



White Sucker

Catostomus commersonii



Description:

- ◆ olive brown above
- ◆ white belly
- ◆ gray dorsal and caudal fins
- ◆ all other fins are white, yellow, light brown and sometimes orange
- ◆ long slender body with soft fins
- ◆ small subterminal mouth

Size:

- ◆ up to 25 inches

Range:

- ◆ Atlantic, Arctic, Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins from Newfoundland to Mackenzie River, Northwest Territories, south to Tennessee River drainages, northern Alabama, and Arkansas River drainage; New Mexico; south on Atlantic Slope to Santee River drainage, South Carolina; upper Rio Grande drainage; Skeena and Fraser River drainages (Pacific Slope), British Columbia; Introduced into Colorado River drainage, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah

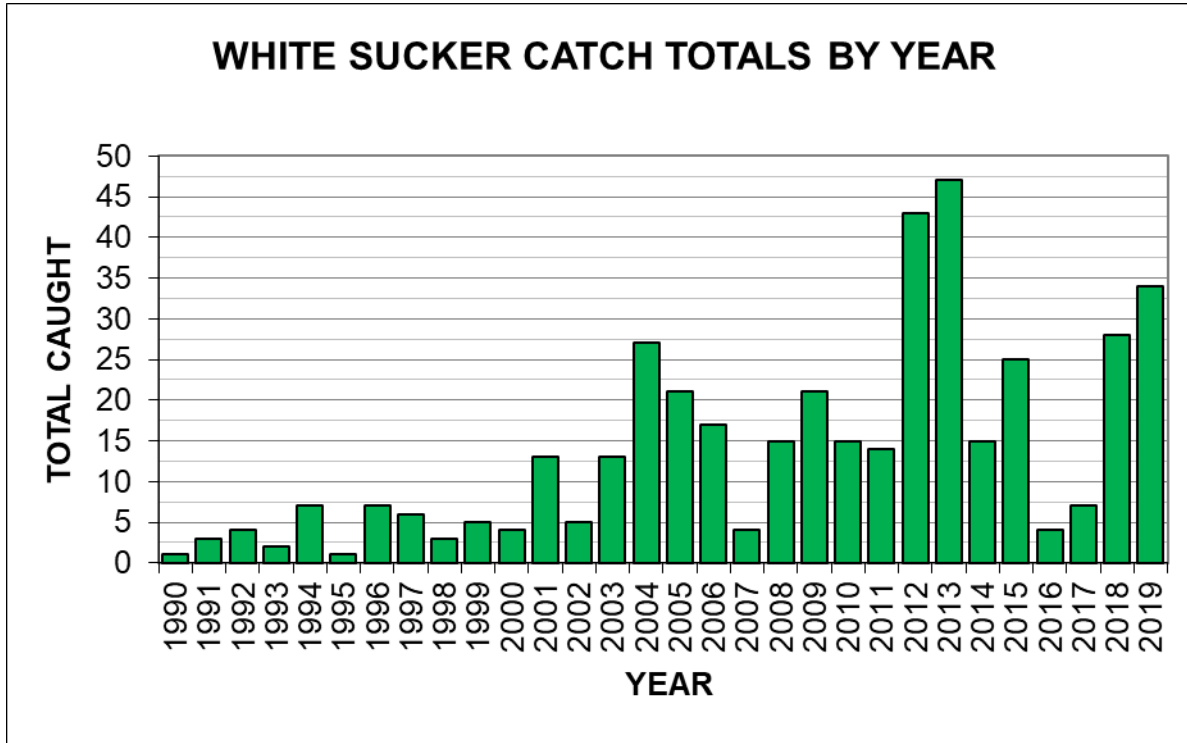
Facts:

- ◆ very tolerant of pollution, turbidity and low oxygen levels
- ◆ spawn from April to early May
- ◆ females spread 20,000 to 50,000 eggs over gravel substrate in moving water
- ◆ breeding males have a pink stripe on their sides
- ◆ during spawning, males grow pearl organs which help them cling to the females



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*white suckers were only caught during the years shown