



## ***World Sturgeon Conservation Society***

### **North American Chapter**

The World Sturgeon Conservation Society is an international network of individuals and organizations interested in sturgeon and paddlefish research, conservation, and management

## **2010 WSCS North American Chapter Annual Conference**

***Bozeman Fish Technology Center, Bozeman, Montana  
Chico Hot Springs Resort, Livingston, Montana  
August 31-September 2, 2010***

The North American Chapter of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society is holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting September 1-2, 2010 at Chico Hot Springs Resort ([www.chicohotsprings.com/](http://www.chicohotsprings.com/)) near Livingston, Montana. We will also be conducting two pre-conference hands-on workshops on 1) **sturgeon conservation genetics**, and 2) **sturgeon age estimation and tagging techniques** (*Age Estimation and Tagging Workshop is FULL as of 8 June 2010*) held at the Bozeman Fish Technology Center August 31.

Sturgeon and paddlefish species worldwide are threatened due to overfishing, habitat loss, and pollution. Efforts to manage, preserve, and restore these species have increased substantially in the last 30 years, especially in North America where some of the best populations still remain, and where some of the longest running pro-active restoration programs exist. These research, management, and

restoration programs will be the focus of papers presented and workshops conducted in Montana in late August-early September this year at our annual WSCS NAC meeting.

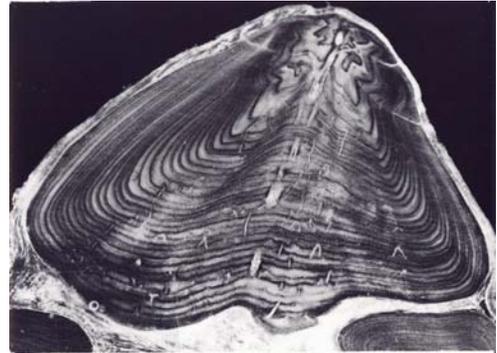
**We encourage sturgeon and paddlefish researchers, biologists, managers, and private sector interests to join us in Montana for an outstanding conference.**



## Workshop and Conference Registration:

**Registration:** You can register by using the attached fillable registration form. Contact [ronald.bruch@wisconsin.gov](mailto:ronald.bruch@wisconsin.gov) with questions.

**Workshops:** Workshops will be held on August 31 at the Bozeman Fish Technology Center. Space in workshops will be limited and filled on a first come first serve basis (*Sturgeon Age Estimation and Tagging Workshop is FULL*). Workshop registration will be \$50 per session. A room block has been reserved for workshop participants in Bozeman on August 30 at the Gran Tree Hotel (406)587-5261. Please reference the North American Chapter of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society.



**Conference:** The conference will be held September 1-2 at Chico Hot Springs Resort. *The registration fee will be \$95 for WSCS North American Chapter members, \$140 for non-members, and \$75 for spouses/significant others through June 30.* Registration fees will increase to \$150 for WSCS members, \$200 for non-members, and \$125 for spouses/significant others after June 30. The registration fee includes conference registration, mixer, breaks, lunches, dinner, and banquet at Chico Hot Springs. Spouse fee does not include conference registration. A room block has been reserved at Chico Hot Springs (406)333-4933 for August 31, September 1 and 2. Alternatively, a room block has been reserved in Livingston at the Best Western (406)222-6110. Please reference the North American Chapter of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society.

