Asian Carp Sampling Summary

A sampling summary for the week of June 25, 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

One IDNR boat and crew obtained 60 water samples for eDNA analysis from Lake Calumet and 60 samples from the Calumet/Little Calumet River downstream of O'Brien Lock on Monday, June 25. 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/AsianCarp/eDNA.htm

Fixed and Random Site Sampling Upstream of the Dispersal Barrier

Site 1: Lake Calumet
Site 2: Little Calumet River
Site 3: Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal near Western Ave. and South Branch Chicago River
Site 4: North Branch Chicago River and North Shore Channel
Site 5: North Shore Channel

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

Two crews from the IDNR completed 30 15-minute electrofishing runs at five fixed sites (7.5 hours total) and 10 15-minutes 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.

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

Contracted commercial fishers and assisting IDNR biologists set 1.8 miles of net (16 sets) at the four fixed sites downstream of the Barrier. No bighead or silver carp were captured at Sites A and B, nor were any captured at new locations at Sites C and D. Electrofishing samples at downstream fixed sites were taken the week of June 18.

Additional Netting Downstream of the Dispersal Barrier

Two contracted commercial fishing crews and assisting IDNR biologists set 0.9 miles of net in Marseilles Pool >25 miles downstream from the Dispersal Barrier. No Asian carp were captured or observed in new locations during this sampling.

Fish Behavior Study at the Barrier

Crews from the USFWS completed DIDSON surveys at 80 sites in the CSSC within and near the Barrier for a total of 800 minutes (13.3 hours) of DIDSON footage.

Distribution of Small Asian Carp Study

A crew from the USFWS Carterville Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office sampled for young Asian carp with mini-fyke nets and trap nets in the Marseilles and Dresden Island pools of the upper Illinois Waterway. Mini-fykes were fished for a total of 24 net-nights and trap nets were fished for a total of 6 net-nights. No small Asian carp <12 inches long were reported captured during this sampling. Several jugs of post larval fish were preserved for later identification in the laboratory.

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 hydroacoustics target strength assessments at an on campus facility.

Larval Fish, Zooplankton, and Productivity Monitoring

Crews from INHS and Western Illinois University 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		