

Order of the Acipenser Award

The NASPS is seeking nominations for the Order of the Acipenser award. The Order of Acipenser is presented by NASPS to an individual or individuals for their outstanding contributions to the conservation, recovery, and/or management of sturgeon or paddlefish in North America. Eligibility is not restricted to NASPS members, and award recipients will become honorary NASPS lifetime members.

The Order of Acipenser may be awarded to an individual or a group of individuals. It may be awarded to more than one individual or group in a given year, but there is no requirement that the award will be presented annually. Nominations must be received by August 7, 2026.

The nomination should include the following:

1. Cover letter that details the scientific, educational, and/or managerial successes of the individual(s),
2. Supporting documentation, such as a list of publications, popular press articles, outreach activities, and/or a list of classes or workshops led by the nominee,
3. A minimum of three supporting letters describing the nominee's accomplishments toward meeting the award criteria and providing support for their recognition as a leader in North American Sturgeon or Paddlefish conservation, recovery, or management.

Nominations should be submitted electronically by PDF to the NASPS email (nasps@nasps-sturgeon.org) by July 31st, 2025 and include the nominee's full contact along with the contact information for the individuals making the nomination. The nominating individuals are not required to be members of the NASPS.

A subcommittee, led by the NASPS Vice President, will review nominations to ensure the criteria for the award are met. The nomination will be presented to the NASPS Governing Board for a decision. The expected criteria for the award include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Significant and documented scientific, educational, and/or managerial successes for Sturgeon or Paddlefish recovery and/or management,
- Documented work applicable to recovery and/or management of more than one species of Sturgeon or Paddlefish within North America,
- Broader impact of documented work applicable to Sturgeon species throughout the Northern Hemisphere.

The recipient(s) will be honored at the annual NASPS meeting or at another appropriate meeting where the recipient(s) will be present. An announcement will be made in the NASPS newsletter and posted on the NASPS website following the award.