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Asian Carp Project – Infographics & MegamapTM

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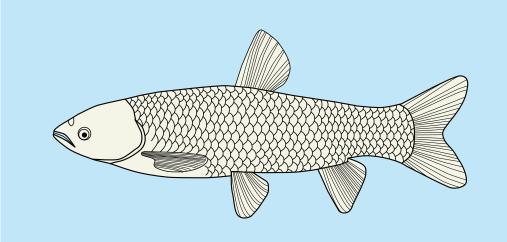
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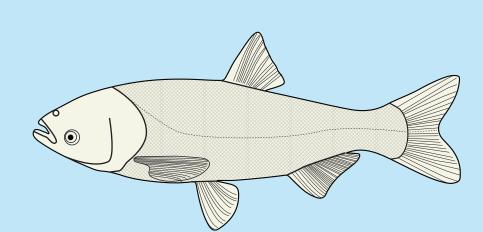
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The Asian Carp Species

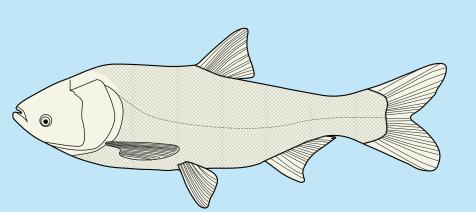
All four species known collectively as Asian carps originated in major river systems in China and Russia. During the early 1970s, aquaculture managers in the southern United States imported them for biological control in their ponds. Subsequent flooding events allowed the species to escape and enter the Mississippi River system. Finding themselves in an ideal habitat free of any natural predators, Asian carps have been able to spread, reaching as far northward as the Illinois River watershed and Ohio in just 20 years.



GRASS CARP

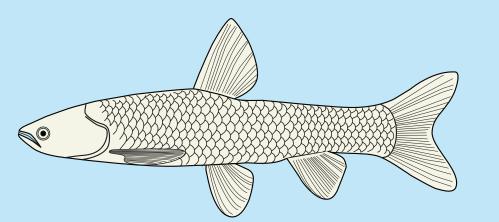


BIGHEAD CARP



SILVER CARP

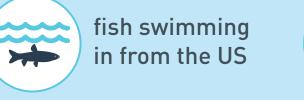
Silver Carp is best known for leaping as high as three metres above the water surface. They eat microscopic plants. Individuals can grow to more than 40 kg and live up to 20 years.



BLACK CARP

Adult Black Carp feed on small molluscs while juveniles feed on microscopic plants and animals. Black Carp is the largest of the four species and can grow to 70 kg and live up to 15 years.

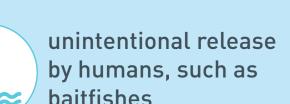
Here are some ways a Grass Carp could enter our Great Lakes







