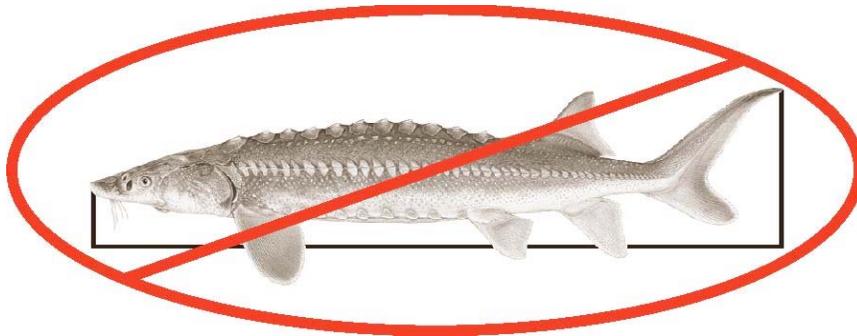


ATTENTION COMMERCIAL FISHERS

Effective January 1, 2009

A new method of measuring sturgeon

Sturgeon will be measured from the tip of the nose to the fork in the tail (fork length). The new method applies **ONLY TO STURGEON**, and is illustrated below:



OLD Method (not legal after 2008)



NEW Method "FORK LENGTH"

Measured from tip of snout to fork of tail with the fish on it's side, on a flat surface and the tail in a natural position.

Columbia River legal size limits have been adjusted to reflect the new measurement technique as follows

(the new slots are simple conversions of the old slots to account for the different technique):

- Replace the current measurement standard of total length (48-60 inches) with a fork length measurement standard (measure white sturgeon from the tip of the nose to the fork in the tail) for Columbia River non-Indian commercial fisheries.
- Legal-size measurement based on fork length is:
 - **43-54 inches fork length**

Why was this change needed?

Research has shown that fork length is a more precise method of measuring sturgeon. This method reduces error due to tail fin injuries and differences in length and position of the lobes of the tail fin.

Be sure that your sturgeon is of legal length under this NEW measurement technique!!!

