

Asian Carp Sampling Summary

A sampling summary for the week of April 23, 2012 is included below.

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.

Random Site Sampling Upstream of the Dispersal Barrier

Area 1: Lake Calumet Connecting Channel and Calumet River above O'Brien Lock

Area 2: Calumet-Sag Channel

Area 3: Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Western Ave. to Dispersal Barrier

Area 4: North Shore Channel, North Branch Chicago River and Chicago River

A crew from the IDNR completed 3 15-minute electrofishing runs at randomly selected locations in Areas 2, 3, and 4. No bighead or silver carp were reported captured or observed.

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 and USACE completed four 15-min electrofishing transects at each downstream fixed site. No bighead or silver carp were reported captured or seen. Contracted commercial net sampling at downstream fixed sites occurred during the week of April 30 and will be included in next weeks summary.

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 18.3 miles of net in the Starved Rock and Marseilles pools of the upper Illinois Waterway and removed 1,440 bighead carp, 810 silver carp, and 16 grass carp. A cumulative summary of the removal effort to date is shown in the table below.

QUICK SUMMARY THROUGH: 13 April 2012		
Number of Days Fished	16	days
Number of Net Crews	80	crew-days
Miles of Nets Fished	66.7	miles
Number of Bighead Carp	5,978	fish
Number of Silver Carp	7,870	fish
Number of Grass Carp	34	fish
Number of Asian Carp (AC)	13,882	fish
Tons of AC Harvested	91.9	tons
CPUE (N/1,000 Yards of Net)	118	fish

Fish Behavior Study at the Barrier

Crews from USFWS-Carterville and Columbia Fish and Wildlife Conservation offices recorded behavior of gizzard shad held in a cage alongside a boat passing through the Dispersal Barrier and a control site in the CSSC away from the barrier. A total of 20 passes were made through the barrier and 10 passes were made through the control site.

Telemetry Monitoring Project

Crews from USACE successfully downloaded data from VR4 receivers located in the CSSC near the Dispersal Barrier.

Monitoring Asian Carp Population Metrics and Control Efforts

A crew from SIUC sampled Asian carp from the Big Muddy River near Murphysboro, IL and completed hydroacoustic target strength assessments.

Gear Evaluation Study

One INHS boat and crew sampled with multiple gears in the LaGrange Pool of the Illinois River at Lilly Lake Backwater (River mile 83-84) and downstream from the Peoria L&D (River mile 154 – 157.5). The table below shows the gear evaluated and amount of effort at each location.

Gear/Method	Effort
DC electrofishing	6 x 15-min. runs
Trammel net w/ pounding	4 sets
Small mesh gill net -sinking	4 x 4-hr. sets
Small mesh gill net -floating	4 x 4-hr. sets
Large mesh gill net -sinking	4 x 4-hr. sets
Small mesh hoop net	8 net-nights
Large mesh hoop net	8 net-nights
Trap net	8 net-nights
Mini-fyke net	8 net-nights
Small mesh purse seine	4 hauls
Large mesh purse seine	4 hauls
Beach seine	4 hauls
Cast Net	4 throws
Midwater trawl	4 x 5 min. tows
Hydroacoustics	15 min. runs