### **2018 November Summary**

<u>Bottom Line:</u> Multiple agencies participated in monitoring Asian Carp in the upper Illinois Waterway downstream of the Electric Dispersal Barrier during November. **NO LIVE BIGHEAD CARP, BLACK CARP, GRASS CARP, OR SILVER CARP were found in any new locations immediately downstream of the Electric Dispersal Barrier.** 

# <u>Fixed, Random, and Targeted Site Sampling Downstream of the Electric Dispersal</u> Barrier

#### Commercial Netting:

- Contracted commercial fishers along with assisting Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) biologists set 14.5 miles of gill net at fixed and targeted sites in the Lockport, Brandon Rd and Dresden Island Pools (including Rock Run Rookery) in November.
- Crews collected 775 fish representing 11 species during November.
- One Bighead Carp, 2 Grass Carp, and 50 Silver Carp were collected in Dresden Island Pool, downstream of I-55 during November.
- No Bighead Carp, Black Carp, Grass Carp, or Silver Carp were collected above I-55 in Dresden Island Pool during commercial netting during November.
- One Bighead Carp and 6 Silver Carp were collected in Rock Run during commercial netting during November.
- No Bighead Carp, Black Carp, Grass Carp or Silver Carp were captured or observed in Lockport or Brandon Road Pools during November.

#### Electrofishing:

- Crews from IDNR, United Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) completed 57 electrofishing runs at fixed and random sites (14.25 hours total) in Lockport Pool, Brandon Road Pool, Dresden Island Pool, and Marseilles Pool during November.
- They collected 3,940 fish representing 39 species and 2 hybrid group.
- One Silver Carp were captured in the Dresden Island Pool during electrofishing.
- Five Silver Carp were captured in the Marseilles pool during electrofishing.

#### Hoop and Mini Fvke Netting:

- Crews from IDNR set and pulled 16 hoop nets and 16 mini fykes at fixed sites in Lockport, Brandon Road, Dresden Island and Marseilles Pools in November.
- Crews collected 11 fish representing 6 species during hoop net sampling and 686 fish representing 21 species and 1 hybrid group during mini fyke sampling.
- No Bighead Carp, Black Carp, Grass Carp, or Silver Carp were reported, captured, or observed during hoop net sampling in Lockport, Brandon Road, Dresden Island, or Marseilles Pools in November.
- No Bighead Carp, Black Carp, Grass Carp, or Silver Carp were captured, reported, or observed during mini fyke sampling in Lockport, Brandon Road, Dresden Island, or Marseilles Pools during November.

Sampling results by pool below the electric dispersal barrier through November 2018, along with the same time period in 2016 and 2017 for comparison:

Lockport Pool

	2016	2017	2018
Yards of Net Fished	100,775	87,300	76,900
Miles of Net Fished	57.3	49.6	43.7
Hoop Net Nights	61.0	46.6	56.8
Mini Fyke Net Nights	29.8	25.2	28.9
<b>Electrofishing Runs</b>	127	130	169
<b>Electrofishing Time (hrs)</b>	31.8	32.5	42.25
Total Asian Carp (AC)	0	0	0
Tons of AC Harvested	0	0	0

#### Brandon Road Pool

	2016	2017	2018
Yards of Net Fished	92,025	99,275	77,500
Miles of Net Fished	52.3	56.4	44.0
Hoop Net Nights	60.9	50.3	55.0
Mini Fyke Net Nights	30.0	27.1	26.6
Electrofishing Runs	128	129	156
Electrofishing Time (hrs)	32.0	32.3	39
Total Asian Carp (AC)	0	0	0
Tons of AC Harvested	0	0	0

