

Framework for a National Asian Carp Management and Control Plan

Executive Summary

Purpose

Introduction

Goals

1. Prevent new introductions of Asian carp within the United States.
2. Control the expansion of Asian carp populations.
3. Abate the harmful ecological, economic, social and public health impacts resulting from the introduction of Asian carp.

Objectives

- Prevention and containment
- Surveillance
- Eradication, control, and abatement programs
- Research needs
- Information access and management
- Education and outreach
- Coordination and leadership

Research needs, information access and management, education and outreach, and coordination and leadership are components of prevention and containment, surveillance, and eradication, control, and abatement programs.

Objective 1: Prevention and containment

Definition: Prevent new introductions of Asian carp and eliminate pathways to prevent further distribution and spread.

Includes:

- Exhaustively consider pathways by which Asian carp can move within and between watersheds and factors that could facilitate their movements.
- Assess the risk of further infestation through each identified pathway.
- Identify management options available to reduce the risks associated with each identified pathway.

Background

Action Plan (strategies and why)

OBJECTIVE 2: Surveillance

Definition: Forecast and detect new introductions and range expansions of Asian carp.

Includes:

- Develop early detection programs to detect new introductions and range expansions into previously uninvaded waters.
- Assess population abundance and trends to forecast expanding populations.
- Monitor captive populations.

Background

Action Plan

Objective 3: Eradication, control, and abatement programs

Definition: Identify management actions to control the spread of Asian carp and abate the harmful ecological, economic, social and public health impacts resulting from the establishment of Asian carp populations.

Includes:

- Rapid response programs to eradicate new introductions and range expansions.
- Population control programs to reduce abundance of established populations below levels where harmful impacts do not occur.
- Develop abatement actions to minimize the harmful ecological, economic, social and public health impacts resulting from the establishment of Asian carp populations.

Background

Action Plan

Objective 4: Research needs

Definition: Begin, continue, and expand biological field and laboratory investigations of Asian carp populations in support of preventing spread, controlling populations, and minimizing impacts.

Includes:

- Gather data on the biology and life history characteristics and requirements of Asian carp
- Develop environmentally sound tools and methods for eliminating or controlling Asian carp populations
- Evaluate the impact of Asian carp populations on native fish communities
- Provide information necessary to develop, implement, and evaluate management and control activities for Asian carp

Background

Action Plan

Objective 5: Information access and management

Definition: Information management systems to successfully implement coordinated management activities and provide for timely access and exchange of new data.

Includes:

- Directory of research and management activities
- Directory of key contacts and information associated with implementation actions
- Solicit and compile current prevention, management, and research activities
- Solicit and compile information on the status, expansion, and occurrence of new Asian carp populations.
- Provide management and research protocols and data reporting requirements.

Background

Action Plan

Objective 6: Education and outreach

Definition: Development of educational materials and outreach programs in support of preventing spread, controlling populations, and minimizing harmful impacts of Asian carp populations.

Includes:

- Develop educational tools and outreach programs to provide to government agencies and public and private organizations to increase awareness of the problems associated with Asian carp.
- Engage government agencies and public and private organizations in preventing the spread, controlling populations, and minimizing harmful impacts of Asian carp.
- Provide for the continued supply of new information and resources in support of the implementation of the management plan.

Background

Action plan

Objective 7: Coordination and leadership

Definition: Provide for coordinated implementation of the management plan and the timely access and exchange of new data, information, and developments.

Includes:

- Provide national coordination and leadership to federal, state, and tribal governments and non-government organizations in preventing future introductions and spread of Asian carp populations.
- Provide assistance to federal, state, and tribal governments and public and private organizations in developing Asian carp reduction and eradication programs.
- Review existing federal and state legislation, regulations, and policies pertaining to Asian carp prevention and management and provide recommendations.
- Propose federal legislation to prevent the further introduction and spread of Asian carp.

Background

Action plan

Implementation Time Table

Biological Information

Black Carp
Bighead Carp
Grass Carp
Silver Carp

Literature Cited