

Thank you for your comment, Brian McCombs.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is GLMRIS2AP50007.

Comment Date: October 3, 2012 12:26:46PM
Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS)
Comment ID: GLMRIS2AP50007

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I feel that Asian carp do pose a great threat to the Great Lakes region. Because we are talking about the most significant freshwater source in the US and the 2nd largest in the world, a complete & well thought out approach is what is needed. I feel that identification of prevent opportunities should be completed for all 18 listed pathways. Several or only the most likely is not acceptable, each pathway should be given the same due diligence. I do agree that the implementation of preventive strategies/methods, such as barriers, doesn't seem to be needed at the current point in time. However, i do believe that having tactics along those lines identified will best prepare all partners involved to provide a swift response as situations warrent. Along those same lines, I strongly feel that a threshold needs to be established that when it is reached in monitoring activities the threat level is no longer considered low. Without a firmly established level, I can see different states, organizations, agencies having differing opinions about what should be done as a result of being at "X" level. If there is a firm line in the sand established, a unified approach of moving to the next level or tier would be stream lined, allow for prioritization of funds & most importantly allow for a timely response to initiated while there would still be time to react to results that monitoring yeilds. Those comments are my more directable comments. I also would like to express some personal feelings regarding the topic that may or may not be useful for getting a feeling over what the general commenting public feels about the work being undertaken here. I have been a life long Ohio resident. I have strong environmental ties, decided to achieve five higher education degrees in the environmental field & work in the profession as well. I do not consider this topic to be something taken as anything less than of the utmost importance. Because of the importance of the resource at hand, this is one to get right the first time. Not just another plan to get shelved to gain dust while the problem persists. A pressing problem should result in pressing actions. I truely hope that the recomend implementation actions are not swayed by an specific groups interest and that the natural resources involved are given the top priority. While i have not personally spent a great deal of time in my life interacting with the Great Lakes system, it is still something i prize very dearly. I have made it a priority for my son to experience that same grander of the resource as i have. It would be a crushing occurence to me to know that my son would not have that same experience because of inactions taken during the tenure of those who came before him. This resource, because of its magnitude, truely does warrent coming to the correct solution promptly. Personally, i would have no negative reactions to an unpopular but nessisary implementation action. Doing what needs done is what needs to be done here, nothing less.