

STOP ASIAN CARP!

WE CANNOT LET ASIAN CARP DESTROY OUR HERITAGE *LIVE CATCH TWO DAYS AGO*

We Need A Response That Includes Lock Closure and Deterrents Downstream

A threat to our way of life in Minnesota

Minnesota is facing one of the greatest invasive species threats to our natural resources and quality of life in decades: Asian carp. They are voracious filter feeders that can grow to more than four feet long, weigh up to 100 pounds and quickly dominate a body of water by gobbling up the same food that sustains native fish populations. Some species are even known to injure boaters, by leaping up to ten feet out of the water.

Urgent action is needed

This threat was made all the more real this last year with the capture of live Asian carp on the Mississippi River near Winona in March 2012, at the mouth of the St. Croix River in April 2012, in Lake Pepin in November 2012, and most recently, just south of Winona in February 2013. We must respond to this threat immediately in order to protect our proud outdoor recreation traditions, native fish populations, and National Parks, all of which support our \$11.6 billion tourism industry and thousands of jobs and businesses.

A problem we can solve

Given the urgent need for action, our Coalition supports **closing Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Lock #1 (Ford). These lock closures must also be combined with the most protective deterrent technology available downstream to protect all of Minnesota's waters, including the Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers.**

Priority #1 should be lock closure

Closing the locks is the only foolproof barrier to Asian carp passage, effectively protecting thousands of miles of rivers and streams and thousands of lakes upstream.

Pursue business negotiation strategy

We understand that lock closure could cause some disruption to the navigation industry and would inconvenience some recreational boaters. However, we can work together to mitigate the economic impacts of lock closure.

As such, we encourage the State to aggressively pursue negotiations with the two to three businesses that utilize the upper three locks with the goal of reaching a settlement that compensates them for discontinuing use of the river for shipping. Other shipping modes are

available to those businesses, and the marginal cost difference between barging and other modes could well be a manageable and worthwhile expense for the State legislature to appropriate that would allow for closure with no financial impact to the commercial shipping businesses upstream from the lock.

Deploy deterrents at locks that cannot be closed

The proposed acoustic/bubble barrier technology can be an important part of an overall deterrence strategy. However, this should be deployed in downstream locks such as Lock #19 at Keokuk, Iowa, where lock closure is impossible due to high volumes of river shipping.

Deterrents are not barriers; need redundancies

Electric or acoustic/bubble technologies are not 100% effective in stopping the movement of Asian carp; they can only attempt to modify their behavior, so redundancies in the system are necessary.

Continue to use other strategies

While implementing these strategies, we should remain committed to provide the resources necessary to support other strategies available to combat this threat, including:

- Voluntary reductions in lock usage
- Fishing the population down
- Trying to find markets
- Reducing introductions via bait
- Continued support for research

Region-wide focus necessary

There needs to be a regional approach to this issue as Minnesota is not facing this threat alone. Our state and federal leaders should continue to reach out to neighboring states to coordinate strategies and resources.

For more information, please visit www.stopcarp.org, find stopcarp.org on



or contact the Stop Carp Coalition — 19 organizations representing thousands of members in Minnesota — full list on Reverse side.

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