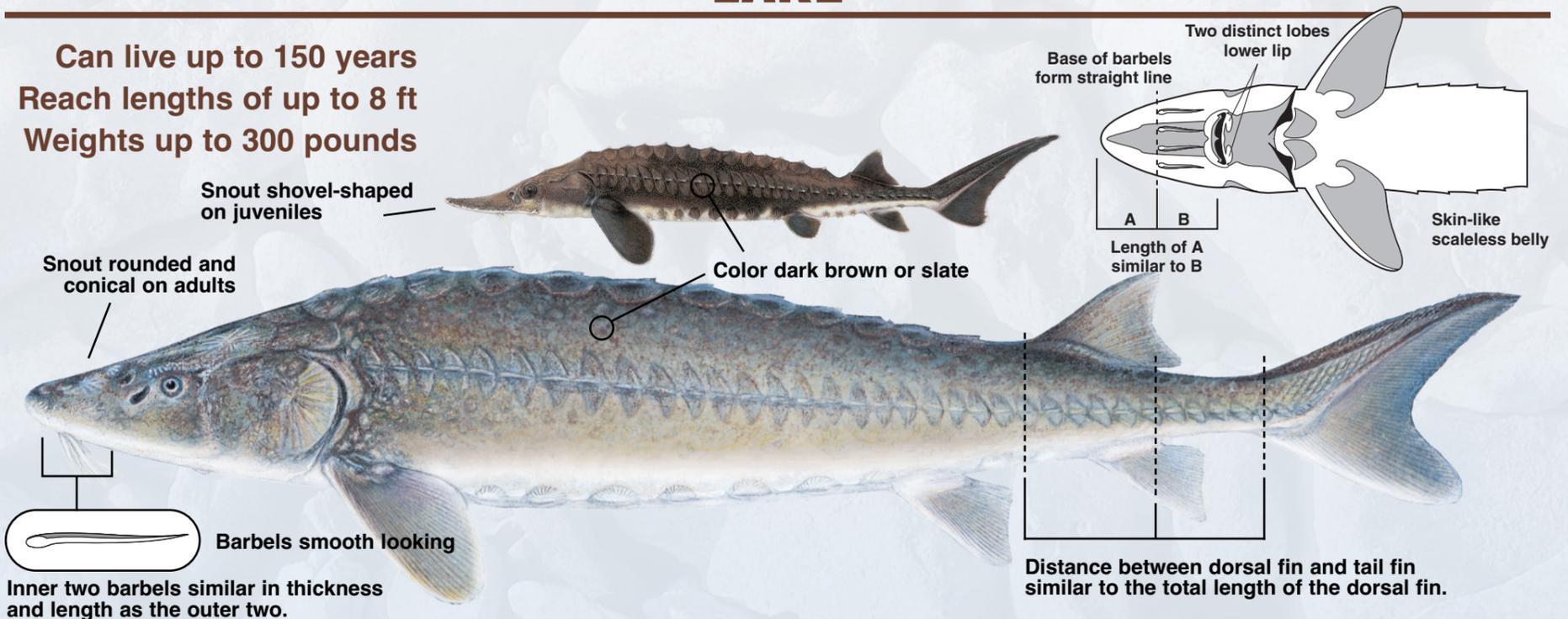


Identification of Lake, Pallid and Shovelnose Sturgeon

Two of the three species of sturgeon that make their home in the big rivers of the northeast part of Kansas are protected by law. The pallid sturgeon is a state and federally listed endangered species and the lake sturgeon is a Species In Need of Conservation (SINC). Identification of these species is critical to ensure the success of current and future reintroduction efforts being done through a combined effort of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Missouri Department of Conservation, and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Once caught and identified, pallid or lake sturgeon must be released immediately back to the water unharmed. Due to their similarities, it is important that anglers be able to identify the differences among the sturgeon species. The information listed below displays key characteristics for identifying each of them. Please help by reporting any sightings, catches, or tag numbers of pallid or lake sturgeon to the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP). Contact the KDWP Region 2 office at (785) 273-6740, the Kansas City District Office at (913) 422-1314, or Mark VanScoyoc at (620) 672-0710 or by email at MarkV@wp.state.ks.us.

