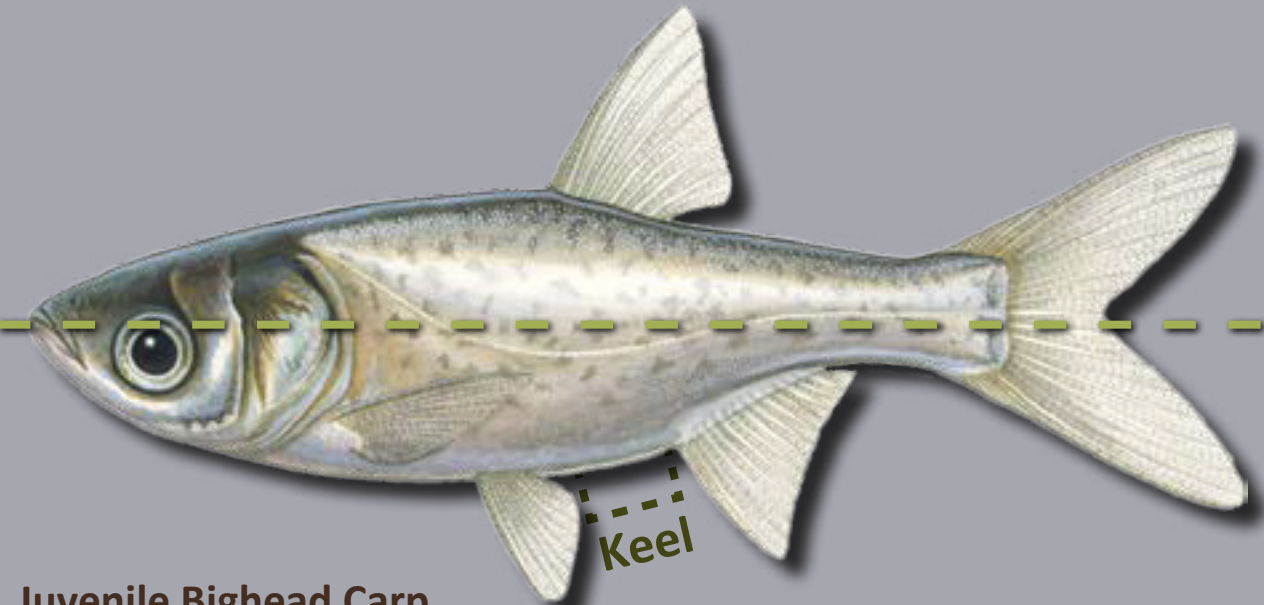


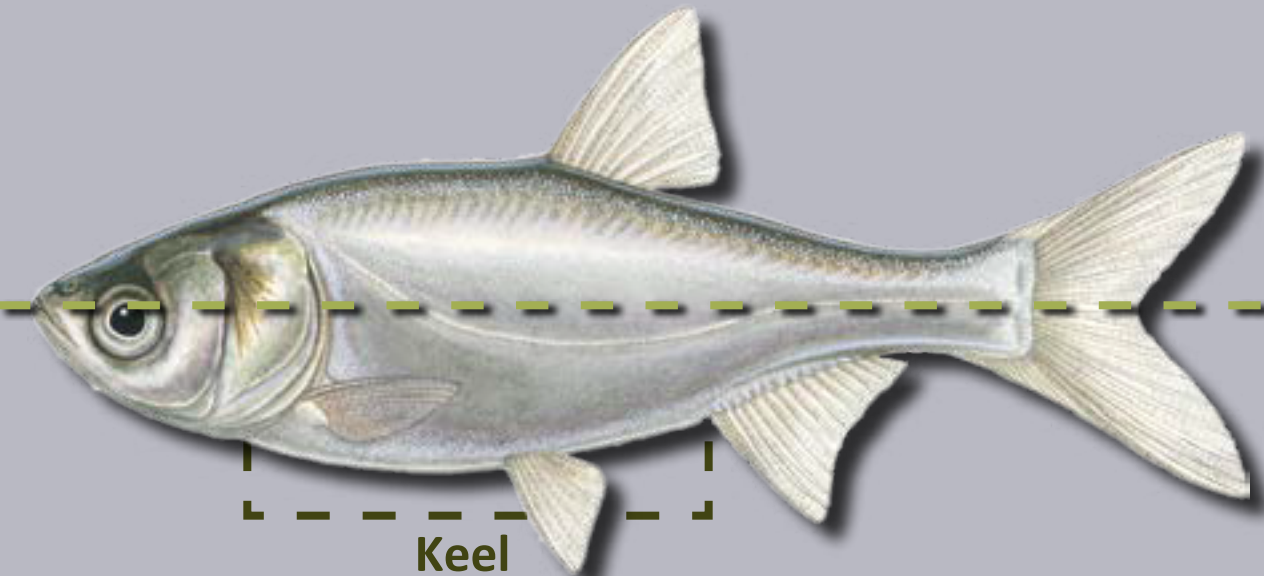
# Don't confuse young invasive carp with these common Michigan species!

