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GLMRIS

Comment ID: GLMRIS50211

First Name: [Withheld by requestor]

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Address: [Withheld by requestor]

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Comment Submitted:

Please preserve the water quality and the natural species in our great lakes. My family has vacationed in the Bay of Islands/McGregor Bay area since the early forties and we have owned property there since 1952. We have already provided that our property eventually will be owned and enjoyed by our grandchildren. The integrity of our great lakes has been of paramount importance to us over the years and we have supported both the GBA and GBF in their efforts to promote environmental health for the largest fresh water lakes in the world. Personally, we have been part of a water testing project to assure that the lake water is monitored for E-Coli and observed for increases in phosphates.

The threat of the Asian Carp upsetting the natural balance of things is of grave concern. We have observed over the years the mistakes made already by allowing aquatic invasive species to be brought into the lakes by not taking action soon enough. We have experienced ups and downs in native fishes pursuant to toxic substances in the air, poor regulation, invasive bird species and overfishing. Too often, actions are taken too late.

We urge you to take measures NOW to stop the invasion of Asian carp for it certainly would decimate natural species in our lakes. Stop them now and ask the questions necessary to determine how they would affect the lakes before they are there – not after they have already managed to get through the shipping lane and begin to work their way north and east to all five of the lakes. We need a permanent hydrological separation of the Great Lakes from the Mississippi to protect both bodies of water.

We note that The Corps was mandated to study ways to prevent invasive species movement between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River. It appears that they have decided instead to spend precious time and resources to study ways to “reduce the risk,” not just prevent. We feel that reducing the risk is not the answer; reducing the risk is not the mandate from Congress. Prevention is the only answer. Do not give the Asian carp the slightest foothold in the great lakes – we already know that we cannot stop them once they arrive.

(we had intended on attending the meeting yesterday but the ice storm prevented our getting to UC)