



December 15, 2014

Mr. Shaun Donovan, Director
The Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Donovan:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and our hundreds of thousands of members and supporters in Minnesota and nationwide, we write to request that the Office of Management and Budget provide adequate funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in fiscal year 2016 to advance efforts against the threat of invasive Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi River.

Our coalition includes organizations representing conservation, environmental, sportsmen and women, businesses and private property owners, all of whom are concerned about the threat Asian carp pose to our natural resources and way of life here in Minnesota.

To address this threat, Congress passed legislation in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act that created a federal multi-agency task force led by the USFWS to coordinate strategies among several federal agencies to address the threat of Asian carp in the Upper Mississippi and Ohio River basins. The federal task force will help address the threat of Asian carp on a regional level in both of these river basins by directing several agencies to develop a coordinated strategy for supporting state and regional efforts with high-level technical assistance, best practices, coordination and other resources.

It is critical that the USFWS receives the funding necessary to undertake this effort in a strong and meaningful way. Therefore, we request that the USFWS receives \$4 million dollars in fiscal year 2016 as requested to advance this important work.

Should you have any questions, please contact Christine Goepfert, National Parks Conservation Association, at 612-270-8564 (office) or cgoepfert@npca.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stop Carp Coalition

Cc: Congresswoman Betty McCollum

Coalition Members:

Christine Goepfert, Upper Midwest Program Manager
National Parks Conservation Association

Scott Strand, Executive Director
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

Katie Nyberg, Executive Director
Mississippi River Fund

Barry Drazkowski, President
Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League

Jason Dinsmore, Regional Representative
National Wildlife Federation

Paul Austin, Executive Director
Conservation Minnesota

Rick Chapman, President
Midwest Marina Association

Lance Ness, President
Anglers for Habitat

Gary Botzek, Executive Director
Minnesota Conservation Federation

Jeff Forester, Executive Director
Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates

Whitney Clark, Executive Director
Friends of the Mississippi River

Denny Caneff, Executive Director
River Alliance of Wisconsin

Deb Ryun, Executive Director
St. Croix River Association

John P. Lenczewski, Executive Director
Minnesota Trout Unlimited

Barb Halbakken Fischburg, Director
MN Coalition of Lake Associations

Kevin ChapdeLaine, President
Friends of Pool 2

Linda Peck, Conservation Chair
Central MN Audubon Society

Ted L. Suss, Executive Director
Friends of the Minnesota Valley

Deanna White, State Director
Clean Water Action