

Field	Description
Collection Date	Date sturgeon tissue sample was collected (MM/DD/YYYY)
Species	Use "ATS" for Atlantic Sturgeon and "SNS" for Shortnose Sturgeon
Permit or Biological Opinion Number	Biological Opinion PCTS tracking number (e.g., SER-2017-12345)
Action Agency, Permit Holder, Responsible Party	Action Agency identified in the Biological Opinion as conducting/funding/carrying out the action
Unique Fish ID	Unique identification number of the fish provided by researcher, observer, handler, etc.
PIT Tag Number	PIT Tag number if detected/or applied
Latitude	Latitude of collection (decimal degrees) - If specific latitude of capture is not known, estimate midpoint of the trawl tow, dredge segment/pass, etc.
Longitude	Longitude of collection (decimal degrees) - If specific latitude of capture is not known, estimate midpoint of the trawl tow, dredge segment/pass, etc.
Fork Length (mm)	Fork length of fish measured in millimeters
Total Length (mm)	Total length of fish measured in millimeters
Preservative	Type of preservative used
Tag Info	Acoustic or other tag number (optional)
Mortality (Y or N)	Was the the take lethal?
Comments	Enter any special notes about the fish (i.e., condition) or sample. Include whether PIT tag was a pre-existing (i.e., animal was a recapture)

Please submit all tissue samples to Robin Johnson

**Robin Johnson
U.S. Geological Survey
Leetown Science Center
Aquatic Ecology Branch
11649 Leetown Road
Kearneysville, WV 25430**

Electronic metadata should be sent to rjohnson1@usgs.gov

Collecting, preserving, and packaging samples:

- Collect tissue by removing a small 1-2 cm² section of fin clip from the pelvic fin using a pair of sharp scissors.
- Place the 1-2 cm² section of fin clip in small screw top vials (2 ml screw top plastic vials preferred; e.g., MidWest Scientific AVFS2002 and AVC100N) with preservative. Please avoid glass vials.
- Label vial with fish's unique ID number.
- RNAlater™ is the preferred preservative; RNAlater™ is a proprietary salt solution that is not a hazardous material.
- 95% absolute ETOH (un-denatured) is an accepted alternative; however, ETOH is a Class 3 Hazardous Material due to its flammable nature and RNAlater™ is strongly preferred.
- If non-screw top vials are used, seal individual vials with leak proof positive measure (e.g., tape).
- Package vials together (e.g., in one box) with an absorbent material within a double-sealed container (e.g., zip lock baggie).
- If using excepted quantities of ETOH, follow DOT and IATA packaging regulations, including affixing ETOH warning label to air package.
- Accepted quantities of ETOH is 30 mL per inner package and 1 L for the total package.

PIT Tag Type	Incidental Reporting Form Submitted?	Action Agency, Permit Holder, Responsible Party
New Tag Applied		BOEM
Existing Tag Detected		EPA
No Tag Detected/None Applied		FEMA
		FERC
		NMFS
		NOAA
		NOS
		NPS
		OAR
		USACE
		USCG
		USGS
		US Navy
		US Army
		US Marine
		US Air Force
		Other