#### Dresden Island Pool

	2016	2017	2018
Yards of Net Fished	88,625	130,900	195,000
Miles of Net Fished	50.4	74.4	110.8
Hoop Net Nights	61.4	343.3	52.2
Mini Fyke Net Nights	31.7	30.9	27.6
Electrofishing Runs	235	192	210
Electrofishing Time (hrs)	58.8	48.0	52.5
Asian Carp (AC) upstream I-55	13	28	7
AC downstream I-55	298	568	1,486
Total AC	311	596	1,493
Tons of AC Harvested	2.1	4.9	13.7
AC/1000 yds of gill net	3.3	4.5	7.9

Rock Run Rookery

	2016	2017	2018
Yards of Net Fished	49,625	40,800	35,400
Miles of Net Fished	28.2	23.2	20.1
Pound Net nights	0	4	8
Bighead Carp	135	179	61
Silver Carp	34	70	64
Grass Carp	2	1	1
Total Asian Carp (AC)	169	249	125
Tons of AC Harvested	2.7	3.8	1.7
AC/1000 yds of gill net	3.4	5.7	3.6

## **Asian Carp Removal Project**

Removal takes place specifically in the Marseilles and Starved Rock Pools. Below is a summary of all IDNR Barrier Defense activities through November 2018, along with the same time period in 2016 and 2017 for comparison:

Overall

	2016	2017	2018
Number of Days Fished	98	89	81
Number of Net Crew Days	694	667	561
Yards of Net Fished	493,425	417,260	355,500
Miles of Nets Fished	280.4	237.1	202.0
Number of Pound Net			
Nights	67	74	22
Number of Hoop Net			
Nights	768.7	987.2	1628.8
Number of Bighead Carp	7,869	2,640	2,987
Number of Silver Carp	132,312	137,132	116,307
Number of Grass Carp	634	972	1093
Number of Asian Carp			
(AC)	140,815	140,744	120,387
Tons of AC Harvested	490.4	481.6	454.2
AC/1000 yds of gill net	255.5	299.1	322.6

#### Marseilles Pool

	2016	2017	2018
Yards of Net Fished	344,575	243,360	144,800
Miles of Nets Fished	195.8	138.3	82.3
Pound Net nights	67	74	22
Hoop Net nights	144.2	98.0	279.2
Mini Fyke Net Nights	29.4	28.0	27.6
Electrofishing Runs	156	132	156

Electrofishing Time			
(hrs)	39.0	33.0	39.0
Bighead Carp	5,901	1,534	1,371
Silver Carp	58,998	41,561	31,494
Grass Carp	101	69	43
Total Asian Carp	65,000	43,164	32,908
Tons of AC Harvested	283.2	190.5	157.5
AC/1000 yds of gill net	159.2	165.1	217.7

#### Starved Rock Pool

	2016	2017	2018
Yards of Net Fished	148,850	173,900	210,700
Miles of Nets Fished	84.6	98.8	119.7
Hoop Net nights	683.1	938.6	1403.7
Bighead Carp	1,988	1,115	1,618
Silver Carp	74,245	96,037	84,895
Grass Carp	567	922	1059
Total Asian Carp	76,800	98,074	87,572
Tons of AC Harvested	211.2	298.4	297.1
AC/1000 yds of gill net	478.2	486.5	394.7

# <u>Using Long-term Asian Carp Abundance and Movement Data to Reduce Uncertainty of Management Decisions</u>

Southern Illinois University—Center for Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Aquatic Science conducted mobile hydroacoustic surveys in the LaGrange and Alton pools to assess Asian carp densities. Telemetry receivers in Dresden Island, Marseilles, and Starved Rock pools were also downloaded. Hydroacoustic and telemetry data are currently being analyzed.

#### Alternate Pathway Surveillance in Illinois - Law Enforcement

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources Invasive Species Unit (ISU) inspected a licensed aquaculture facility in Boone county as part of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement random commercial inspection program. There were no violations or illegal species detected. The facility and relevant purchase and sales records were inspected. ISU inspected a fish market in Cook county, identified a live illegal state threatened species for sale, and discovered the business was selling aquatic life without the required dealer's license. ISU answered questions from a fisherman about the legality of snagging for Silver carp in the Hennepin Canal in Bureau County.