# **IDNR**

**USFWS** 

**USACE** 

**USGS** 

## UNIFIED FISHING EVENT DRESDEN ISLAND POOL INCIDENT ACTION PLAN WEEK OF OCTOBER 16, 2017

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### BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

As part of the Asian Carp Monitoring and Response Plan controlled commercial fishing is used to reduce the numbers of Asian carp in the upper Illinois and lower Des Plaines rivers downstream of the Dispersal Barrier. By decreasing Asian carp numbers, we anticipate decreased migration pressure towards the barrier and reduced chances of carp gaining access to upstream waters in the CAWS and Lake Michigan.

This event is a *Unified Fishing Method* developed by Chinese fisherman to harvest the maximum amount of fish in backwater lakes. In large Chinese backwater lakes (> 10,000 acres) this method is successfully used to harvest over 90% of fish. The unified fishing method utilizes the Asian Carp schooling instincts, a series of nets and herding techniques to ultimately move Asian carp into a final catch and removal area.

In 2016 and 2017 IDNR conducted Unified Fishing Events in the Marseilles Pool Hanson Material Services West Pit. These events were determined successful by removing 96,000 and 75,000 pounds of Asian carp, respectively. Hydro acoustics concluded that 50-80% of the Asian Carp were harvested from the West Pit. These prior events have provided much insight on Asian Carp behavior and fish driving techniques and will be adapted to the Dresden Island Unified Event.

Prior to the Dresden Island Unified event, Southern Illinois University will complete hydroacoustic scans to provide Asian carp population densities and also USACE will download a network of telemetry receivers to provide Asian Carp movement prior to the event. USACE will continue to actively track AC in the Dresden Island Pool throughout the week to assist crews in locating areas

