











FISHES of the HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY - SHEET ONE

STRIPED BASS

What is it? Morone saxatilis is a fish How big is it? 30-40 in. long; up to 55 lbs. What does it eat? fish, crabs, shrimp, worms, squid

Where does it live? rivers, estuaries, bays, ocean

What is its life cycle? hatches from egg in fresh water; most migrate to sea after a year in the estuary; return to fresh water to spawn when 4-7 years old

ALEWIFE (HERRING)

What is it? Alosa pseudoharengus is a fish How big is it? 9-12 in. long
What does it eat? zooplankton (tiny crustaceans, insects)
Where does it live? in streams, rivers, estuaries, & ocean
What is its life cycle? hatches from egg in fresh water; migrates to sea by age 1 year; returns to fresh water to spawn when 3-5 years old

WHITE CATFISH

What is it? Ameiurus catus is a fish
How big is it? 12-16 in. long
What does it eat? small fish, fish eggs,
insect larvae, crustaceans
Where does it live? in large rivers &
estuaries, brackish & fresh water
What is its life cycle? hatches from egg;
grows up near where it hatched

ATLANTIC STURGEON

What is it? Acipenser oxyrinchus is a fish How big is it? 5-8 ft. long; 60-200 lbs.
What does it eat? worms, crustaceans, insect larvae, small bottom fish
Where does it live? in deep water of large rivers, estuaries, bays, & ocean
What is its life cycle? hatches from egg in fresh water; migrates to sea at age 2-6 years; returns to fresh water to spawn for the first time as a teenager; may live more than 60 years

AMERICAN SHAD

What is it? Alosa sapidissima is a fish
How big is it? 18-24 in. long up to 10 lbs.
What does it eat? zooplankton (very small crustaceans, insect larvae, fish)
Where does it live? in large rivers, estuaries, & ocean

What is its life cycle? hatches from egg in fresh water; migrates to sea by age 1 year; returns to fresh water to spawn for the first time when 4-7 years old

AMERICAN EEL

What is it? Anguilla rostrata is a fish
How big is it? 24-40 in. long
What does it eat? crustaceans, fish, insects,
dead animals

Where does it live? in streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, marshes, estuaries, & ocean What is its life cycle? hatches from egg in ocean; larva drifts to coast, becomes glass eel; most enter fresh water, become elvers, then "yellow" eels; after 10-20 years, swim back to sea as "silver" eels to spawn & die