

DO NOT MOVE ASIAN CARP CARCASSES UPSTREAM OF EITHER THE DRESDEN ISLAND OR BRANDON ROAD LOCK AND DAMS

Thank you for assisting with Asian Carp Control and Management Efforts!



RECOMMENDATION

As your vessel approaches the **Dresden Island and Brandon Road Lock and Dams**:

- **Check** your decks for fish before entering Dresden Island and/or Brandon Road Lock and Dams
- **Notify** the lock operation personnel that you have a fish on board
- **Remove** the fish and place in a garbage bag

Lock operations staff will dispose of bagged fish and may collect basic information to note probable source or location of fish. These recommendations are not intended to, and should not, result in delays or disruptions in the lockage process, or disruptions to vessel operators. Please exercise caution and ensure all actions and operations are undertaken in a safe manner.

There will be signs at the Dresden Island and Brandon Road Locks reminding you to clear your decks of fish, but we encourage you to employ this protocol at every lock upstream of the Brandon Road Lock and Dam in the Illinois Waterway.

Asian carp have been observed (dead and alive) on decks of boats and barges throughout the Illinois Waterway. Clean, wash, or rinse decks (if it is safe to do so and in compliance with applicable federal and state regulations) to remove fish materials from your vessel downstream of the electric barrier.

Any documentation of fish found in this fashion is appreciated. You can email any information or questions to kevin.irons@illinois.gov or phone 217.557.0719. Leave a brief message with call back information.



Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee

Leading the way in Asian carp control and management.

CONTACT: Questions, comments, or concerns

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More information about Asian carp is available on www.asiancarp.us



PURPOSE:

This protocol describes the recommendations for disposing of fish, including Asian Carp upon discovery on boats and vessels, moving upstream through the Illinois Waterway System. We encourage you to follow this procedure when a fish carcass resembling an Asian Carp is found on your boat or vessel. The main reason for implementing this recommendation involves our current monitoring strategy for Asian Carp above the barrier, using a genetic surveillance tool called Environmental DNA (eDNA). This tool, used since 2009, detects the genetic material (eDNA) of Bighead and Silver Carp in the water. Asian Carp DNA is released from slime, feces, urine, and blood as well as other fish flesh which in time will degrade in the environment. It is possible that DNA material from a carcass transported by boats and vessels is contributing to the eDNA that we detect in the water above the barrier. To reduce the potential for distorting eDNA results, we request that these practices be followed to the extent possible. Additionally, there may also be a possibility that fish being transported could survive, and introduced to waters above the electric barrier if they are returned to the water.

*Commercial vessels have been cooperative in reducing the moving of water through bilge and ballast water management near the electric barrier. We would like to remind recreational traffic that they should also monitor water onboard their vessels. **Movement of bilge and ballast across the electric barrier is prohibited** (title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] part 165.923; information on the rule can also be found in the "Waterway Users" tab on AsianCarp.us). Please plan accordingly to reduce spread of all Aquatic Nuisance Species.*