

ASIAN CARP

Why we want to keep them out of the Great Lakes



BIGHEAD CARP

Bighead carp can weigh up to 90 lbs and reach 5 feet in length. They consume up to 40% of their body weight daily, eating the food supply which native and sport fish species depend on.

GLFC

SILVER CARP

Silver carp can weigh up to 60 lbs and reach 3 feet in length. They will jump out of the water as high as 5 feet when disturbed by boat motors, risking injury to recreational boaters and anglers.

T. Lawrence, GLFC

GRASS CARP

Grass carp can weigh over 80 lbs and top 5 feet in length. They can eat 20-100% of their body weight daily in aquatic vegetation, impacting aquatic and wetland habitat for native species.

Ohio DNR

First imported into the United States in the 1960's and 1970's for use in southern aquaculture facilities, bighead and silver carp escaped during flooding, swam north and have wrecked the fisheries of the Mississippi River where they have taken over.

As filter feeders, they consume the base of the aquatic food chain, starving out and outcompeting native fish species. Additionally, silver carp become a safety hazard to boaters and anglers on waters they inhabit, leaping five feet out of the air and weighing up to sixty pounds.

Recent studies have predicted that they could thrive in Lake Michigan and Lake Erie if they become established, where they could spread to connected inland rivers and lakes, jeopardizing the Great Lakes \$7 billion annual sport-fishing economy and the freshwater ecosystems of the Great Lakes region.