

# NWSRI VIDEO SERIES

## VIDEO 5 - CHANGES IN THE WATERSHED

This video gives a general overview of the changes to the environment within the Nechako River Watershed, and what factors have led to these changes.

The vocabulary in this video may be beyond that of primary students, however there are a few things that would be interesting for the students to see. First, here is a breakdown of the video contents...

**Total Length: 7:09 minutes** with the main topics from each section being:

**Changes to the Nechako Watershed:** 00:00 to 02:13

*This section explains some of the main reasons why the Nechako River Watershed is different now than it was 100 years ago.*

**Exploring Habitat Restoration Options:** 02:13 to 04:39

*This section shows pictures and explains about habitat restoration projects in the Nechako River in the spawning area.*

**Seasonal Flow Management:** 04:39-05:26

*This section explains the Water Engagement Initiative - go to Lesson 2-1 in the curriculum for activity ideas, as well as go to [www.getinvolvednechako.ca](http://www.getinvolvednechako.ca).*

**Keeping the River Clean:** 05:26-7:09

*This section explains the importance of keeping the river clean and why it is important to protect and restore the Nechako White sturgeon population.*

## WORKING WITH YOUR STUDENTS:

We recommend:

- Watch the video first and note key spots in the video that may be of interest to your students.
- Use the accompanying activity sheet: [HOW TO KEEP THE RIVER CLEAN](#) to help your students understand the Big Ideas!

## BIG IDEAS:

- ✓ **Life cycle**
- ✓ **Adaptations**
- ✓ **How living things interact with their environment**

## DEFINITIONS

Throughout the video, the narrator uses scientific language. Here are some definitions to many of the terms.

**Habitat Alteration:** Changes to the amount of suitable habitat for a species. Habitat alterations can be negative or positive depending on the context.

**Recruitment Pulse:** When a large number of individuals from a cohort or particular year survive to join the population.

**Infilling:** Material (like sand or silt) that fills a space or hole.

**Interdisciplinary:** When individuals from a number of organizations, institutions (eg. universities) and governments work together on a project using their own expertise, knowledge and skills to find the answer together.

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**Other useful resources to review to support understanding of the Nechako Watershed and the work that happens within the watershed.**

Go to: [nechakowhitesturgeon.org](http://nechakowhitesturgeon.org) > Education > Grade 4-7

[Recovery and Rehabilitation](#)  
(> Unit 2 Presentations)

[Watershed Map](#)

(> Watershed Map)

**More available at:**

[www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org](http://www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org)

[Facebook @NWSRI](#)



# How to keep the river clean.

## Spawning Gravel (02:5303:15, and 03:30-03:48 minutes)

You probably get asked to clean the floor of your room a lot! Imagine trying to clean the floor of the Nechako River!

Workers have cleaned spawning gravel for sturgeon but it keeps getting 'dirty' - what makes the gravel dirty?

Draw a picture of what clean and dirty gravel looks like in the river.

Clean Gravel	Dirty Gravel

## Taking care of the river and sturgeon! (05:54 minutes)

What actions can you take to keep rivers clean for sturgeon and all fish?

Name 2 things and draw yourself helping others.

1)

2)