



February 2, 2016

Mr. Tom Landwehr, Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Commissioner Landwehr:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write to urge the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to continue to prioritize actions that will help protect the Upper Mississippi River from the further spread of invasive Asian carp.

As you know, invasive carp pose a serious threat to the native fish species in the Mississippi, Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers. We applaud the level of commitment to date in controlling the spread and minimizing the impacts of invasive carp, including support for the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock. However, much work remains to protect the Minnesota and St. Croix Rivers.

There are several promising projects at Locks 2, 5, and 8 that the DNR has supported and should continue to support that will help protect these rivers and most of the Mississippi in Minnesota. Additionally, the Minnesota Invasive Carp Action Plan lays out many strategies related to monitoring, control and prevention that should continue to be implemented.

The DNR has provided great leadership in advancing initiatives to stop and/or slow the spread of invasive Asian carp. We urge the agency to remain committed to this fight by prioritizing this critical work.

Sincerely,

Stop Carp Coalition

Cc: Mr. Luke Skinner, Director, Division of Ecological and Water Resources

Coalition Members:

Christine Goepfert, Senior Program Manager
National Parks Conservation Association

Deb Ryun, Executive Director
St. Croix River Association

Steve Schultz, Water Program Coordinator
Clean Water Action and Clean Water Fund of Minnesota

Jeff Forester, Executive Director
Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates

Paul Austin, Executive Director
Conservation Minnesota

Barb Halbakken Fischburg, Director
MN Coalition of Lake Associations (MNCOLA)

Gary Botzek, Executive Director
Minnesota Conservation Federation

Whitney Clark, Executive Director
Friends of the Mississippi River

Barry Draskowski, President
Izaak Walton League of America - Minnesota Division

Marc Smith, Policy Director
National Wildlife Federation

Jeffrey S. Broberg
President, Minnesota Trout Association and Vice Chair, National Trout Center

Lance Ness, President
Anglers for Habitat and Fish & Wildlife Legislative Alliance

Katie Nyberg, Executive Director
Mississippi River Fund

Linda Peck, Conservation Chair
Central MN Audubon Society

Scott Strand, Executive Director
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