**INHS** 

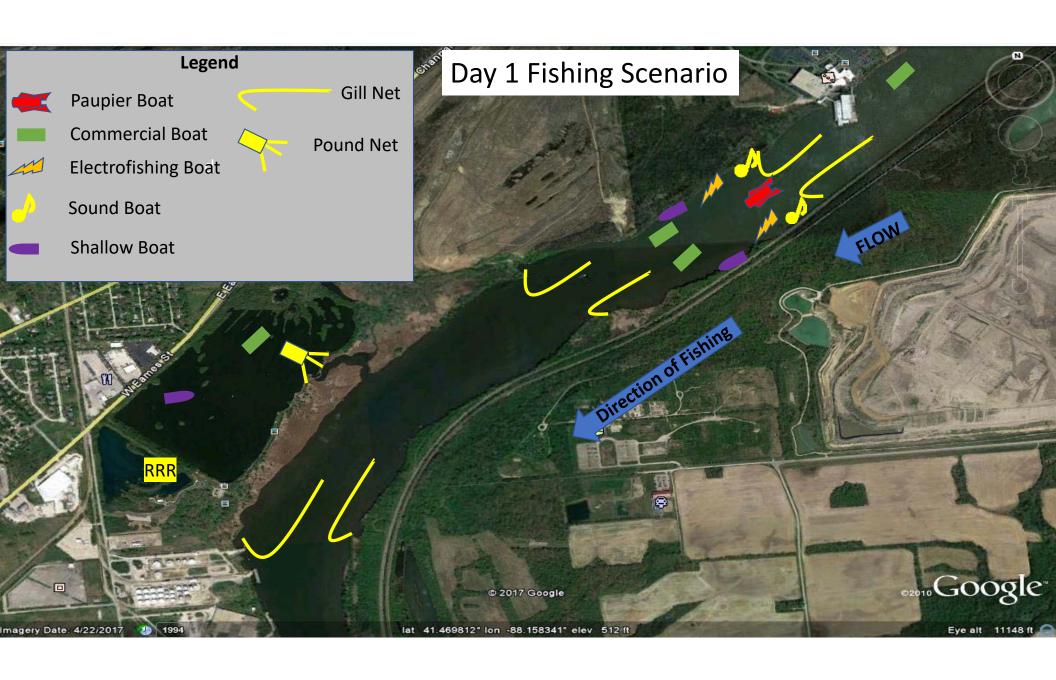
SIU

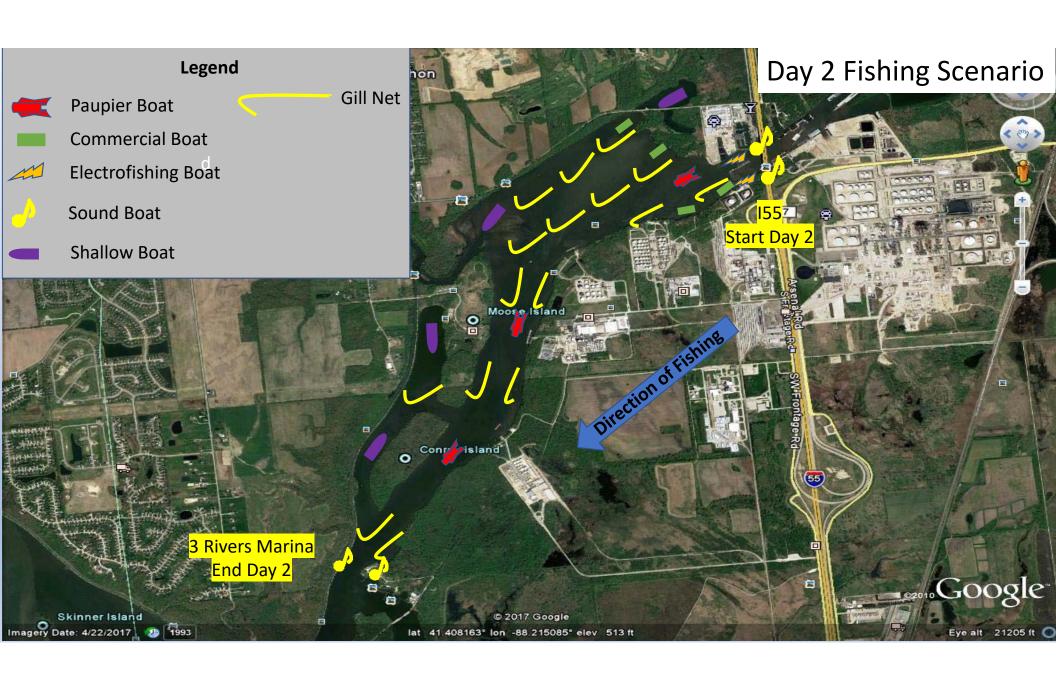
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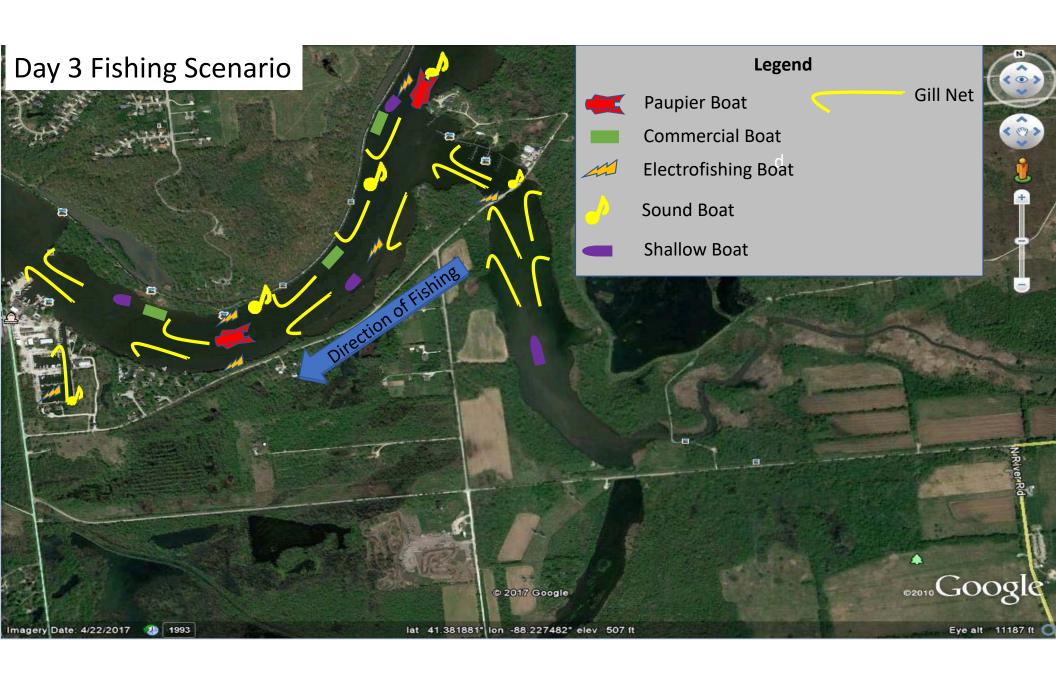
# **ALL HANDS ON DECK!**

