## North American Sturgeon and Paddlefish Society In-Memoriam Research Award 2024

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The North American Sturgeon and Paddlefish Society (NASPS) is accepting applications for the NASPS In-Memoriam Research Award. This Award honors, in passing, the memory of our colleagues who made significant contribution to the management, research, and conservation of sturgeon and paddlefish in North America. This award is intended to continue their legacy of sturgeon and paddlefish science by supporting students who conduct sturgeon/paddlefish research, demonstrate academic achievement, leadership ability, and whose professional goals support the mission of NASPS. In their honor, a single award may be given annually (up to \$2,500) to a student to assist with equipment costs or travel to conduct field work.

**Application Requirements:** The award is open to students who: 1) are enrolled full-time at any college/university in Canada or the U.S.; 2) have a defined thesis or dissertation project on sturgeon/paddlefish; 3) demonstrate academic excellence; and 4) are a student member of NASPS.

Application Process: Applicants must submit a single PDF packet that contains the following:

- a. Cover letter describing: 1) professional goals, 2) relevance of research to sturgeon/paddlefish conservation and/or management, and 3) how the award will assist student research. The cover letter should not exceed 2 pages.
- b. CV including current GPA, anticipated date of degree completion, participation in professional clubs and chapters, pertinent publications, and scientific presentations relevant to sturgeon/paddlefish.
- c. Budget detailing how funds will be spent. The award must be used within 1 year of issuance.
- d. Unofficial academic transcript from their current institution.
- e. Two letters of recommendation from fisheries professionals who are familiar with the student's abilities and merit. One letter must be from the student's advisor (1 page).

*Notification:* The 2024 student recipient of the In-Memoriam Research Award will be announced at the 2024 NASPS Annual Meeting in October in Mobile, Alabama. Award funds are eligible for distribution to the student's university upon applicant selection (indirect costs are not allowed).

Application Submission and Deadline: The application packet must be submitted to nasps@nasps-sturgeon.org by June 28, 2024.

## **Mission Statement**

The North American Sturgeon and Paddlefish Society (NASPS) was founded in 2012 at the annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society in St. Paul, MN and is the North American affiliate of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society (WSCS). Seeking to address current declines in sturgeon and paddlefish populations across North America, NASPS is dedicated to promoting the conservation and restoration of these species by developing and advancing research pertaining to their biology, management, and utilization. Distributing scientific, cultural, and historical information related to sturgeon and paddlefish in North America and encouraging the inclusion of sturgeon and paddlefish fisheries science in college and continuing education curricula is critical to achieving these objectives. As such, NASPS recognizes the importance of engaging NASPS members, local, national, and international government organizations, educational institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and the general public through publications, professional meetings, and community events.