Citizen Resolution # 140922

(For Hearing Officer completion)

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Placing lake sturgeon on the USFWS Endangered Species List

The sturgeon in Lake Winnebago and connecting waterways are unique in that they contain the single largest population of lake sturgeon in the world. Despite sturgeon numbers being relatively stable in Wisconsin, overall sturgeon numbers across the United States are not doing well. Due to habitat loss, pollution, dam construction, overfishing and poaching have led to dwindling populations; the IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature suggests that over 85% of sturgeon species are at risk of extinction. Researchers say that sturgeon are now more critically endangered than any other species group in the world. Due to their late age of maturity, and the fact that they do not usually spawn every year, sturgeon populations have a difficult time bouncing back. Sturgeon are very sensitive to poor water quality, and as such are very valuable bioindicators of water quality and health. In addition, sturgeon take decades to reach their full size.

Would you support the USFWS petition to place lake sturgeon on the Endangered Species List?

Additional Information provided by author:

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Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your local WCC delegates with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.