

Asian Carp Sampling Summary

A sampling summary for the week of August 20, 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.

eDNA Monitoring Project

A crew from IDNR obtained 57 2-L water samples for eDNA analysis at Lake Calumet and another 57 samples from the Little Calumet River downstream of O'Brien Lock and Dam on Monday, August 20. Samples were filtered at the USEPA lab in Chicago and forwarded to ERDC in Vicksburg, MS for analysis. Results of eDNA analysis will be reported on the USACE web site listed below as they become available.

<http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorksProjects/ANSPortal/eDNA.aspx>

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	

Crews from the IDNR 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 0.8 miles of net (7 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 Dresden Island Pool 10-24 miles downstream from the Dispersal Barrier. No Asian carp were captured or observed in new locations during this netting effort.

Fish Behavior Study at the Barrier

Crews from USFWS-Carterville, Columbia and La Crosse Fish and Wildlife Conservation offices recorded behavior of fish 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.

Distribution of Small Asian Carp Study

A crew from the USFWS-Carterville FWCO completed 21 15-minute electrofishing runs in the Starved Rock Pool and 3 15-minute runs in the Peoria Pool of the upper Illinois Waterway (6.0 hours total). In addition, a crew from Carterville, Columbia and La Crosse FWCOs sampled 42 sites across the Peoria, Starved Rock, Marseilles and Dresden Island pools with a boat mounted push trawl. No small Asian carp <12 inches long were reported captured or seen during this sampling effort.

Gear Evaluation Study

A crew from IDNR emptied and reset the one remaining pound net at the entrance to Lake Calumet. No Asian carp have been captured in the Lake Calumet pound nets to date.

Monitoring Asian Carp Population Metrics and Control Efforts

A crew from SIUC measured river discharge with an acoustic Doppler current profiler at three sites along the Illinois River and successfully recovered, downloaded data and redeployed 27 of 30 VR2W telemetry receivers. Crews will continue searching for the three missing receivers (one from the river main stem and two from tributary locations) during future recovery efforts.

Larval Fish, Zooplankton, and Productivity Monitoring

Two crews from INHS completed sampling for fish eggs and larvae, zooplankton, and phytoplankton productivity at the stations listed in the table below. Effort included four 5-minute tows for fish eggs and larvae with a 0.5-meter diameter ichthyoplankton push net, filtering 100 L of water for zooplankton, and taking water samples with an integrated tube sampler for productivity estimates. Samples are currently being processed.

Pool and Station	River Mile	Pool and Station	River Mile
CAWS		Peoria Pool	
Lake Calumet	327	Hennepin	~207-208
Little Calumet River	322	Henry/Lacon	189-197
Western Avenue	~320-321	Chillicothe	~178-180
Calumet-Sag Channel	~319	Upper Peoria Lake	~170-175
Worth Street	~311	LaGrange Pool	
Brandon Road Pool		Peoria Dam Tailwater	155-157.7
Lockport Tailwater	~289-291	Havana	119-122
Des Plaines River/CSSC confluence	~290	Bath Chute	107-113
Dresden Island Pool		Fredrick Main Channel	~97-98
Treats Island/I-55	277-279.5	Treadway Lake Backwater	~93.5
Marseilles Pool		Lilly Lake Backwater	83-84
Morris	262-265	Lilly Lake Main Channel	83-84
Starved Rock			
Ottawa	239.5-241.5		