

# Past, Present, and Future Work on the Wiya't: Restoring the Wiyot Tribe's Role as Stewards of Their Ancestral Territory-Adam Canter





PACIFIC OCEAN

WYOT ANCESTRAL TERRITORY

Arcata

Indian Island

Eureka

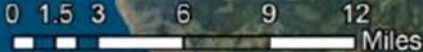
HUMBOLDT BAY

Table Bluff Reservation

Old Wiyot Reservation

Cock Robin Island

EEL RIVER



Wiyot Tribe Environmental Department







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Graphic Arts  
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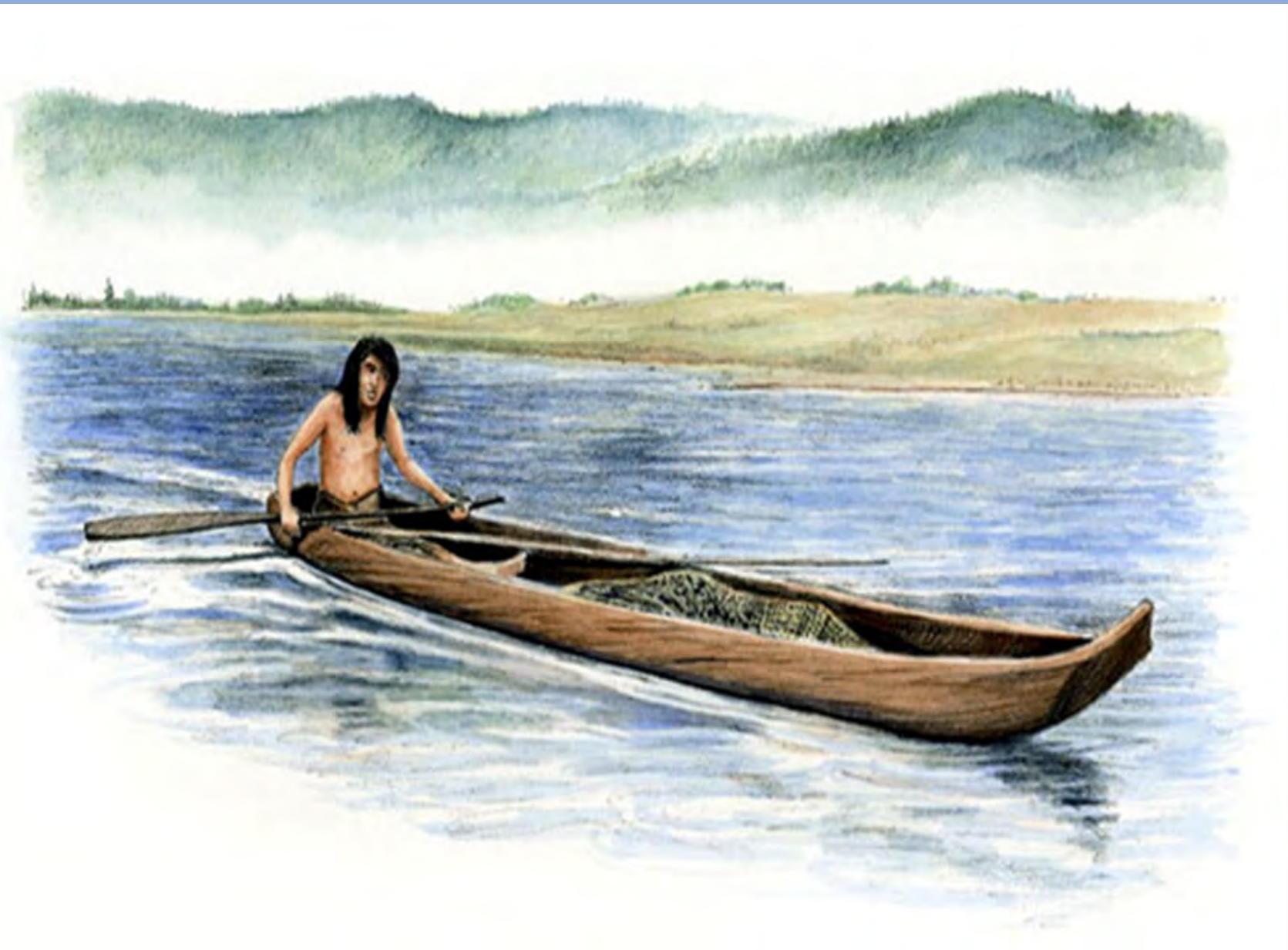












Wiyot man in a canoe.





