



SIERRA  
CLUB

FOUNDED 1892

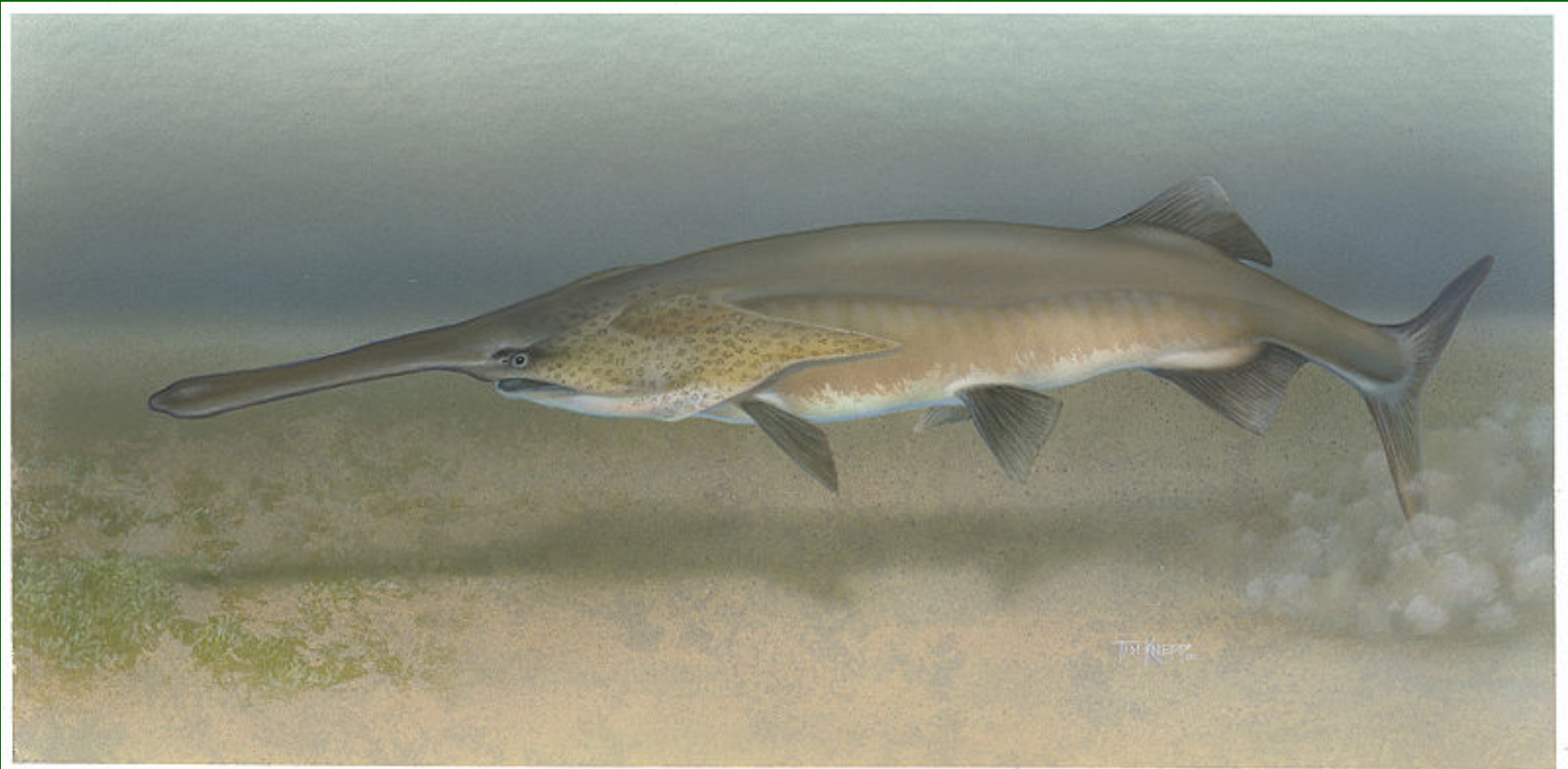
# Ohio River Commercial Fisheries Harvest

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Total Harvest</b> | <b>Year</b> | <b>Total Harvest</b> |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| <b>1999</b> | <b>860,897</b>       | <b>2004</b> | <b>980,053</b>       |
| <b>2000</b> | <b>1,094,278</b>     | <b>2005</b> | <b>1,124,061</b>     |
| <b>2001</b> | <b>1,243,018</b>     | <b>2006</b> | <b>986,443</b>       |
| <b>2002</b> | <b>1,242,015</b>     | <b>2007</b> | <b>1,214,266</b>     |
| <b>2003</b> | <b>587,047</b>       |             |                      |

# Most Common Species Harvested

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Channel Catfish</b>  | <b>Paddlefish Flesh</b> |
| <b>Blue Catfish</b>     | <b>Paddlefish Eggs</b>  |
| <b>Flathead Catfish</b> | <b>Drum</b>             |
| <b>Buffalo</b>          | <b>Shad</b>             |
| <b>Carp</b>             | <b>Drum</b>             |

