

Asian Carp Sampling Summary

A sampling summary for the week of December 3, 2012 is included below. All data presented in this summary are preliminary and subject to revision.

Bottom Line: Monitoring occurred in the CAWS and upper Illinois Waterway upstream and downstream of the Dispersal Barrier. NO BIGHEAD OR SILVER CARP were reported captured or observed upstream of the Barrier, nor were any found in new locations downstream of the Barrier. This concludes sampling outlined in the 2012 MRRP. Interim summary reports for each project in the 2012 plan and an updated MRRP for 2013 are being prepared and will be available early next year.

Fixed and Random Site Sampling Upstream of the Dispersal Barrier

Site 1: Lake Calumet	Area 1: Lake Calumet Connecting Channel and Calumet River above O'Brien Lock
Site 2: Little Calumet River	Area 2: Calumet-Sag Channel
Site 3: Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal near Western Ave. and South Branch Chicago River	Area 3: Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Western Ave. to Dispersal Barrier
Site 4: North Branch Chicago River and North Shore Channel	Area 4: North Shore Channel, North Branch Chicago River and Chicago River
Site 5: North Shore Channel	

A crew from the USFWS – Carterville Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office completed 30 15-minute electrofishing runs at five fixed sites (7.5 hours total) and 10 15-minute runs at randomly selected locations in the four random site areas upstream of the Dispersal Barrier (2.5 hours total). In addition, two contracted commercial fishing crews and assisting IDNR biologists set 3.1 miles of net (27 sets) at the five fixed sites and 2.1 miles of net (19 sets) at random sites upstream of the Barrier. No bighead or silver carp were reported captured or seen above the Barrier.

Additional Netting Downstream of the Dispersal Barrier

Two contracted commercial fishing crews and assisting IDNR biologists set 0.9 miles of net in Brandon Road Pool 5-10 miles downstream from the Dispersal Barrier. No Asian carp were captured or observed during this sampling.

Barrier Defense Asian Carp Removal Project

Dresden Island Pool: 10-24 miles downstream from Dispersal Barrier

Marseilles Pool: 24-51 miles downstream from Dispersal Barrier

Starved Rock Pool: 51-65 miles downstream from Dispersal Barrier.

Contracted commercial fishers and assisting IDNR biologists set 18.8 miles of net in the Starved Rock, Marseilles and Dresden Island pools of the upper Illinois Waterway and removed 329 bighead carp, 2,045 silver carp, and 11 grass carp. A cumulative summary of the 2012 removal effort to date is shown below.

QUICK SUMMARY THROUGH: 7 December 2012		
Number of Days Fished	68	days
Number of Net Crews	335	crew-days
Miles of Nets Fished	292.6	miles
Number of Bighead Carp	16,560	fish
Number of Silver Carp	28,632	fish
Number of Grass Carp	299	fish
Number of Asian Carp (AC)	45,491	fish
Tons of AC Harvested	284.2	tons
CPUE (N/1,000 Yards of Net)	88	fish

Fixed Sites Downstream of the Dispersal Barrier

Site A: Lockport Pool – Lockport Lock and Dam to Electric Barrier

Site B: Brandon Road Pool – Brandon Road Lock and Dam to Lockport Lock and Dam

Site C: Dresden Island Pool – I-55 Bridge to Brandon Road Lock and Dam

Site D: Marseilles Pool – Rt. 47 Bridge (Morris) to Dresden Lock and Dam

Crews from the IDNR completed supplemental netting for juvenile and adult Asian carp at the fixed sites downstream of the barrier. Four mini-fyke nets and four 6-foot diameter hoop nets were deployed in each pool. The mini-fykes were set for 1 net-night per site (a total of 4 net-nights per pool) and the hoop nets were set for 2 net-nights per site (a total of 8 net-nights per pool). No juvenile or adult Asian carp were caught at any of the supplemental netting sites this month.

Telemetry Monitoring Project

A biologist from USACE working from shore continued downloading data from VR4 receivers located in the CSSC at the Barrier near Romeoville.