

Asian Carp Sampling Summary

A sampling summary for the week of August 27, 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.

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. Supplemental netting is scheduled to occur monthly at four locations in each pool. 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 Asian carp were caught at any sites and no bighead or silver carp adults were captured at Site A, B and C. Nine bighead carp and three silver carp adults were caught in one location at Site D.

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 24 15-minute electrofishing runs in the Peoria Pool of the Illinois River (6.0 hours total). No small Asian carp <12 inches long were reported captured or seen during this sampling effort.

Monitoring Asian Carp Population Metrics and Control Efforts

Crews from SIUC captured Asian carp from the Big Muddy River and continued to evaluate hydroacoustics target strength and air bladder volumetric measurements with bighead and silver carp at an on-campus facility.

Gear Evaluation Study

One INHS boat and crew sampled with multiple gears in the LaGrange Pool of the Illinois River at Matanza Backwater (River mile ~120) and the Havana area (River mile 119-122). In addition to the standard gears, crews at the Havana site evaluated 4-6' hoop nets (set for two net nights) and surface-to-bottom gill nets (4 sets). Gears and effort are shown in the table below. Results will be forthcoming after data have been entered into a database, checked for accuracy and analyzed.

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

Gear Evaluation Study (continued)

Crews from INHS also began the fall trial for the large pound (trap) net evaluation. Two large pound nets were deployed in a private Illinois River backwater near Morris, Illinois and a damaged net was reset at the entrance to Lake Calumet. A second pound net has been fishing at Lake Calumet continuously since July 10. No bighead or silver carp have been captured in Lake Calumet pound nets to date. All nets will be checked and emptied at regular intervals during the next two weeks and captured fish will be measured and weighed.