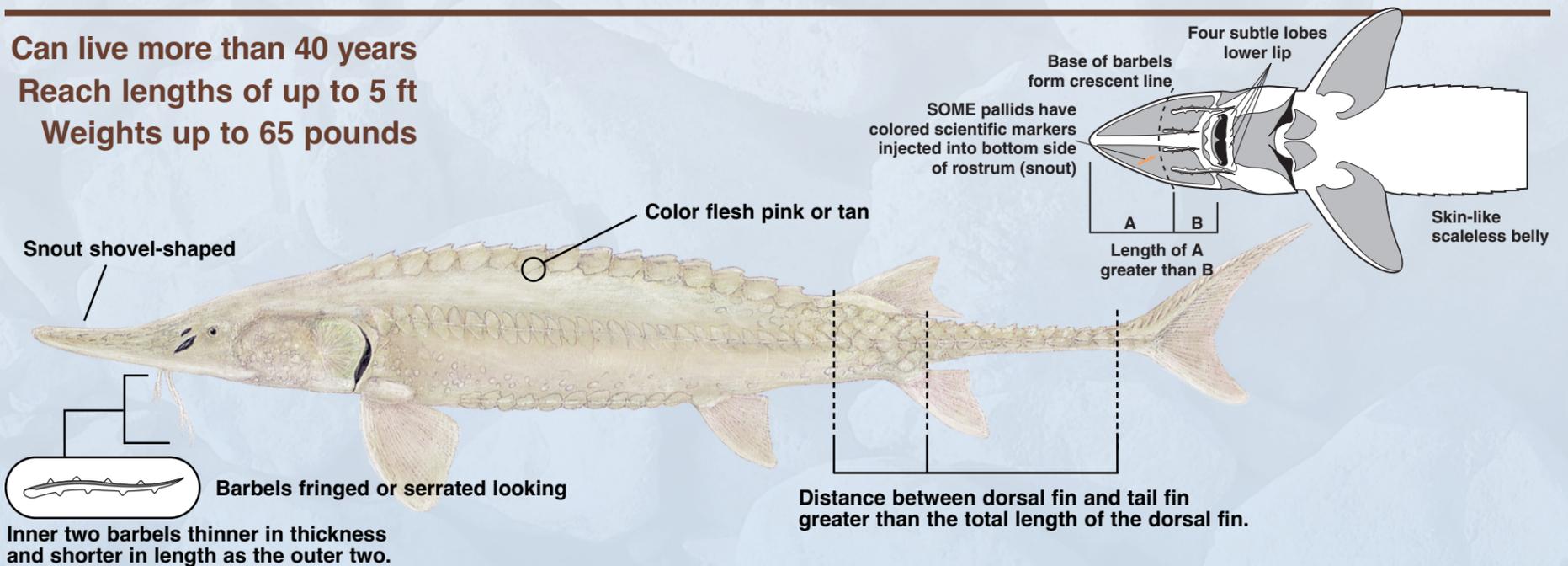
LAKE

Can live up to 150 years
Reach lengths of up to 8 ft
Weights up to 300 pounds



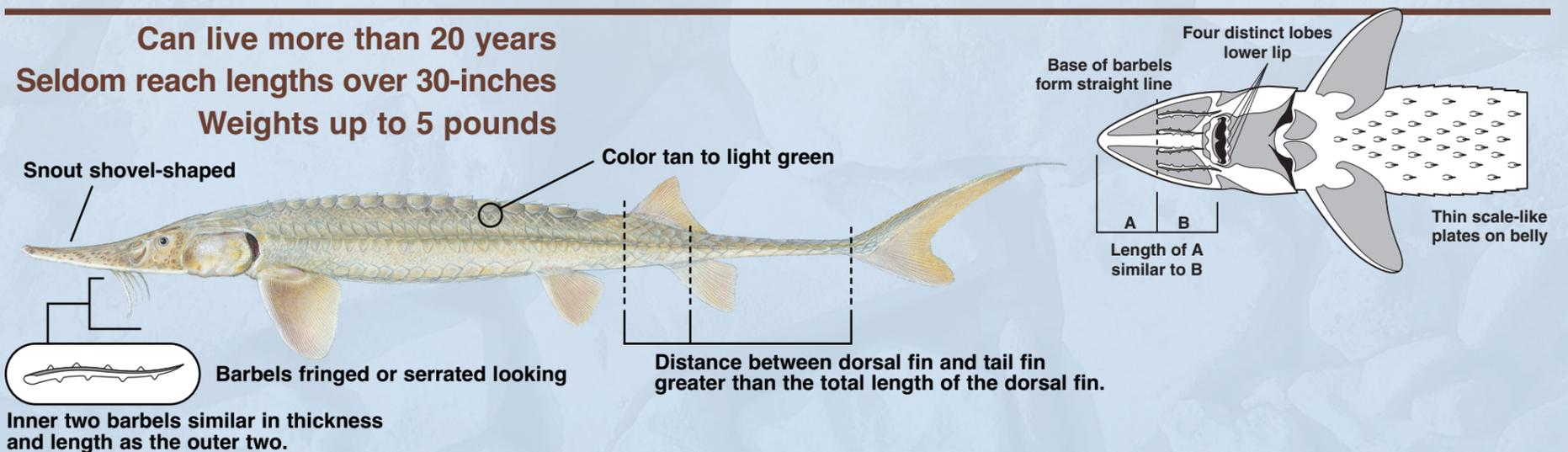
PALLID

Can live more than 40 years
Reach lengths of up to 5 ft
Weights up to 65 pounds



SHOVELNOSE

Can live more than 20 years
Seldom reach lengths over 30-inches
Weights up to 5 pounds



**ALL PALLID AND LAKE STURGEON
MUST BE RELEASED UNHARMED,
IMMEDIATELY AFTER BEING CAUGHT.**