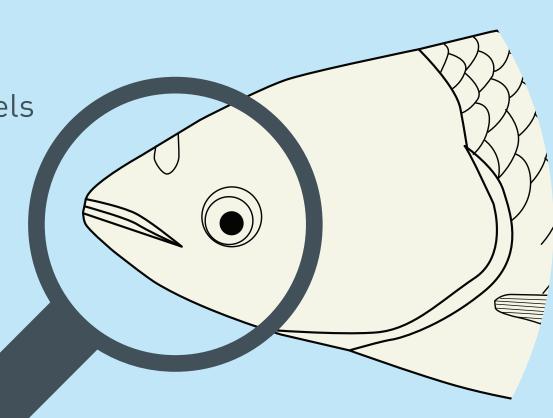




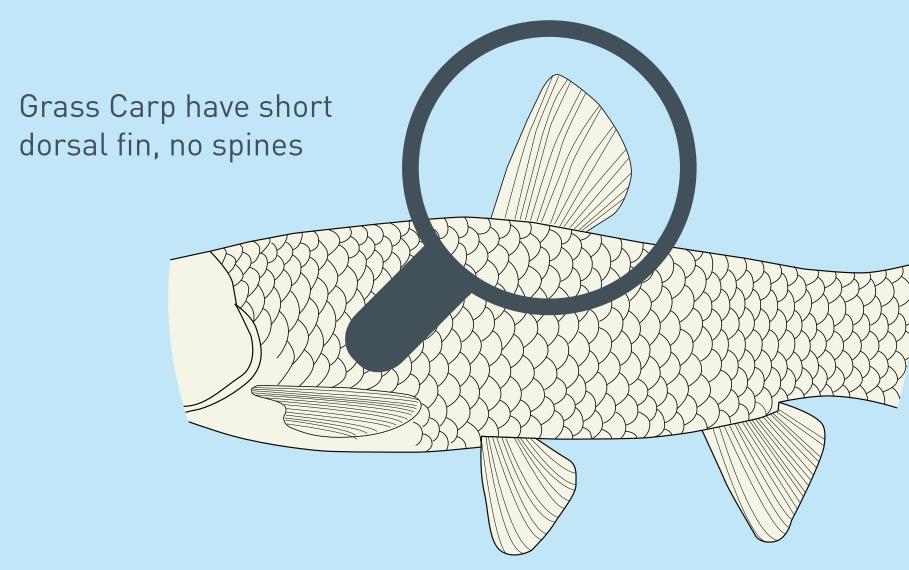
Identifying a Grass Carp

1 EXAMINE THE MOUTH

Grass Carp have no barbels (whiskers) around mouth Eye level with mouth



LOOK AT THE FIN ON ITS BACK LOOK AT THE F (DORSAL FIN)

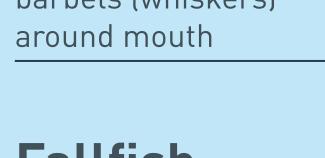


3 DON'T CONFUSE IT WITH:

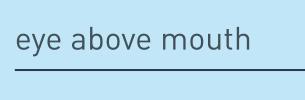
Common Carp

elongated dorsal fin

barbels (whiskers)

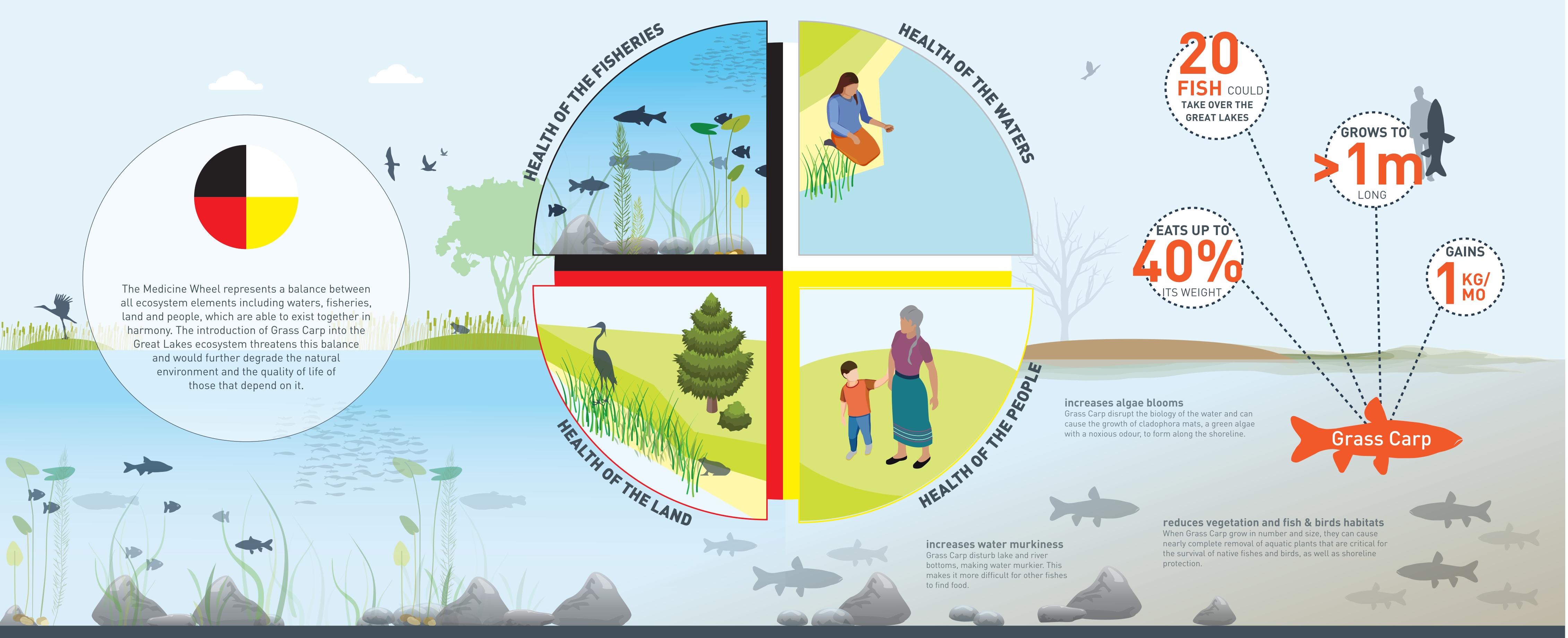






GRASS CARP ALERT THE THREAT LURKING IN OUR WATERS

Asian carps pose a significant threat to the ecosystem and economy of the Great Lakes. The Government of Canada, recognizing this risk, developed the Asian Carp Program in 2012 under Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). Out of the four Asian carp species, Grass Carp has been identified as the most imminent threat to Canadian waters of the Great Lakes ecosystem.