## Juvenile Asian Carp



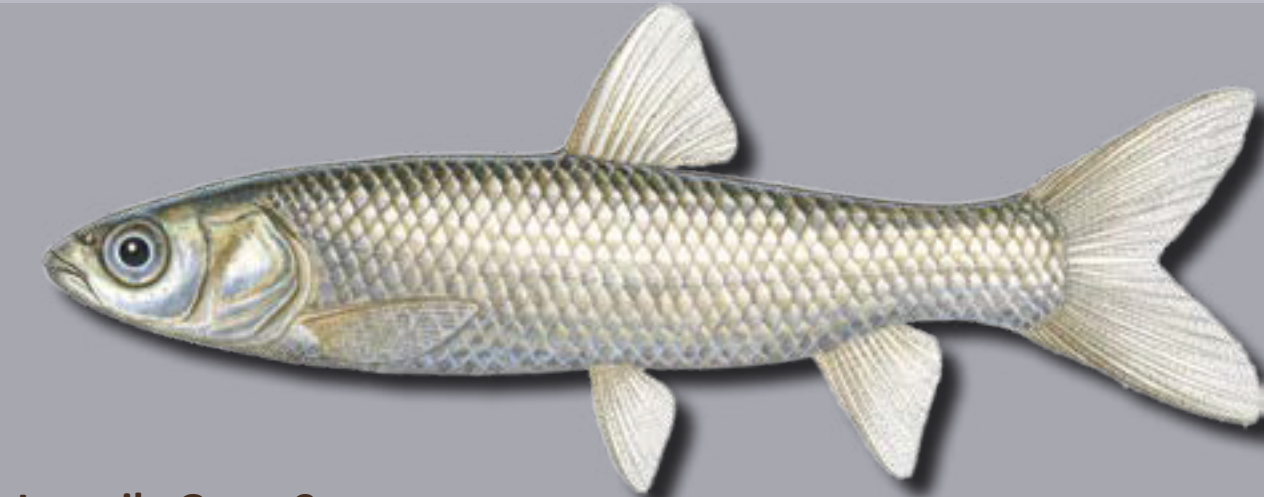
### Juvenile Bighead Carp

**Color/markings:** Silvery with mottled dark blotches (especially on back) upturned mouth  
**Length:** 2-4 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** (Ridge on the underbelly) prominent, extending from anal fin to pelvic fins (mid-body), no scales  
**Scales:** Very small (fine)  
**Eyes:** Small, positioned below line extending from tail to snout (see dotted line)



### Juvenile Silver Carp

**Color/markings:** Silvery, without dark blotches or coloration on back, upturned mouth  
**Length:** 2-4 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** (Ridge on the underbelly) prominent, extending from anal fin to gills, no scales  
**Scales:** Very small (fine)  
**Eyes:** Positioned below line extending from tail to snout (see dotted line above)



### Juvenile Grass Carp

**Color/markings:** Pale gray to gold, scales show a prominent dark edge, giving a cross-hatched appearance, terminal to slightly downturned mouth  
**Length:** 2-4 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** Absent  
**Scales:** Intermediate to large  
**Eyes:** Positioned on line extending from tail to snout.

## Check your bait!

If you see invasive carp in your bait bucket, report it at [Michigan.gov/InvasiveCarp](https://www.michigan.gov/InvasiveCarp) or call 517-373-1280.  
Don't dump your bait, put them in the trash.

*Juvenile invasive carp illustrations by Emily Damstra*

## Common Minnows



### Alewife

**Color/markings:** Silvery-green, darker blue-grey back, slightly upturned mouth  
**Length:** 5-7 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** (Ridge on the underbelly) prominent, extending from anal fin to gills, with scales that line up in a row to give it a sawtooth appearance  
**Scales:** Intermediate to large  
**Eyes:** Positioned on line extending from tail to snout



### Emerald Shiner

**Color/markings:** Silver with green iridescence, terminal mouth  
**Length:** 3-4 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** Absent  
**Scales:** Intermediate to large  
**Eyes:** Positioned on line extending from tail to snout



### Spottail Shiner

**Color/markings:** Sides with greenish blue back, prominent dark spot on tail, terminal mouth  
**Length:** 3-4 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** Absent  
**Scales:** Intermediate to large  
**Eyes:** Positioned on line extending from tail to snout



### Golden Shiner

**Color/markings:** Gold or brassy, deep-bodied with a lateral line running along the sides and dipping down in the middle of the body, silvery/black lateral stripe in juveniles, terminal to slightly upturned mouth  
**Length:** 3-7 inches is common bait size  
**Keel:** (Ridge on the underbelly) present, extending from anal fin to pelvic fins (mid-body), no scales, less distinct than alewife and invasive carp  
**Scales:** Intermediate to large  
**Eyes:** Positioned on line extending from tail to snout

*Common minnow illustrations by Joe Tomelleri*