

Thank you for your comment, David Adams.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is GLMRIS50224.

Comment Date: February 11, 2011 13:04:48PM

GLMRIS

Comment ID: GLMRIS50224

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Attachment: NYS DEC.public comments.01112011.pdf

Comment Submitted:

# **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

## **Deputy Commissioner**

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## **US Army Corps of Engineers Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study Public Scoping Meeting 11 January 2011**

Good afternoon, my name is David Adams. I am an ecologist with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Office of Invasive Species Coordination.

Thank you for providing opportunity for public input. This matter is of utmost importance to the State of New York, as Asian carp threaten the continued viability of our Great Lakes as environmental, recreational and economic resources.

We urge you, and participating agencies, to see to it that all measures necessary to prevent entry of Asian carp into the Great Lakes, especially through the Chicago Area Waterway System, are taken.

We urge you, and participating agencies, to:

- 1) employ short term physical barriers and eradication measures;
- 2) establish as effective eDNA testing program;
- 3) coordinate other monitoring and management activities with eDNA results;
- 4) expedite the planning and implementation of permanent ecological separation of the Great Lakes from the Mississippi River watershed, the timeline for release of the Draft Recommended Plan is too slow;
- 5) and lastly, conduct these activities in a transparent and inclusive manner.

As you know, Asian carp pose a dire threat to the Great Lakes, including its bays, connecting channels and tributaries. Establishment of an Asian carp population in the Great Lakes could well result in catastrophic, irreversible harm to this ecosystem that is one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water and devastate the commercial and recreational fisheries that depend on the Great Lakes. Because the stakes are immeasurably high, the response must be commensurate with the urgency and magnitude of the threat.

Thank you for considering these comments, more detailed written comments will be submitted at a later date.