



SCDRS and Lake Erie Lake Sturgeon

Lake Erie Lake Sturgeon – Assessments and Monitoring

We are supporting Trevor Pritcher's lab at U of Windsor to measure stable isotopes in different layers of the spine to get a temporal or life time look at the feeding ecology of the sturgeon.



University
of Windsor



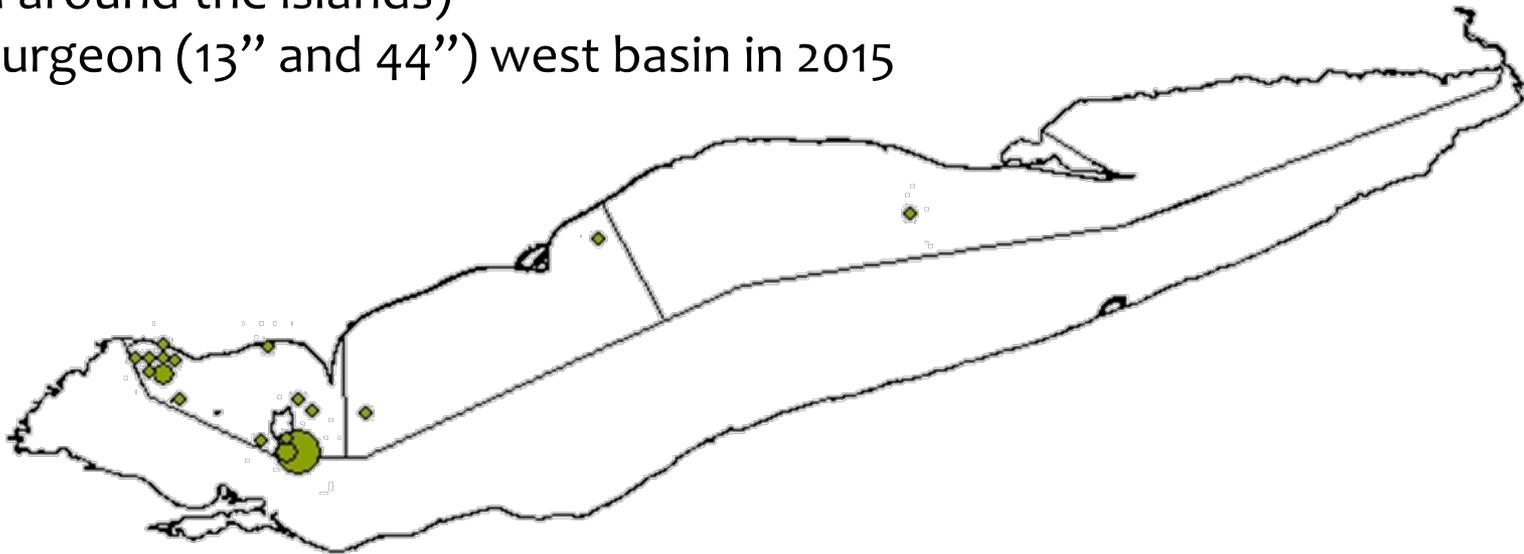
Stable isotopes in the spines from Niagara River sturgeon and we found that goby altered the feeding ecology of the sturgeon (paper to be submitted shortly), essential goby created and ontogenic or size related shift in the sturgeon (adults feed at higher trophic level, whereas before goby they did not)

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Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Fall Index Program and Lake Sturgeon (1990-2013)

- 122 sites lake wide late August to **November** (delayed turnover)
- Since 1990 observed total of 50 Lake Sturgeon (on average 1 sturgeon / year)
- Majority caught and released in the west basin (mouth of the Detroit River and around the islands)
- 2 sturgeon (13” and 44”) west basin in 2015



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Lake Sturgeon in Ontario Commercial Fishery Daily Catch Reports (2011 – 2014)

- Completion of Daily Catch Report (DCR's) condition of commercial licence
- Since 2011 ~300 DCR's reported sturgeon caught and released (<1% of DCR's)
- Majority of sturgeon caught and released in the west basin
- Most caught in large mesh (3.25 to 5 inch) gillnet
- Targeting Walleye / White Bass

