

Sterlet & Sturgeon, *Acipenser spp.*



Size	Can reach lengths up to 125cm and 15kg. In fisheries, usually introduced at much smaller sizes and weights of 1-4kg
Distribution	Present in some fisheries, however, it is illegal to keep them in a stillwater fishery and requires an ILFA licence.
Key I.D. features	Very distinctive appearance, with pointed nose and most species having plates ('scutes') along back and sides of body. Cannot be confused with any other species. Note the native sturgeon is endangered in England and Wales and may actually be extinct.
Potential Impacts On Native Fisheries	
Competition	✓ Spawning habitat and food
Habitat destruction	
Disease transmission	✓ Can host non-native parasites
Predation	✓ Will eat fish eggs and larvae
Natural Balance	✓ Established populations may displace native fish populations
Fishery performance	

If you discover a fish matching this description, please contact Gareth Davies at gareth.d.davies@environment-agency.gov.uk