*Scott Dam, part of the Potter Valley Project on the Eel River. Photo: CalTrout/Kyle Schwartz.*

## **Could California's Next Dam Removal Take Place on This Endangered River?**



**AMERICAN  
RIVERS**

Life Depends on Rivers.™

# America's Most Endangered Rivers® of 2023

**10 RIVERS. 10 THREATS. 10 SOLUTIONS.**



- 1 Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, AZ ..... pg 4
- 2 Ohio River, IL, IN, KY, OH, PA, WV ..... pg 7
- 3 Pearl River, LA, MS ..... pg 9

American Rivers reviews nominations for the America's Most Endangered Rivers® report from river groups and concerned citizens across the country. Rivers are

# Modern Threats to Green Sturgeon

- insufficient freshwater flow rates in spawning
- contaminants (e.g., pesticides)
- bycatch of green sturgeon in fisheries
- potential poaching (e.g., for caviar)
- entrainment by water projects
- influence of exotic species
- small population size
- impassable barriers
- elevated water temperatures

- Eel River green sturgeon prominent data gap
- Large California river with historic run
- Official designations consider the spawning run lost
- Sightings occur annually





2015/05/19 20:21



### Spawning

Adults migrate into rivers  
Spawn in April - June  
Annual success likely varies greatly  
depending on conditions

### Estuaries

Large concentrations  
of green sturgeon during  
summer & fall

### Ocean

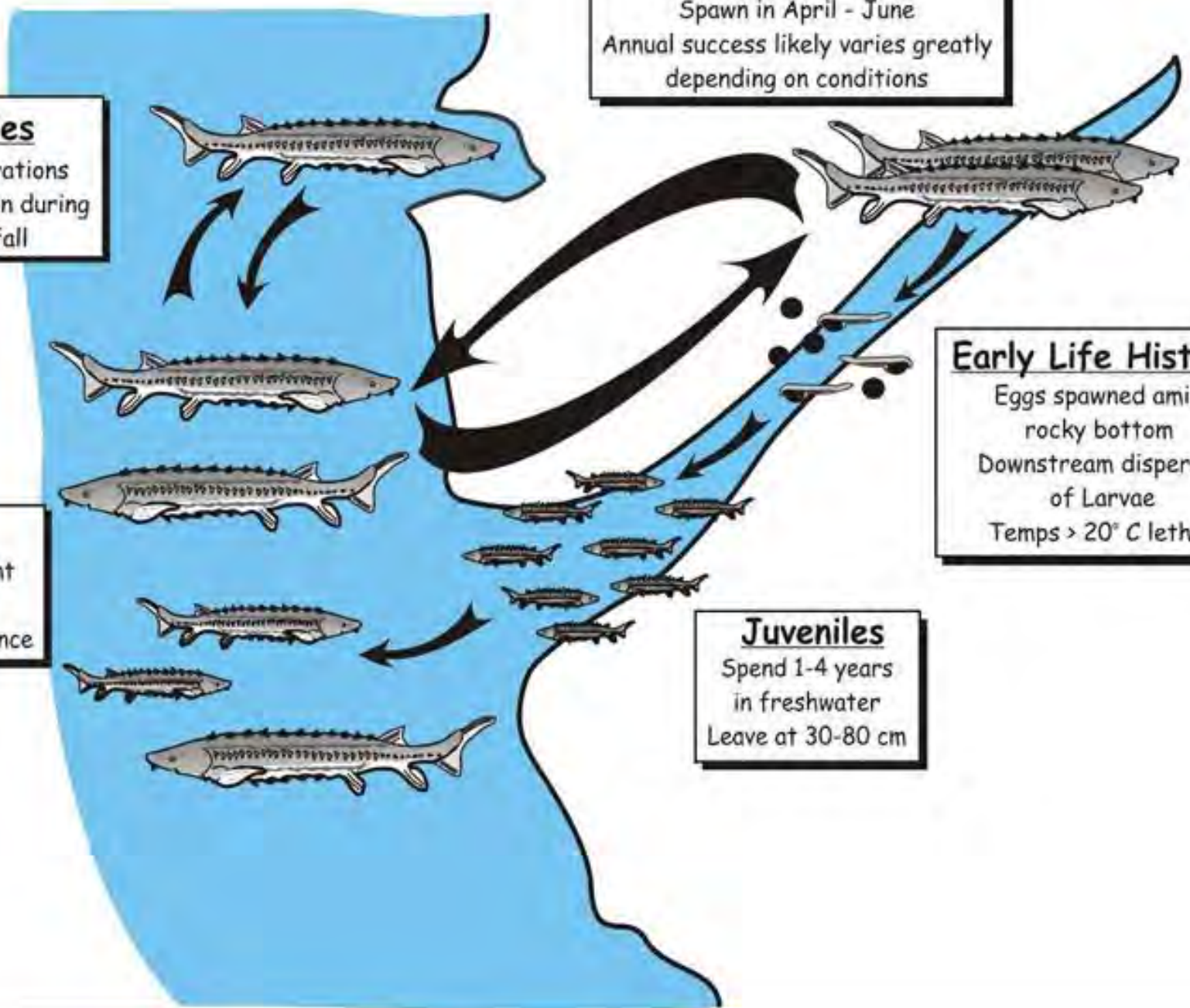
Most of life spent  
in ocean  
Migrate long distance

