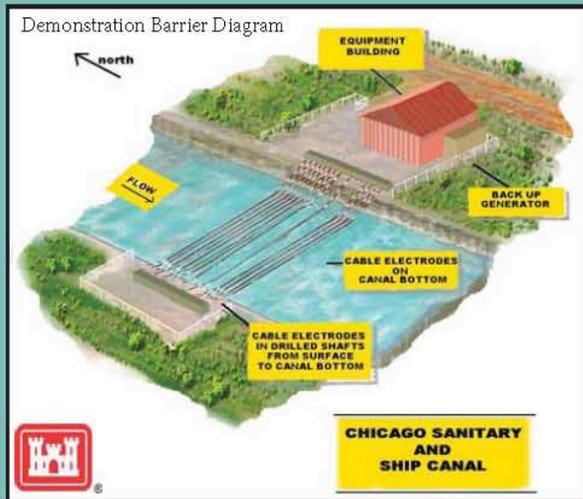


# USACE Asian Carp Prevention Efforts

As a member of the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACRCC), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is committed to preventing Asian carp, specifically bighead carp and silver carp, from becoming established in the Great Lakes. USACE supports this through a four-pronged strategy: (1) operating the Aquatic Nuisance Species Electric Dispersal Barriers in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal (CSSC), (2) studying the effectiveness of the barriers and strengthening the barriers as appropriate, (3) participating in extensive monitoring of the canal and additional research on environmental DNA (eDNA), and (4) conducting the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS).



The Electric Dispersal Barriers prevent the movement of invasive fish species via the CSSC by creating an electric field in the water that discourages fish from crossing.

Monitoring data helps determine the nature of downstream populations, monitors for the presence of Asian carp above the barriers and also informs analysis of the effectiveness of the barriers.



Collecting Water Samples for Environmental DNA



In GLMRIS, USACE is evaluating a range of options and technologies available to prevent the transfer of aquatic nuisance species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins via aquatic pathways.



Des Plaines River Bypass Fence

USACE studies a range of technical, environmental and biological factors that could potentially reduce the effectiveness of the electric dispersal barriers. The first of several interim Efficacy Study reports led to the construction of fence and concrete barriers along the Des Plaines River and a stone blockage in the Illinois and Michigan Canal. These measures are intended to prevent Asian carp from bypassing the barriers during flooding.