Program Pillar #1













Program Pillar #2

EARLY WARNING





SCIENCE: Research informs every aspect of the program.









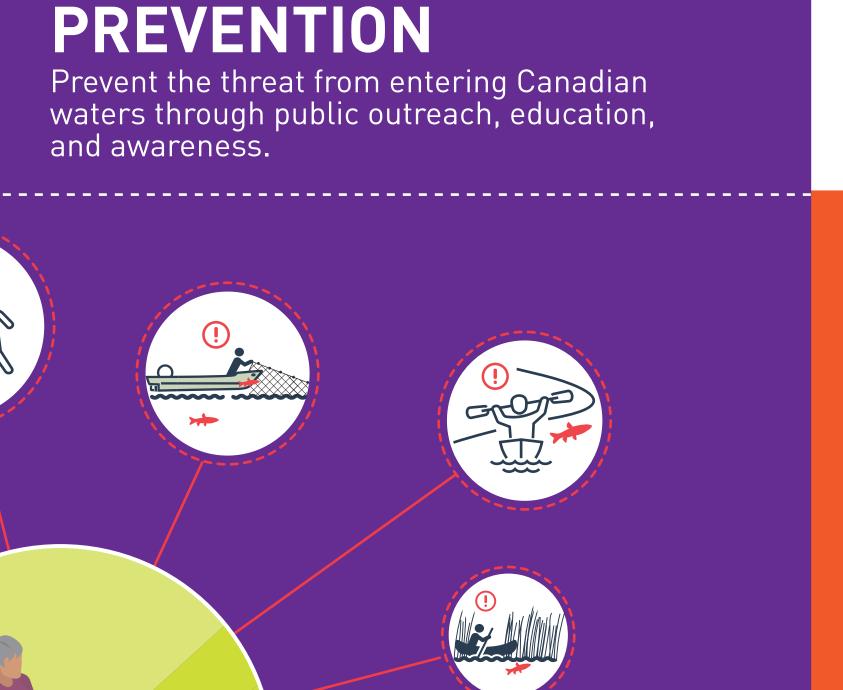


medicine & food

Program Pillar #4



Decreased subsistence fishing





Whether you are harvesting fishes,

traditional medicines or foodstuffs

you can help us spot a Grass Carp.

walking along the shore or kayaking,





Do not throw back

Note exact location

and take a photo







Species Hotline:



to pick it up

PRESERVE









MANAGEMENT

High Alert Areas

Since 1985, Grass Carp have been captured in the waters or tributaries of Lake Huron, Lake Ontario, and Lake Erie. Most tested were found to be sterile, and were likely escapees from areas where sterile populations were being used for aquatic plant control. The maps below show High Alert Areas in relation to major urban cities, as well as Indigenous communities.