**North American Chapter of WSCS 2010 Meeting  
Proposed Program-at-a-glance:**

<b>Tuesday, August 31</b> <i>Bozeman Fish Technology Center</i>	
9:00 AM-12:00 PM	<i>Workshop: Conservation Genetics</i>
12:00-1:00 PM	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-4:00 PM	<i>Workshop: Age Estimation and Tagging Techniques</i> <b>(FULL)</b>
4:00-5:00 PM	<i>Tour of the Bozeman Fish Technology Center</i>
<b>Tuesday, August 31</b> <i>Chico Hot Springs</i>	
6:30-7:00 PM	<i>ExComm Meeting</i>
7:00-11:00 PM	<i>Welcome Social, Knolls Room, Appetizers and No Host Bar</i>
<b>Wednesday, September 1</b> <i>Chico Hot Springs</i>	
7:00-8:30 AM	<i>Breakfast, Dining Room (Not Hosted)</i>
8:30-8:40 AM	Welcome, Convention Center, President of the WSCS NAC <b>Ron Bruch</b>
8:40-9:00 AM	Spatial distribution of juvenile lake sturgeon in a large, fragmented river, <b>Tim Haxton</b>
9:00-9:20 AM	Integrating genetic evaluations into conservation and management of sturgeons: roles, benefits, and limitations, <b>Paul Anders</b>
9:20-9:40 AM	A long-term telemetry study of gulf sturgeon in the Apalachicola River, Florida, <b>Jared Flowers</b>
9:40-10:00 AM	The influence of land use / land cover change adjoining the St. Mary's River, Florida/Georgia, on sturgeon habitat restoration efforts, <b>Ann Foster</b>
10:00-10:20 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:20-10:40 AM	Washington and Oregon coast-wide green sturgeon study, <b>Olaf Langness</b>
10:40-11:00 AM	Relationships between water and salt regulation and migrational movements in juvenile sturgeons, <b>Peter Allen</b>
11:00-11:20 AM	Using relatedness analyses to reconstruct parental contributions to the white sturgeon 2006 year class in an impounded reach of the Snake River, <b>Andrea Drauch Schreier</b>
11:20-11:40 AM	Use of a modified form factor to compare condition among North American lake sturgeon stocks, <b>Ron Bruch</b>
11:40 AM-12:00 PM	Response of white sturgeon to hopper dredge disposal operations, <b>Jason Romine</b>

12:00-1:00 PM	<i>Hosted Lunch, Dining Room</i>
1:00-1:20 PM	Substrate and channel morphology of the Kootenai River white sturgeon spawning habitat, boundary county, Idaho: analysis for ecosystem restoration, <b>Gary Barton</b>
1:20-1:40 PM	First documented spawning of white sturgeon in the lower Willamette River, Oregon, <b>Tucker Jones</b>
1:40-2:00 PM	Genetic structure of lake sturgeon ( <i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> ) in northern Ontario, Canada, <b>Jenni McDermid</b>
2:00-2:20 PM	Conservation objectives of the Kootenai white sturgeon hatchery program: a delicate balance among short- and long term benefits and risks, <b>Ray Beamesderfer</b>
2:20-2:40 PM	Harmful algal blooms: an emerging threat to sturgeon?, <b>Jessica Pruden</b>
2:40-3:00 PM	Population dynamics of lake sturgeon from over 20 years of mark and recapture in the Sturgeon River, Michigan, <b>Nancy Auer</b>
3:00-3:20 PM	<i>Break</i>
3:20-3:40 PM	Shovelnose sturgeon movements relative to reproductive condition and the hydrograph of the Missouri River above Fort Peck Reservoir, Montana, <b>Ryan Richards</b>
3:40-4:00 PM	Implementing an integrated, ecosystem-based restoration program to recover Kootenai River white sturgeon, <b>Susan Ireland</b>
4:00-4:20 PM	Application of sex steroid analysis and ultrasound in the identification of spawners for conservation propagation of wild and captive pallid sturgeon, <b>Mariah Talbott</b>
4:20-4:40 PM	Biology of Atlantic Sturgeon, <b>Dwayne Fox</b>
4:40-5:00 PM	Spawning white sturgeon at Kootenay trout hatchery, <b>Ron Ek</b>
5:00-7:00 PM	<i>Free Time...fish, hike, soak in hot springs</i>
7:00-10:00 PM	<i>Hosted Banquet, Convention Center</i>
<b>Thursday, September 2</b> <b>Chico Hot Springs</b>	
7:00-8:30 AM	<i>Breakfast, Dining Room (Not Hosted)</i>
8:30-8:40 AM	Opening Remarks, Convention Center, President of the WSCS NAC <b>Ron Bruch</b>
8:40-9:00 AM	A tale of two rivers: diverging population recovery trajectories for gulf sturgeon populations in the Suwannee and Apalachicola rivers, FL, <b>Kenneth Sulak</b>
9:00-9:20 AM	Results of stocking hatchery white sturgeon into Rock Island Reservoir, a Columbia River impoundment, 3 years post-release, <b>Blaine Parker</b>