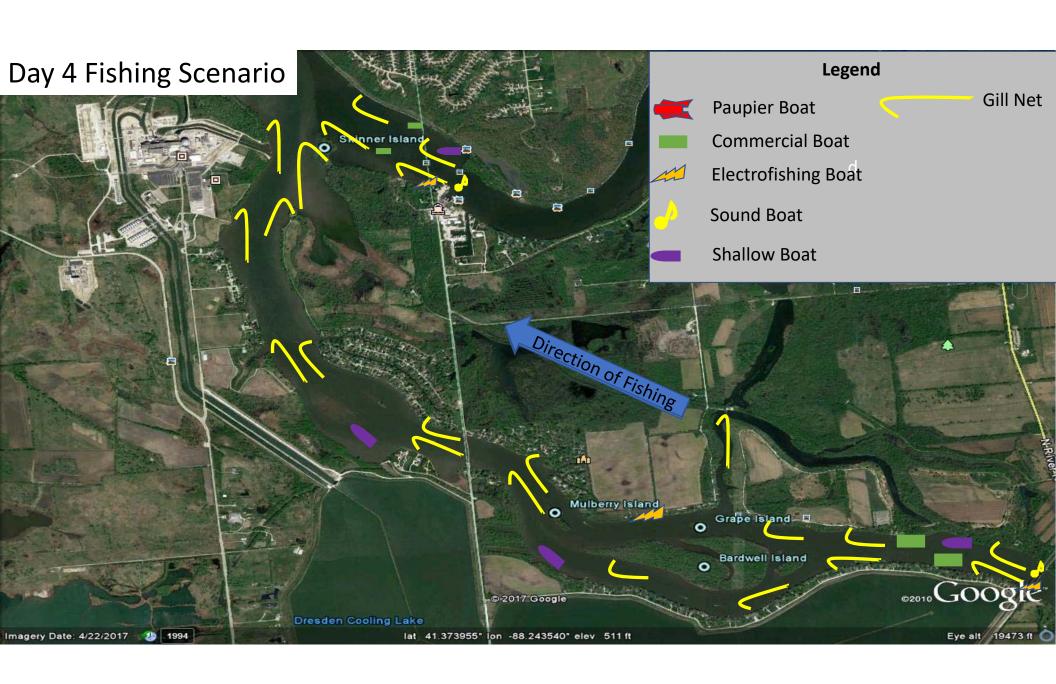
- 3 Electrofishing Boats
  - ☐ 1 Shallow Drive
  - ☐ 1 paupier boat
- 4 Contracted Commercial Fisherman
  - ☐ Gill nets
  - ☐ Pound net
- 3 Shallow water drive boats
  - ☐ 1 airboat
  - 2 gator tail boats
- 2 Sound Boats
- 2 Mobile tracking boats
- 1 Hydroacoustics boat
- 1 Safety boat

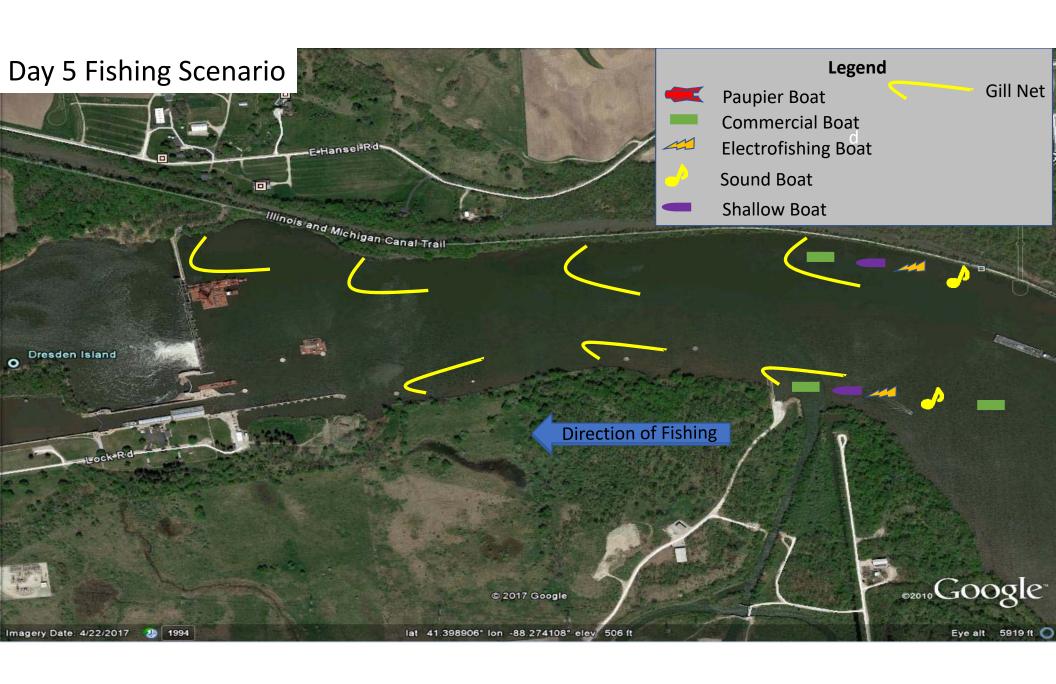












# Notice to Dresden Island Pool Waterway Users

During the Week of October 16th

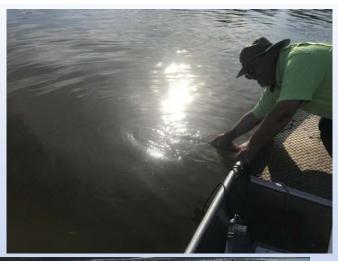
The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Army Corps will be conducting a Asian Carp Removal event throughout Dresden Island Pool. This event intends to further reduce abundances of Asian Carp.

