REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FORESTS

ORDER

№ РД 09-1029/16.12.2020

№ РД-1066/23.12.2020

Pursuant to Art. 42, para. 1 and in connection with Art. 41, para 2, point 2 of the Biological Diversity Act and the need to protect sturgeon fish populations,

WE ORDER:

1. It is prohibited to fish in the Bulgarian waters of the Danube River and the Black Sea for the following species of sturgeon: Danube sturgeon (Acipenser gueldenstaedtii), Sterlet sturgeon (Acipenser ruthenus), Starry sturgeon (Acipenser stellatus) and Beluga (Huso huso).
2. The ban is introduced for a period of 5 (five) years, starting from 01.01.2021.
3. In case of accidental catch of specimens of the sturgeon species under point 1, they should be returned immediately to the relevant water basin from which they were caught, regardless of their condition.
4. The masters of fishing vessels are obliged to enter in the fishing logbook every accidental catch of sturgeon species, and the record contains information on the species, sex, weight and dimensions of each caught fish separately.
5. When performing recreational fishing, information is recorded for each case of catching sturgeon species in accordance with Art. 24, para. 1, point 3 of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act.
6. For the period of validity of the order, it is prohibited to carry, store, transport and sell the sturgeon species of fish under point 1 and their products caught in the Danube River and the Black Sea.

The order does not apply to the storage, transferring, transportation and sale of sturgeon fish and their products, propagated and grown in facilities under Art. 3, para. 1, point 3 of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act.

The order does not apply to catch, without right of detention, for scientific research purposes, in cases where the person holds a valid permit issued in accordance with Art. 40, para. 2 of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act. The caught specimens are returned to the respective water basin from which they were caught.

DISCLAIMER: The English version is a translation of the original in Bulgarian for information purposes only.
In case of a discrepancy, the Bulgarian original will prevail.

Pursuant to Art. 42, para. 1 of the Biological Diversity Act, the order is promulgated in the "State Gazette".

We assign control over the execution of the order to the executive director of the Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture and the directors of the Regional Environment and Water Inspections.

The order to be communicated to the persons liable for information and execution.

The order is subject to appeal in accordance with the Code of Administrative Procedure.

DESISLAVA TANEVA
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forests

EMIL DIMITROV
Minister of Environment and Water

DISCLAIMER: The English version is a translation of the original in Bulgarian for information purposes only.
In case of a discrepancy, the Bulgarian original will prevail.