

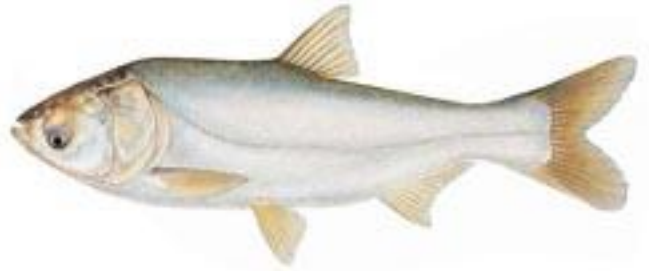
Invasive Species Alert

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



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B49OWrCRs38&feature=youtu.be>

Habitat: These fish primarily inhabit large rivers. They 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, please visit:
Michigan.gov/Invasives.

Report this species to Lucas Nathan, MDNR, at nathanl@michigan.gov or 517-284-6235 or at misin.msu.edu or download the MISIN app to your smartphone.