

Project Title: Coordination of Invasive Carp Efforts in the Missouri River Basin

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Participating Agencies: All Sub-basin states, other sub-basin states welcome

Location of Activities: St. Louis, MO

Statement of Need: Invasive Carp do not stop at state boundaries. A coordinated basin-wide approach with communication among partners and agencies is critical to the management of these invasive species. Moreover, it is important for managers on the ground to effectively communicate with each other to ensure that the most up-to-date science and techniques are being shared. Efforts need to be made to prevent the spread of Invasive Carp and to manage these species in their current localities with a coordinated approach across the Missouri River Basin. This workplan outlines research to assess impacts of Invasive Carp on recreation and evaluate bait shops as a vector of human-mediated spread as well as outline coordination and communication priorities for the Missouri River Basin Invasive Carp Partnership to effectively communicate with each other to achieve the best overall management of Invasive Carp possible.

Hosting a symposium at 2025 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference will facilitate information sharing within the Missouri Sub-basin Partnership and among other sub-basin partnerships.

Project Objectives:

- 1) Support the dissemination of information among partners regarding invasive carp outreach and management in the Missouri River Basin and beyond for the most efficient use of resources.
- 2) Plan a Midwest Fish and Wildlife 2025 Symposium that brings together individuals working on the management of invasive carps from across the US.

Project Highlights:

- Hosted a well-attended symposium of 26 talks about Invasive Carp Management with speakers from across the United States.

Methods: First, symposia organizers were identified representing multiple groups across Invasive Carp management (Alison Coulter, South Dakota State University; BJ Schall, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks; Kim Bogenschutz, Iowa Department of Natural Resources; Patrick Kroboth, USGS; Caleb Aldridge, USFWS). This group drafted and submitted a symposium abstract for 2025 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference that took place in January 2025 in St. Louis, MO (Figure 1). Once the symposium was accepted, the organizers contacted possible presenters within a couple of management themes (information sharing, prevention, early detection, monitoring, spread, removal, economic development) who were both within the Missouri River Sub-basin and from other sub-basins. Other presenters could also submit talks. 28

presentations were received, but there was only time available for 26 so the organizers organized the talks into themes and two talks were moved over to contributed talks.

Results and Discussion: The symposium spanned 1.5 days of talks. Initial talks outlined how Invasive Carp are managed and then moved into talks about risk assessments and adaptive management strategies. The next talks discussed removal efforts and planning and then went into novel tool development. Unique talks also covered how to promote removal and commercial fishing.

Talks were well attended and breaks provided opportunities for discussion. Information was shared from all sub-basin partnerships.

Tables and Figures:

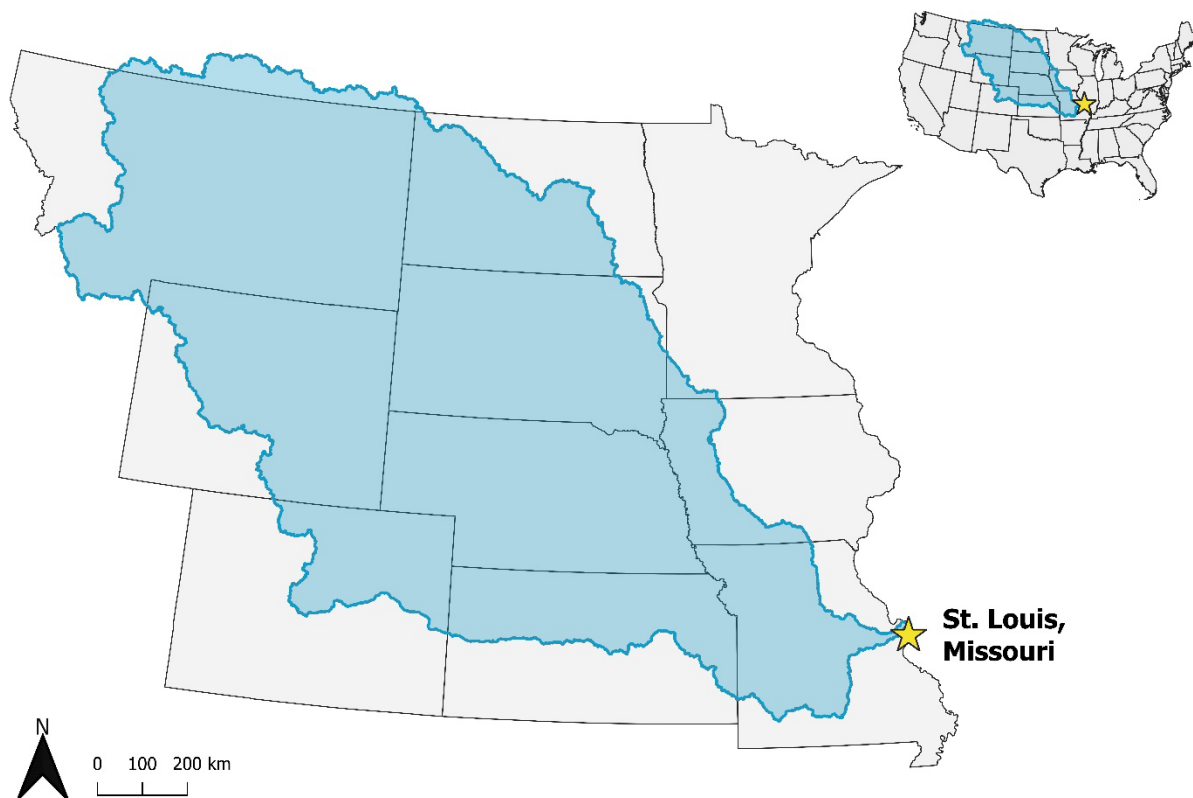


Figure 1. *Location of 2025 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.*

Recommendation: Regular meetings or symposia could help the ICAC facilitate information sharing.