

STURGEON REGULATIONS COLUMBIA RIVER
As of January 26, 2012

Columbia River from Buoy 10 (Astoria) up stream to Wauna power lines (River Mile 40 near Wauna)

Retention of white sturgeon is allowed seven days a week Jan. 1 – April 30, with a daily bag limit of one fish with a fork length of between 38 and 54 inches. This area is closed to retention of white sturgeon May 1-May 11. The season reopens seven days a week from May 12 through July 8, with a daily bag limit of one fish with a fork length of 41 to 54 inches.

This fishery will be managed to the available guideline of 4,160 fish.

Columbia River from Wauna power lines upstream to Bonneville Dam (Cascade Locks)

Retention of white sturgeon is allowed three days a week on Thursday, Friday and Saturday Jan. 1 – July 31 and Oct. 20 – Dec. 31. This fishery will be managed to a harvest guideline of 2,080 fish.

Fishing for sturgeon is prohibited from the upstream end of Skamania Island at River Marker #82 upstream to Bonneville Dam May 1 – Aug. 31. In addition, the Sand Island Slough near Rooster Rock is closed to angling Feb. 1 through Apr. 30.

The daily bag limit is one white sturgeon with a fork length of 38 to 54 inches.

Columbia River from Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam

The Columbia River and tributaries from Bonneville Dam upstream to The Dalles Dam, closed to retention on Saturday, Feb. 18. Catch-and-release angling will remain open. The intent is to use the remaining quota (900 fish) for a possible summer retention season.

Columbia River from The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam

This area is open to retention of white sturgeon seven days a week under permanent rules from Jan. 1 until the annual harvest guideline of 300 fish is met. The legal size limit for retention in this area is 43 to 54 inches fork length.

Willamette River downstream of Willamette Falls including the Multnomah Channel and Gilbert River

Regulation update 2/21/12

Willamette River downstream from Willamette Falls, including Multnomah Channel and the Gilbert River, will not be open to sturgeon retention on Feb. 24-25. In January, fishery managers had announced a possible four-day retention season to include Feb. 17-18 and Feb 24-25.

In just two days (Feb 17 & 18), anglers caught 1,535 sturgeon, almost 90 percent of the 1,768 allowed for the Willamette -- in large part due to the number of anglers. Catch-and-release sturgeon fishing is still allowed on the lower Willamette River, and retention of white sturgeon is permitted on the Columbia from the mouth upstream to Bonneville Dam and in The Dalles, John Day, and McNary reservoirs.

Note: These regulations were valid as of January 26, 2012 and do change quite frequently. Always check the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife [recreational white sturgeon season](#) for the latest updates.
<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/news/2012/January/012612c.asp>

To book a sturgeon fishing trip on the Columbia River or Willamette River in Portland call A & B Pro Guides 503-720-9033. Email fish@abproguides.com

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