Every Sturgeon Counts

Found at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhrEJUEi-ow

This video was put together by the Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative and the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council. The objective of this project is to: “assure that fisher families have the necessary tools in their fishing boats to allow for the successful release of live sturgeon caught in a gill net.”

Cora McIntosh of Saik’uz First Nation, narrates this informative video on the importance of Nechako white sturgeon to the Nechako River, First Nations and to the history of our area. The video is a very good addition to this curriculum and should be shown in part or its entirety during the course of this curriculum. Lesson suggestions are given below.

Total length of the video is 45:35 minutes. It is broken down into several sections.

- Defining the Problem, Recruitment Failure: 00:00 to 04:10
  A quick and clear overview of the plight of the Nechako white sturgeon. Useful to be viewed in Unit 1 Lesson 1-1 Introduction, or Unit 3 Lesson 3-2 Life Cycle.

- Salmon, Sturgeon and First Nations 4:10 to 16:40
  This section focuses on local First Nation culture and history with the Nechako River, salmon, Stuart Lake, and Nechako white sturgeon. A good addition to Unit 1 Lessons 1-1 and 1-2; Unit 3 Lesson 3-5.

- About the Sturgeon Release Kit and Program: 16:40 to 21:25
  Details about this program operated by the NWSRI.

- Procedure for Releasing Sturgeon Safely: 21:26 to 31:20
  Recommended to show this section during Unit 3 Lesson 3-4 Sturgeon Decline. This section highlights the impact humans can have on sturgeon as well as showing students how to reduce the risk of injury of death of the animal if it is caught in a net. Also demonstrates a practical use of science and research that leads to conservation of a species.

- Sturgeon Anatomy: 32:57 to 34:10
  Overview of sturgeon anatomy using a live sturgeon in the river. Fits nicely with Unit 3 Lesson 3.1 External Anatomy.

- Patching a Gill Net: 34:13 to 43:17
  A detailed lesson on repairing nets.

- Closing Remarks about being Stewards of the Sturgeon: 43:18