## Saint John River sturgeon fishing season off to good start

## Acadian Sturgeon and Caviar plans to land 350 sturgeon this season

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Cornel Ceapa says his company, Acadian Sturgeon and Caviar, landed its biggest sturgeon ever this week.

Sturgeon fishing season began this week on the Saint John River and the early catches were good, according to one company.

"We started amazingly," said Cornel Ceapa, the owner of Acadian Sturgeon and Caviar.

The company landed the biggest sturgeon it ever caught this week, a mighty creature weighing in at 300 pounds.

Over the next couple of months, the company expects to catch 350 sturgeon and process everything in it from the bladders to the skin. However, the most profit is in caviar, with a 30-gram tin costing \$75.

Ceapa expects the company will work with 400 to 500 kilograms of caviar this year.

"Caviar is not a luxury, it's an indulgence," he said.

Sturgeon conservation is of critical importance to Ceapa. He has a PhD in sturgeon biology.

"This is one of the last wild sturgeon caviars. Most of the sturgeon in the world, they've been overfished," he said.

Ceapa says the population is managed well in New Brunswick and that most of the other caviars in the world come from aquaculture.

"And you know what, wild is better," he said.