

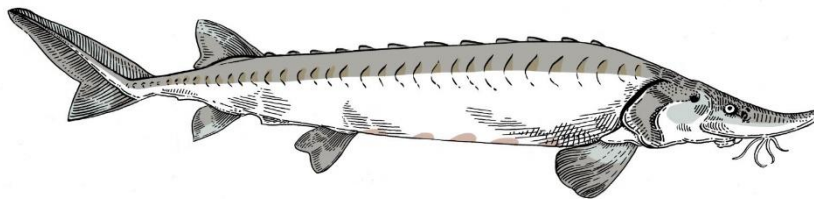
Factsheet - Re-designation of the Degraded Fish Populations Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI)



Assessment: Sub-criterion has been met. There is direct evidence with the presence of spawning condition adults, and/or the presence of egg or larval fish of at least 42 species from 17 families. Furthermore, genetic evidence suggests that Yellow Perch, Walleye, and Lake Sturgeon are genetically diverse, and the river likely supports dynamic sub-population structures for these species.

RESULTS

The assessment of fish population status in the Detroit River found evidence supporting that all five sub criteria have been met (Table 1). In most cases, we found multiple, complimentary sources of information reaffirming the findings. Additionally, the recent 2020 recreational fishing survey in Ontario demonstrated that the fish populations in the Detroit River are indeed providing beneficial uses through recreational fishing opportunities that are comparable to many other locations across the Great Lakes. Overall, the entire weight-of-evidence gathered for this assessment provides strong evidence to support fish populations in the Detroit River are unimpaired. In fact, the findings suggest that the Detroit River supports healthy, diverse, and self-sustaining fish communities, inclusive of ecological sensitive species like Lake Sturgeon and Lake Whitefish, that are comparable or better than neighboring waterbodies and other locations across the Great Lakes.



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REFERENCES

M. Fabiano & S. Marklevitz, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (ONMNR). 2023. Detroit River Area of Concern: Fish Population Assessment Report 2022 Update. Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

For more information or to download the report, please visit www.detroitriver.ca.

