

Conservation of Large Amu Darya Shovelnose Sturgeon (*Pseudoscaphirhynchus kaufmanni*) and Small Amu Darya Shovelnose Sturgeon (*Pseudoscaphirhynchus hermanni*) in Uzbekistan (Khorezm and Karakalpakstan)

Khorezm Mamun Academy – www.life-on-earth.ru – Eurasian Regional Association of Zoos and Aquariums Project
in cooperation with WWF Russia



Both species are endemic for Amu Darya River and are critically endangered probably because of poaching and water flow regulation for technical and agricultural needs. Information for the species is limited. The most part of their habitat in Amu Darya River is restricted border areas closed for researchers and conservationists. There is a critical need to survey the species, as more information is needed to assess the populations.

Objectives of the Project:

1. Assessment of population of the both species to develop the conservation strategy for Uzbekistan at least in the lower part of Amu Darya River (Khorezm Region and Karakalpakstan).
2. Researches of feeding base and searching for feeding areas for the both species.
3. Searching for the breeding sites to provide appropriate targeted protection during breeding season.
4. Creating breeding stock in Uzbekistan to develop breeding technics and provide sustainable restocking for supporting the wild populations.
5. Researches of social and cultural aspects of the issue.

Current Status of the Project:

1. The Project is carried on by Uzbek and Russian volunteers and critically needs funding.
2. All 5 objectives of the Project are slowly in process.

The IUCN information on the species:

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/18601/0>

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/18600/0>

Information on the Project:

www.life-on-earth.ru

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