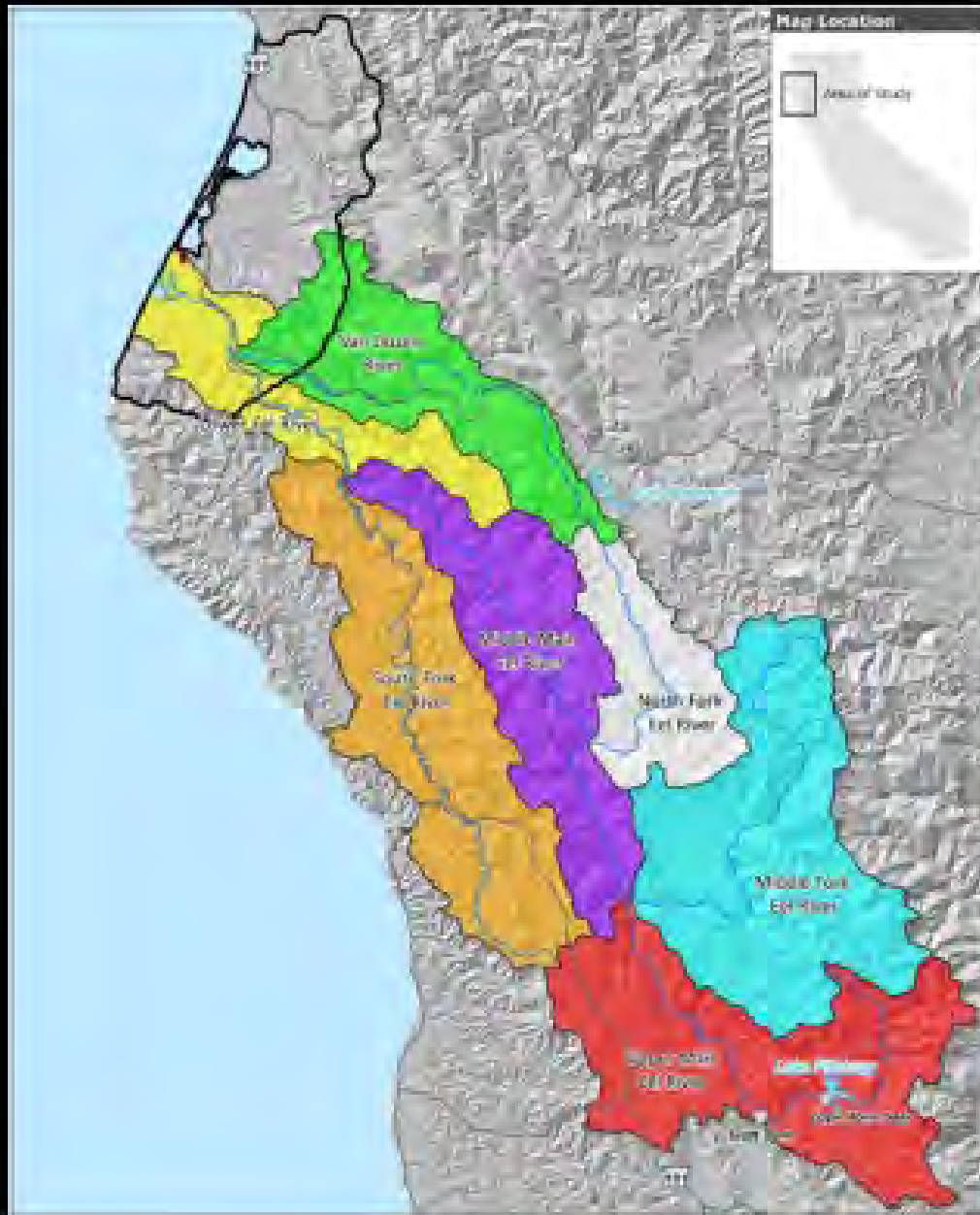
### Early Life History

Eggs spawned amid  
rocky bottom  
Downstream dispersal  
of Larvae  
Temps > 20° C lethal

### Juveniles

Spend 1-4 years  
in freshwater  
Leave at 30-80 cm





- Project area from confluence of Middle Fork and Mainstem (Dos Rios) to Pacific Ocean and nearshore marine portion of estuary
- Presence and enumeration survey using mobile DIDSON
- Assess habitat availability and limitations by cataloging pool depths and gathering water temp and flow data

Table 3-3. Mobile sonar survey **results** from the summer of 2015. Unit # corresponds to those in Appendix B. The number of sturgeon is an estimate with a range based on the level of certainty of observations.

Unit #	Location	Sturgeon	Max depth (m)	rkm
157	12th Street	2	4.9	19
155	Price Creek	0	4.6	23
153/154	Rio Dell	1-3	7.3	32
148	Stafford	0	5.5	42
147	Jordan Creek	2	7.9	45
139/140	Holmes	2	9.1	55
135	High Rock	0-3	10.4	62
131/132	SF Confluence	0	4.0	65
<b>Total</b>		<b>7-12</b>		





































Thank You! Adam Canter, Wiyot NRD, [adam@wiyot.us](mailto:adam@wiyot.us)

