

## March 2013 Sampling Summary

Monitoring occurred in the Chicago Area Waterway System 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 and Random Site Sampling Upstream of the Dispersal Barrier

<b>Site 1:</b> Lake Calumet	<b>Area 1:</b> Lake Calumet Connecting Channel and Calumet River above O'Brien Lock
<b>Site 2:</b> Little Calumet River	<b>Area 2:</b> Calumet-Sag Channel
<b>Site 3:</b> Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal near Western Ave. and South Branch Chicago River	<b>Area 3:</b> Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Western Ave. to Dispersal Barrier
<b>Site 4:</b> North Branch Chicago River and North Shore Channel	<b>Area 4:</b> North Shore Channel, North Branch Chicago River and Chicago River
<b>Site 5:</b> North Shore Channel	

Three crews from the Illinois Department Natural Resources (IDNR) completed 30 15-minute electrofishing runs at five fixed sites (7.5 hours total) and 16 15-minute runs at randomly selected locations in the four random site areas upstream of the Dispersal Barrier (4 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 2.2 miles of net (19 sets) at random sites upstream of the Barrier. No bighead or silver carp were reported captured or seen above the Barrier.

### Fixed and Random Site Sampling Downstream of the Dispersal Barrier

<b>Site A:</b> Lockport Pool – Lockport Lock and Dam to Electric Barrier
<b>Site B:</b> Brandon Road Pool – Brandon Road Lock and Dam to Lockport Lock and Dam
<b>Site C:</b> Dresden Island Pool – I-55 Bridge to Brandon Road Lock and Dam
<b>Site D:</b> Marseilles Pool – Rt. 47 Bridge (Morris) to Dresden Lock and Dam

Three crews From the IDNR and one crew from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers completed 16 15-minute electrofishing runs at four fixed sites (4 hours total) and 16 15-minute runs at randomly selected locations in the four pools downstream of the Barrier (4 hours total). No bighead or silver carp were reported, captured, or seen.

In addition two contracted commercial fishing crews and assisting IDNR biologists set 1.8 miles of net (16 sets) at the four fixed sites and 1.8 miles of net (16 sets) at random sites within the four pools downstream of the Barrier. No bighead or silver carp were captured at Sites A, B, and C, nor were any captured at new locations at Site D.

### Winter Barrier Defense

From December to March commercial fishing barrier defense crews and rapid response commercial crews continued fishing throughout the winter. With ice conditions being highly variable, the barrier defense crews focused a majority of their efforts in the main channel and side channel areas of the Starved Rock, Marseilles and Dresden Island Pools. When conditions were favorable the Rapid Response crew deployed an 800 yard seine in the Material Service area. Below is a summary of the activities from December through March, which concludes this added and additional sampling.

<b>QUICK SUMMARY:</b>		
<b>Number of Days Fished</b>	23	days
<b>Number of Net Crews</b>	78	crew-days
<b>Miles of Commercial Seine</b>	0.45	Miles
<b>Miles of Nets Fished</b>	73.8	Miles
<b>Number of Bighead Carp</b>	2282	Fish

<b>Number of Silver Carp</b>	6004	Fish
<b>Number of Grass Carp</b>	392	Fish
<b>Number of Asian Carp (AC)</b>	8678	Fish
<b>Tons of AC Harvested</b>	56.5	Tons

### March Barrier Defense

2013 Barrier Defense commercial fishing resumed the week of March 11. Seventeen barrier defense weeks have been schedule for 2013. Below is a quick summary of the activities in March.

<b>QUICK SUMMARY:</b>		
<b>Number of Days Fished</b>	8	days
<b>Number of Net Crews</b>	36	crew-days
<b>Miles of Nets Fished</b>	38.3	Miles
<b>Number of Bighead Carp</b>	634	Fish
<b>Number of Silver Carp</b>	7606	Fish
<b>Number of Grass Carp</b>	52	Fish
<b>Number of Asian Carp (AC)</b>	8292	Fish
<b>Tons of AC Harvested</b>	40.1	Tons
<b>CPUE: Number of Asian Carp/ 1,000 yards net</b>	123	Fish

### Rock Run Rookery Preserve Lake

Contracted commercial fishing crews were allowed to fish the Rock Run Rookery Preserve Lake in Will County by the Will County Forest Preserve. The 84 acre lake is located on the west side of the Illinois River and just North of Interstate 55. The lake is connected to the river with a shallow ditch. Below is a quick summary of activities in the Preserve Lake.

<b>QUICK SUMMARY:</b>		
<b>Number of Days Fished</b>	5	days
<b>Number of Net Crews</b>	12	crew-days
<b>Miles of Nets Fished</b>	10.0	Miles
<b>Number of Bighead Carp</b>	304	Fish
<b>Number of Silver Carp</b>	48	Fish
<b>Number of Grass Carp</b>	3	Fish
<b>Number of Asian Carp (AC)</b>	355	Fish
<b>Tons of AC Harvested</b>	5.8	Tons
<b>CPUE: Number of Asian Carp/ 1,000 yards net</b>	50	Fish

It is thought that this area is acting like a sink for fish, thus return trips to remove fish from Rock Run will be necessary. Efforts within the upper Dresden Island Pool remain vigilant, with no apparent rise of Asian carps within the canal proper being detected. Similar areas (mildly isolated lakes of Dresden Island Pool) will be identified and investigated during 2013.