

*Green Sturgeon Use of the Columbia River Estuary*

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The USGS is using passive acoustic telemetry to investigate the temporal and spatial use of green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*) within the Columbia River Estuary. The southern distinct population segment (DPS) of green sturgeon was recently listed as threatened by National Marine Fisheries Service. Both southern and northern DPS of green sturgeon are known to occupy the Columbia River estuary in early summer through early fall, although little is known regarding their spatial distribution and habitat preferences during this time. Green sturgeon use of navigation channels is of particular interest due to the potential for encounters with channel maintenance operations and shipping that could result in unobserved mortalities. The USGS is coordinating with WDFW, ODFW, CRITFC, NMFS and USACE to deploy and maintain acoustic receivers within these areas and to tag green sturgeon with depth and temperature sensing acoustic tags.