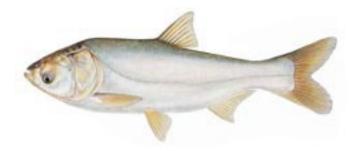
Invasive Species Alert

Silver Carp

(Hypophthalmichthys molitrix) *Not detected in Michigan*

Identification:

- May exceed 3 feet in length, can weigh up to 60 lbs.
- Light silver body with a white belly.
- Eyes sit below the toothless mouth.
- Keel extends from the anal fin anteriorly (forward) past the pelvic fin base.



Habitat: These fish primarily inhabit large rivers. They are tolerate higher salinity levels and low oxygen levels.

Diet: Silver carp filter-feed on phytoplankton and zooplankton.

Native Range: Major Pacific drainages in eastern Asia.

U.S. Distribution: Silver carp have been reported in 12 states surrounding the Mississippi and Ohio River basins.



Nate Tessler, EnviroScience, Inc., Bugwood.org

Local Concern: An established population of silver carp would compete heavily with native fish and mussel species for food. Silver carp also pose a threat to human health, as they are known for leaping out of the water when disturbed by vibrations like those made by a boat motor.

Potential Means of Introduction: Escape from commercial culture, unauthorized release, dispersal

For more information and videos, visit Michigan.gov/InvasiveCarp.

Report this species to Justin Bopp, MDNR, at <u>BoppJ@Michigan.gov</u>, 517-420-9110 or at <u>MISIN.MSU.edu</u> or download the MISIN app to your smartphone.