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Media Advisory

NOAA Proposes Protective Regulations for Gulf of Maine Atlantic Sturgeon

NOAA's Fisheries Service has proposed protective regulations on taking Gulf of Maine Atlantic sturgeon, a population currently proposed for listing as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.

NOAA proposes to prohibit most takes, allowing them under very narrow circumstances for scientific research, assisting stranded fish, and salvage purposes. Other protective prohibitions allowed by the act would apply. Comments are being accepted through August 9, 2011.

A decision on listing the population is expected next fall. A decision on listing the population is expected next fall. If NOAA determines that a listing is not warranted, then no final rule containing protective regulations will be published and the proposed rule announced today will be withdrawn.

For more information visit us at: http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/atlsturgeon/

NOAA's Fisheries Service is dedicated to protecting and preserving our nation's living marine resources and their habitat through scientific research, management and enforcement. NOAA's Fisheries Service provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

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