

Learning from lake sturgeon

**An update on the lake sturgeon
movement study in the North French
River and the Lower Mattagami River**

Tues May 15 • 7:00pm • EPR Centre



Since 2016, MCFN Resource Protection and Wildlife Conservation Society Canada have been doing a scientific study of lake sturgeon movement and behaviour by tagging lake sturgeon in the North French River and Lower Mattagami River. You're invited to come and learn more about our study, find out what we have learned far, and help us to plan the next steps of our research project.

Snacks will be provided!





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What is the lake sturgeon project?

Moose Cree First Nation Resource Protection and Wildlife Conservation Society Canada are doing a scientific study of lake sturgeon in the North French River (known as *Kah Ban Yow Sipi* or *Meh Ko Poh Meh Shtik Sipi*) and the Lower Mattagami River. We are putting tags in lake sturgeon, and receivers in the water to record information from tagged fish.

By tracking lake sturgeon with these tags and receivers, we are learning about lake sturgeon movement and behaviour near the Lower Mattagami Hydroelectric Complex, and comparing it with the movement and behaviour of lake sturgeon in the North French River, which is a natural river. This knowledge will be incorporated into MCFN's Looking After the Land Monitoring Program.



This is the belly of a lake sturgeon that has just been implanted with a tag. The stitches dissolve in a few weeks. If you catch a lake sturgeon with a small scar on the belly, near the fins, please release the fish.



Dan Struthers (WCS Canada) and Larry Rickard (MCFN) release a lake sturgeon with a square 'fin dip' in the tail. If you catch a lake sturgeon one of these fin clips, or a recently regrown fin clip, please release the fish so it can continue to be part of the study.



The tags are shaped like small black cylinders, and have a code written on the bottom. If you find a tag, please get in touch with us to return the tag.

Have you caught a fish with a tag?

You might catch a lake sturgeon that is part of our project. If you notice when you pull your nets or lines that a lake sturgeon has a small scar on the belly, or it has a square piece of fin missing from the tail, please consider releasing this fish alive. This lake sturgeon is helping our study, and is providing valuable scientific information. If you have a camera with you, please take a photo of the fish before you release it, and send us the photo!

You may also find a tag inside the body of a lake sturgeon. The tag will be located between the body wall and the guts of the fish, and you might find it while you are cleaning the fish. It is very helpful for our study if you get in touch with us and return the tag, so that we know which fish was caught, and where the fish was caught.

Drop off a tag in person:

If you have found a tag, you can drop it off at the EPG Centre in Moose Factory (with Billy Isaac), or at the Moose Cree First Nation Satellite Office in Kapuskasing (with Jennifer Simard).

Send a tag in the mail:

You can also mail a tag to the WCS Canada office, which is located at 10 Cumberland St N, Thunder Bay, ON, P7A 4K9. Please write us a note to let us know where the fish was caught!

Get in touch by phone or email:

If you have any questions or comments, please phone or email Connie O'Connor at the WCS Canada office in Thunder Bay: (807) 285-9125 or coconnor@wcs.org.

Want to learn more? Visit: www.learningfromlakesturgeon.com

Thank you! ᓴᓴᓴ

Photos and poster by Connie O'Connor (WCS Canada). Learn more about WCS Canada: www.wcsCanada.org.