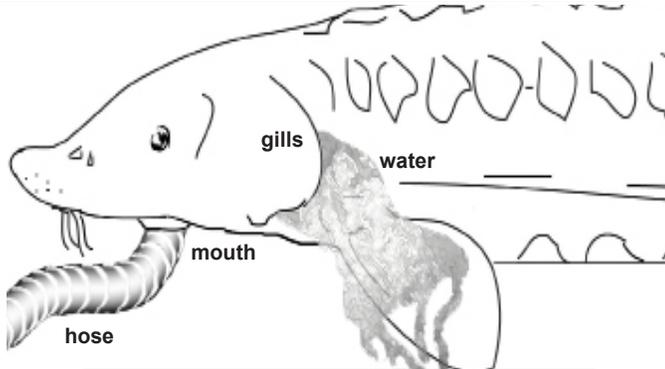


Atlantic Sturgeon

ESA Listed Species



Atlantic sturgeon removed from fishing gear may be nonresponsive. It is often possible to resuscitate these fish by flushing water, over the gills until recovery is obvious. The most effective way to resuscitate fish is through the mouth, as if the fish were swimming forward.



Hose inserted up through mouth and to the side to allow water to flow over gills.

Resuscitation with a Hose

- Use wet hands or wet rag and support the belly when handling.
- Use a pump and hose with water (For example: 1^{1/2}” engine-driven wash down pump).
- Place the hose into the mouth and to the side, using a soft piece of sponge/cloth to keep the metal/hard plastic from injuring the inside of the fish’s mouth.
- Use enough water pressure to gently flush water over gills. Heavy water pressure can harm the fish.
- Make sure water is running out and over the gills and NOT down the throat into the digestive tract.

Resuscitation should be attempted on all nonresponsive fish for at least 30 minutes. If the fish remains nonresponsive after 30 minutes, the fish should be considered dead and the carcass returned to the water.

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