



# STOP ASIAN CARP!

## PRESS STATEMENT

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**Statement By: Christine Goepfert and Marc Smith, Stop Carp Coalition Co-Chairs**

### **Passage of the Water Infrastructure Bill Will Help Fight Invasive Carp in Minnesota Waters**

#### **Statement:**

“The Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) passed the U.S. Senate today, as well as the House of Representatives earlier this week. With both chambers passing the critical water bill this week, the next step is to send the final bill to President Obama so he can officially sign the WRRDA bill into law. This bill will provide new tools to use in the fight against invasive carp in Minnesota’s waterways and throughout the Midwest.

“Key provisions in the WRRDA bill call for the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam in Minneapolis within one year of the bill’s enactment and create a federal multi-agency task force that will better coordinate efforts to combat the threat of invasive carp in the Upper Mississippi and Ohio River basins. To learn more about these provisions, please visit [here](#).

“We urge the U.S. Army Corps to ensure swift action in carrying out the lock closure mandate. Closing the lock will allow us to focus our efforts on strategies that will protect waters further downstream, including the St. Croix and Minnesota River basins. We must protect the rest of Minnesota’s waters from invasive carp before they establish a foothold and cause irreparable harm to the rivers, lakes and streams that help support our multi-billion dollar recreation and tourism industry.

“We thank the Minnesota delegation for their leadership to include in the WRRDA bill these critical new tools to help combat the threat of invasive carp. We look forward to working with our federal and state leaders on other initiatives that will continue to protect our waterways from the threat of invasive carp in Minnesota.

Please visit [www.stopcarp.org](http://www.stopcarp.org) to learn more about how you can help us in this invasive species fight.

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**About Stop Carp Coalition:** The Stop Carp Coalition is a group of more than 20 groups representing sportsmen and women, private property owners, anglers, conservation and environmental organizations that is collaborating to bring attention to the Asian Carp issue in Minnesota, educate the public and elected officials about impacts to our environment and economy, mobilize our combined thousands of members and supporters, and advocate for quick and strategic initiatives to slow and/or stop the invasion of these harmful invasive species in Minnesota waters. Member organizations include: Anglers for Habitat, Audubon Minnesota, Central Minnesota Audubon Society, Clean Water Action – Minnesota, Fish and Wildlife Legislative Alliance, Conservation Minnesota, Friends of the Mississippi River, Friends of Pool 2, FM Walleyes Unlimited, Inc., Izaak Walton League of America – MN Division, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, Midwest Marina Association, Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA), Minnesota Conservation Federation, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, Minnesota Trout Association, Minnesota Trout Unlimited, Mississippi River Fund, National Parks Conservation Association, National Wildlife Federation, New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen, St. Croix River Association, and Wilderness Inquiry. For more information, visit: [www.stopcarp.org](http://www.stopcarp.org)