9:20-9:40 AM	Atlantic sturgeon and the endangered species act, <b>Kim Damon-Randall</b>
9:40-10:00 AM	Relocation of reproductive adult white sturgeon between two middle Snake River reaches, Idaho, <b>Ken Lepla</b>
10:00-10:20 AM	<i>Break</i>
10:20-10:40 AM	Growth, metabolism and energy density of juvenile pallid sturgeon fed commercial and natural diets, <b>Hilary Meyer</b>
10:40-11:00 AM	Passage and behavior of lake sturgeon in a prototype side-baffle fish ladder, <b>Boyd Kynard</b>
11:00-11:20 AM	Seasonal movement and mesohabitat usage of lake sturgeon in the Grasse River, New York, <b>Drew Trested</b>
11:20-11:40 AM	Laboratory examination of juvenile pallid sturgeon habitat preferences with focus on predation, <b>Tobias Rapp</b>
11:40 AM-12:00 PM	Characterization of the contents and histology of the gastro-intestinal tracts of white sturgeon collected in October, 2008 from upper Lake Roosevelt, Washington, <b>Michael Parsley</b>
12:00-1:00 PM	<i>Hosted Lunch, Dining Room</i>
1:00-1:20 PM	Growth, survival and contribution to fisheries of transplanted white sturgeon in the lower Columbia River, <b>Colin Chapman</b>
1:20-1:40 PM	The curious case of ribosomal DNA (rDNA) evolution in lake sturgeon, <b>Jeannette Krieger</b>
1:40-2:00 PM	Research for recovery: an assessment-based approach to conservation of endangered white sturgeon in the lower Fraser River, British Columbia, <b>Troy Nelson</b>
2:00-2:20 PM	Use of benthic microhabitat and associated flow fields by early life stages of Kootenai River white sturgeon: a laboratory study, <b>Erika Parker</b>
2:20-2:40 PM	Modern technologies for an ancient fish: tools to inform management of migratory sturgeon stocks, <b>Phaedra Doukakis</b>
2:40-3:00 PM	Insight gained from coupled 2- and 3-dimensional hydraulic and individual based particle-tracking models of sturgeon early life interval drift in two large North American rivers, <b>Richard McDonald</b>
3:00-3:20 PM	<i>Break</i>
3:20-3:40 PM	Seasonal distribution and movements of shortnose sturgeon in the Penobscot River Estuary, Maine, <b>Stephen Fernandes</b>
3:40-4:00 PM	Restoration of Atlantic sturgeon within the St. Marys River (GA & FL) using a comprehensive approach that includes captive propagation: issues and risks, <b>Vince Mudrak</b>

4:00-4:20 PM	Movement patterns of shortnose sturgeon in coastal Maine waters, <b>Phillip Dionne</b>
4:20-4:40 PM	Lake sturgeon spawning migration and habitat utilization in the Pic River, <b>Andrew Ecclestone</b>
4:40-5:00 PM	Overview of biological and ecological aspects of paddlefish stocks in Montana, North Dakota and Oklahoma, <b>Dennis Scarnecchia</b>

**For Further Information contact:**

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*Chico Hot Springs Resort*

**For WSCS NAC membership information e-mail [ronald.bruch@wisconsin.gov](mailto:ronald.bruch@wisconsin.gov)**

WSCS NAC 2010 Meeting, Bozeman and Livingston, Montana, Aug 31, Sep 1 & 2  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Announcement (6/10)