Asian Carp Sampling Summary

A sampling summary for the week of June 4, 2012 is included below. All data presented in this summary are preliminary and subject to revision.

Bottom Line: Monitoring occurred in the Illinois Waterway downstream of the Dispersal Barrier. NO BIGHEAD OR SILVER CARP were reported captured or observed in new locations downstream of the Barrier.

Distribution of Small Asian Carp Study

A crew from the USFWS Carterville Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office completed 23 net-nights of sampling with mini-fyke nets and 4 net-nights of sampling with small mesh trap nets in the Peoria Pool of the Illinois River. No small Asian carp were immediately identified. However, numerous preserved post larval specimens remain to be processed and identified in the lab.

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 14.9 miles of net in the Starved Rock, Marseilles and Dresden Island pools of the upper Illinois Waterway and removed 2,062 bighead carp, 1,210 silver carp, and 2 grass carp. A cumulative summary of the removal effort to date is shown in the table below.

QUICK SUMMARY THROUGH: 15 June 2012		
Number of Days Fished	28	days
Number of Net Crews	135	crew-days
Miles of Nets Fished	110.0	miles
Number of Bighead Carp	10,025	fish
Number of Silver Carp	11,153	fish
Number of Grass Carp	99	fish
Number of Asian Carp (AC)	21,277	fish
Tons of AC Harvested	141.0	tons
CPUE (N/1,000 Yards of Net)	110	fish

Telemetry Monitoring Project

A crew from USACE completed mobile tracking from Bubbly Creek to Dresden Island Lock and Dam and downloaded VR2 receivers from the telemetry fixed-station receiver network. Preliminary analysis indicated that no tagged fish crossed the Dispersal Barrier in upstream or downstream directions and none moved through upper Illinois Waterway locks. Mobile tracking showed some movement of tagged bighead carp from a backwater to the main river channel in the Dresden Island Pool but all fish remained downstream of the I-55 Bridge.

Gear Evaluation Study

Evaluation of Lake Michigan style pound (trap) nets was postponed until the week of June 11.