

Resolution in support of TVPOA's efforts to control Asian Carp

The Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir (WATeR), submits this resolution in support of The Tellico Village Property Owners Association's (TVPOA) efforts to control and prevent the spread of invasive Asian Carp, specifically Silver Carp, in East Tennessee waterways.

Whereas, the potential negative economic impact to East Tennessee is tremendous and which could undo years of economic development in East Tennessee by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA); Tellico Reservoir Development Agency (TRDA); local governments; private developers and commercial establishments;

Whereas, the annual economic value within the East Tennessee waterway system is estimated to be \$1,000,000 per shoreline mile, which amounts to approximately \$350,000,000 per year for the Tellico Reservoir;

Whereas, Asian Carp (Bighead Carp, Black Carp, Grass Carp and Silver Carp) are imported species of fish that have become invasive within the Mississippi River Basin;

Whereas, Asian Carp compete with native aquatic species for food and habitat, and the rapid increase in Asian Carp population causes disruption of the native ecology and food web, resulting in decimation of native fish and mollusk populations;

Whereas, Silver Carp jump out of the water to escape threats, causing injury to boats and boaters;

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Whereas, the presence of Silver Carp has already adversely affected recreational fishing and lake use in Barkley and Kentucky Lakes (the Land Between the Lakes);

Whereas, the East Tennessee waterways are at significant risk of Asian Carp invasion;

Whereas, there is currently no effective means to eliminate Asian Carp once they have infested a waterway;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Watershed Association of Tellico Reservoir (WATeR) supports the efforts of the TVPOA to implement a fact-based approach to understand this problem and working cooperatively with citizen groups, industry associations and government agencies is the right approach to deal effectively with and prevent Asian Carp from entering East Tennessee waterways.

Mr. Tom Paul, WATeR
President, Board of Directors

Dr. William Waldrop
Chairman, WATeR Quality Improvement Committee