Please be aware of increased presence of Electrofishing, Commercial Fishing, and additional Support vessels. All vessels and commercial nets will be clearly marked.

www.asiancarp.us

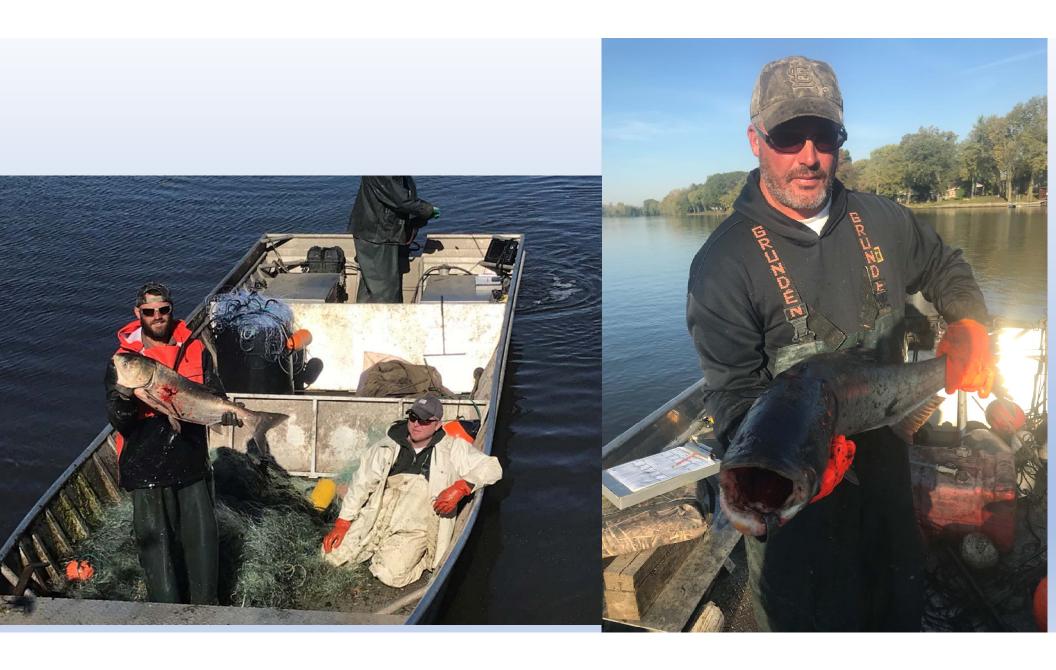












## DRESDEN POOL UNIFIED FISHING METHOD SUMMARY

### **EFFORT**

GILL NET (YDS)	36,500 (20.7 miles)
ELECTROFISHING (HRS)	17
POUND NET (NIGHTS)	4

SPECIES	SPECIES TOTAL
BIGHEAD CARP	14
SILVER CARP	49
SMALLMOUTH BUFFALO	3,007
COMMOM CARP	478
CHANNEL CATFISH	252
BIGMOUTH BUFFALO	98
GIZZARD SHAD	94
LARGEMOUTH BASS	74
BLUEGILL	56
FRESHWATER DRUM	51
WHITEBASS	50
BLACK CRAPPIE	40
RIVER CARPSUCKER	37
BLACK BUFFALO	17
GRASS CARP	16
FLATHEAD CATFISH	15
NORTHERN PIKE	11
LONGNOSE GAR	11
GOLDFISH	9
WHITE CRAPPIE	4
GOLDFISH X CARP HYBRID	3
BOWFIN	2
SHORTHEAD REDHORSE	2
GOLDEN REDHORSE	1
WHITE SUCKER	1
SILVER REDHORSE	1
TOTAL FISH	4393
TOTAL ASIAN CARP	63* (16 Grass Carp)

<sup>\*</sup>Out of the 63 Asian Carp (Bighead and Silver Carp) removed during the UFM event, 22 came out of Rock Run Rookery.

Per our August summary, there have been 715 Asian Carp removed from the Dresden Pool/Rock Run Rookery through August of 2017. Including the UFM captures, the UFM event removal contribution at 8.1% for 2017 so far.



# **Event Summary**

- Successful!
  - o The plan worked
- Communication is KEY
- River Conditions
  - o Good and Bad
- Vegetation
  - o Bad
  - o Late winter/early spring may be better?
- Mobile tracking suggested downstream movements
  - o Wait to see what stationary receivers tell us
  - o Pre vs Post Hydroacoustics estimates
- AC like the Kankakee River area
- Public very supportive
- Thanks to all agencies that participated