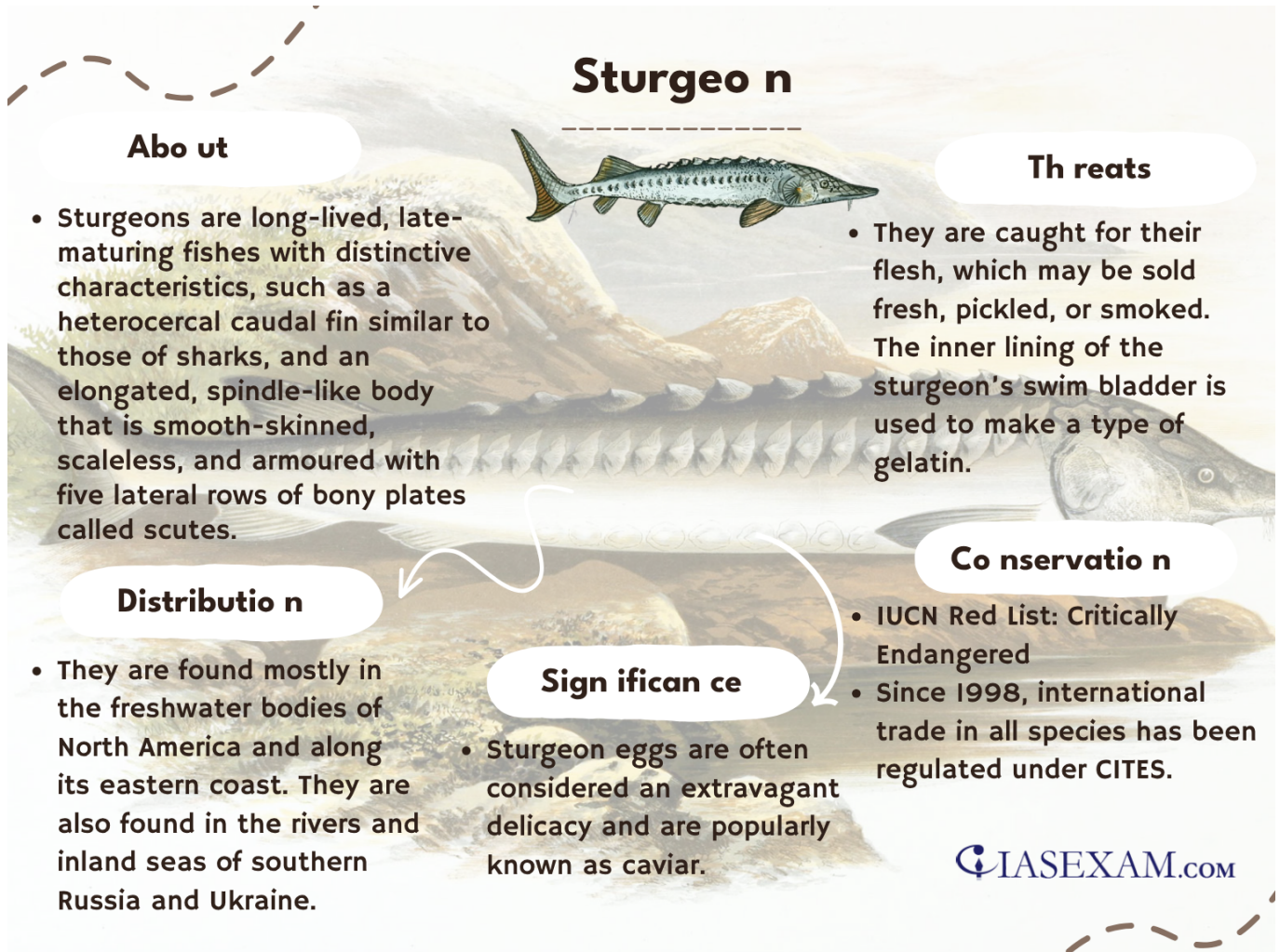


# Sturgeon

written by iasexam.com | 24/11/2023

An infographic titled "Sturgeon" featuring a central illustration of a sturgeon fish swimming in a river. The background shows a rocky riverbed and a large log. Five callout boxes with white backgrounds and black text are arranged around the fish, each containing information about the species. Arrows point from the fish to the "Distribution" and "Significance" boxes. The infographic is framed by a dashed line at the top and bottom.

## Sturgeon

### About

- Sturgeons are long-lived, late-maturing fishes with distinctive characteristics, such as a heterocercal caudal fin similar to those of sharks, and an elongated, spindle-like body that is smooth-skinned, scaleless, and armoured with five lateral rows of bony plates called scutes.

### Threats

- They are caught for their flesh, which may be sold fresh, pickled, or smoked. The inner lining of the sturgeon's swim bladder is used to make a type of gelatin.

### Distribution


- They are found mostly in the freshwater bodies of North America and along its eastern coast. They are also found in the rivers and inland seas of southern Russia and Ukraine.

### Significance

- Sturgeon eggs are often considered an extravagant delicacy and are popularly known as caviar.

### Conservation

- IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered
- Since 1998, international trade in all species has been regulated under CITES.

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