**American paddlefish, *Polyodon  
spathula*, also called the Mississippi  
paddlefish or spoonbill**



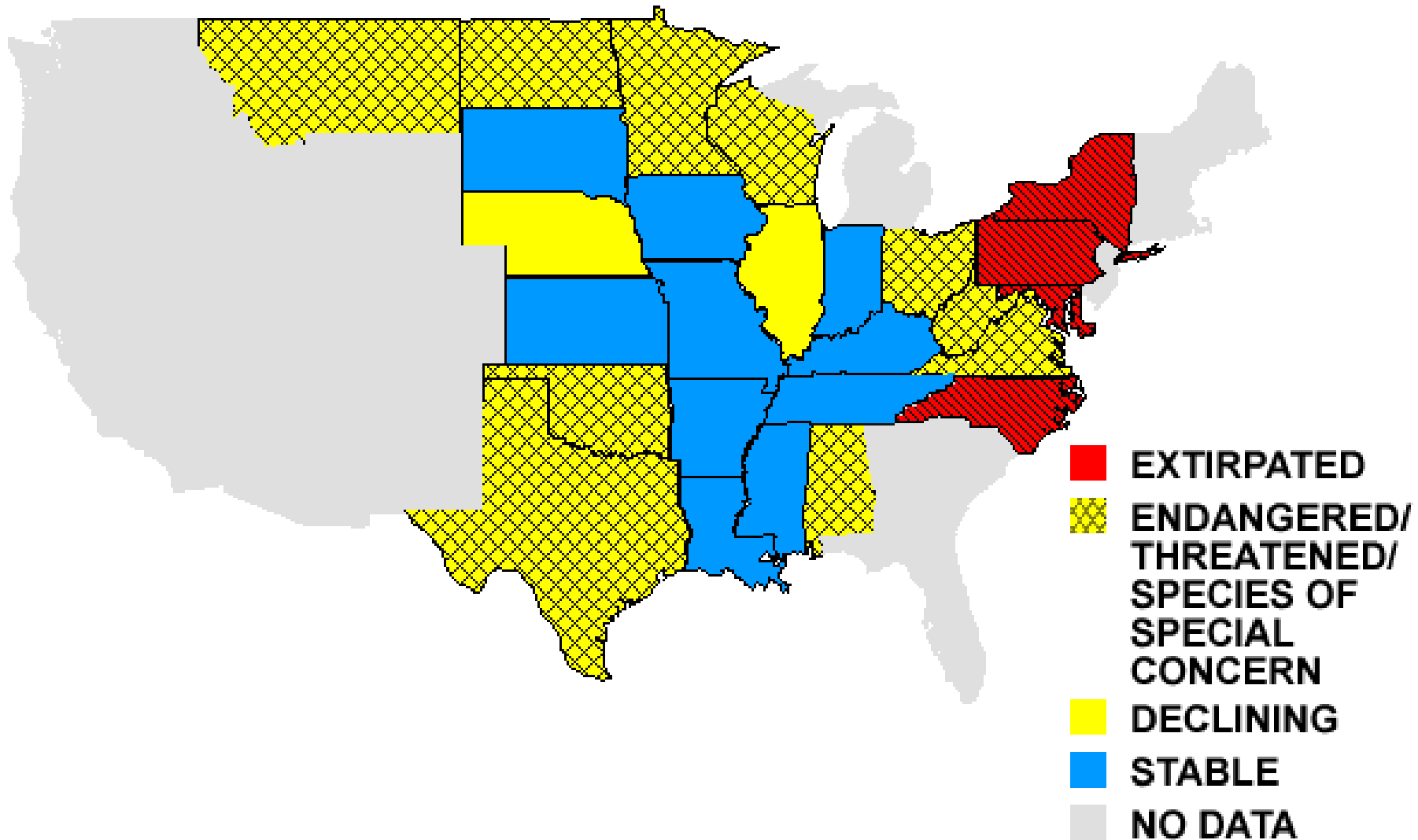
# Paddlefish Facts

- **Highly mobile throughout Ohio & Mississippi Basins**
- **Do not spawn annually**
- **Presently unregulated**
- **Four States besides KY planning harvest restrictions**

# Paddlefish Facts

- **Egg prices increased to \$75-\$135/pound due to collapse of Caspian Sea Sturgeon fisheries**
- **Multi-Million dollar industry**
- **Vulnerable to gill nets**
- **Populations elsewhere have not been sustained without harvest restrictions**

# Where do paddlefish live?



# Paddlefish Facts

## Population Indicators:

- Decline in older females
- Decline in average size of females
- Decline in size in fished versus unfished areas
- Declines seen in other states due to commercial fishing
- Unknown level of illegal poaching

# Paddlefish Facts

- Paddlefish flesh harvest in Ohio River declined in 2007 for the third straight year.
- Similar trends occurring in the Mississippi River during same period.

# Sport Fish on the Ohio River

- **Catfish**
- **Stripped & Hybrid Bass**
- **Largemouth Bass**
- **Spotted Bass**
- **Black Bass**
- **Sauger**
- **Walleye**



**\$1.1 Billion / Year**