Spread of Grass Carp

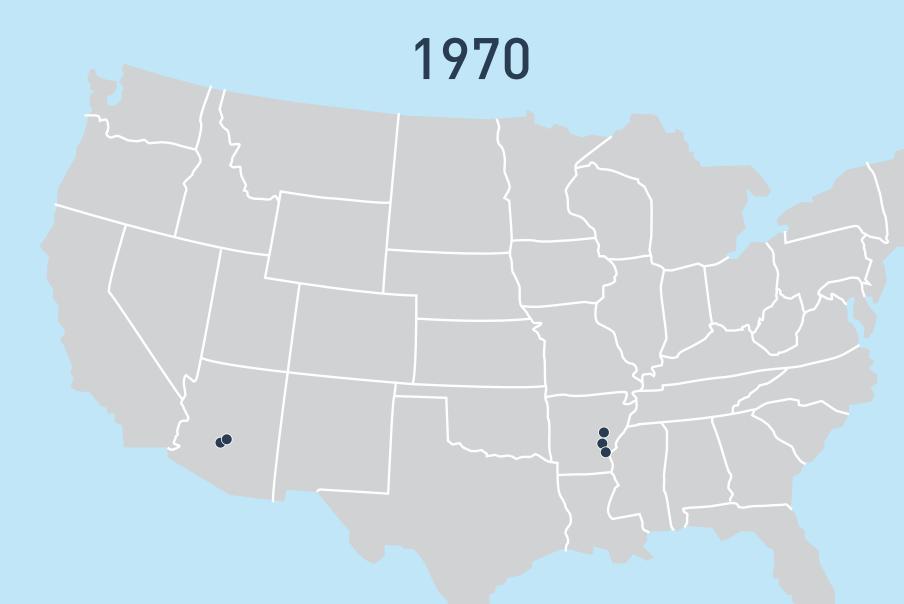
UNITED STATES

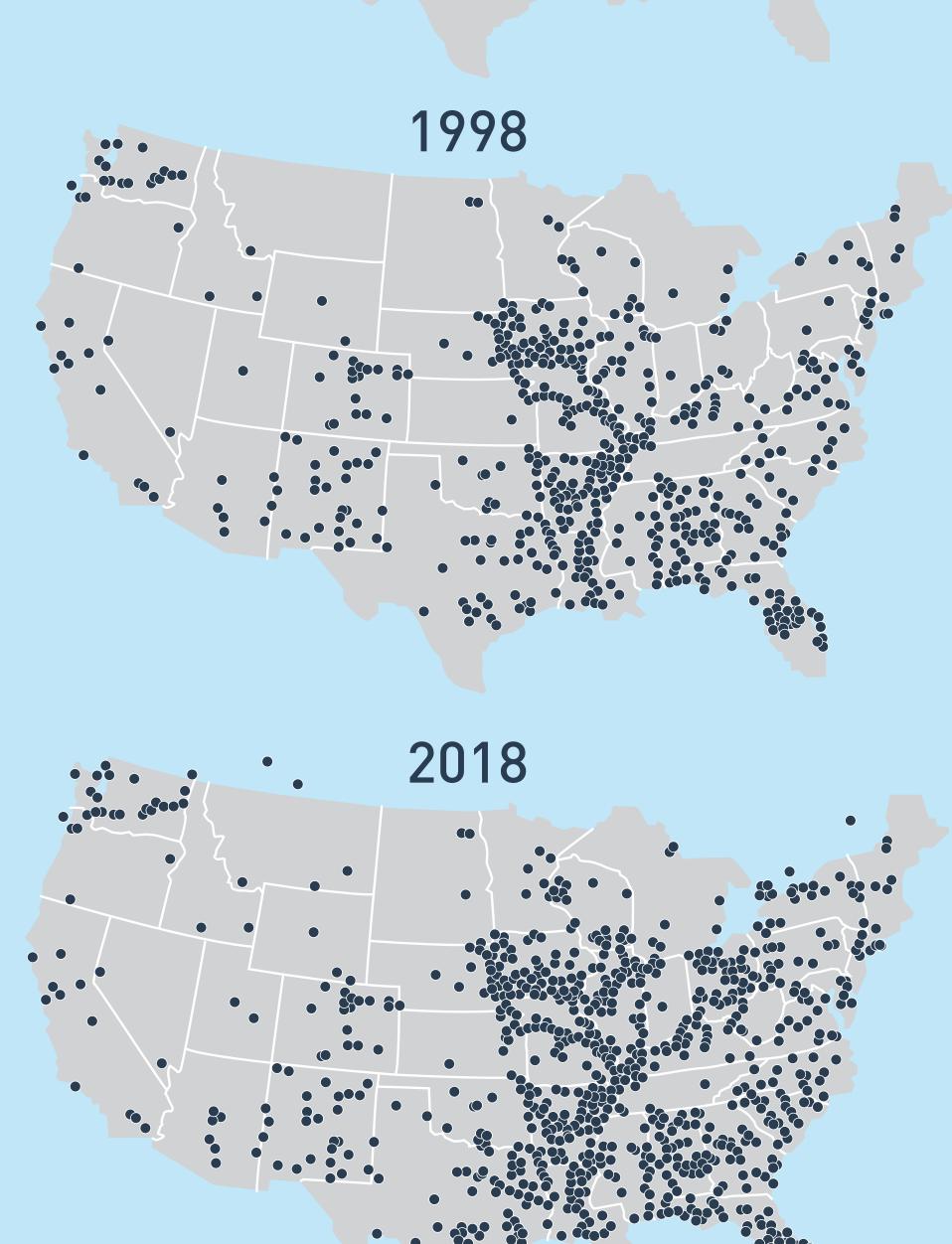
Communities

OF AMERICA

Grass Carp have spread across the Unites States since 1968 but has not yet established in the Canadian waters of the Great Lakes basin. The most likely entry point is via connected waterbodies in Ohio where Grass Carp are present, into Lake Erie. Spread will be more rapid for lakes Michigan, Huron, and Erie, and potentially Lake Superior; longer for Lake Ontario.

These are considered High Alert Areas where Grass Carp have been captured in the past or could be seen.





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