

Thank you for your comment, Barbara Adams.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is GLMRIS50356.

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GLMRIS

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Attachment: Asian carp.doc

Comment Submitted:

I attended the March 8th 2011 public forum in Ypsilanti and have the following comments for Mr. Goss and General Peabody.

Since the study is projected to take five years, 2010-2015, I have the following suggestions.

The outcome of the study should be the plans to eradicate each ANS from the Great Lakes and Mississippi basins and how to monitor and keep them eradicated over time. The mitigating events between now and the eradication are the construction of the barriers in the various waterways. The barriers should not be the long term solution. The existence of the ANS can not be part of the long term solution in these basins. They will destroy the native ecosystems. The study must develop the methods/means to eradicate them.

You should consider studying each ANS separately because each will have different habits and behaviors. If you perform parallel studies on each ANS, it may not take 5 years to complete. Plus once a study is complete on a species, the eradication of that species should be permitted to go forward.

The group performing the study needs to look at interim and long term measures in order to eliminate these fish. The study should be such that over the 5 year period, various processes to eliminate portions of the fish should be done. Then the final solution should be some kind of process to eliminate the fish and then periodically have one of the organizations involved be responsible for surveying the waters and using the elimination process to keep the fish out of the water system.

One of the handouts at the meeting answered some questions. One of the questions was "who are the stakeholders?" I believe you missed the major stakeholder and that is the citizens who live in this region. If these invasive species go unchecked each person in the region will be economically as well as environmentally impacted.

Thinking out of the box. I was amazed at the \$19 million dollar price tag for one barrier. This does not eradicate the carp. I would like some group to come up with more proactive ways to eradicate the carp. Some proactive measures were discussed at the meeting and are actively being implemented: making fertilizer, cat food, or human food from the carp. I would like to propose an eradication method. Use another \$19 million of the funds on "Fishing derbies"? For each carp a person catches and kills/buries in their garden for fertilizer they get paid \$5.00. Or give the fish to a pet food company. This has the potential of eliminating 3,800,000 fish bases on the \$19 million. Keep a bounty on the heads of these fish until they are eradicated. A program like this gives the people an opportunity to make money.. This could be a back to work program for those out of work. I think this would be a better use of \$19 million as an immediate risk reduction.

Communication is major part of project management. It can be one of the major pitfalls of bad project management. I have managed a number of Information Technology projects and know first hand what can happen. That is why I think it is important to use various communication means, not just the web. This goes back to knowing your audience. Since your audience may not use the web or have a lot of knowledge of the web because of their age, it is important to use multi-media to communication. I would speculate a certain percentage of your audience is over 50 years of age. Newspapers would be a better source of information for them.

Regulating ships ballast. This has gone unchecked for years in the Great Lakes. It is time to mandate new regulation because invasive species are transported via ballast. New ANS are introduced via this mean.

One point that was brought up in the meeting that I would like to strongly support is the education of the public on the harm these species including the carp if they are transported. Education is needed.

One last point, have you contacted Asian Carp experts in China or Japan? I would think since the Carp originate in that region of the world, there should be expert there that can help.

Sincerely
Barbara Adams