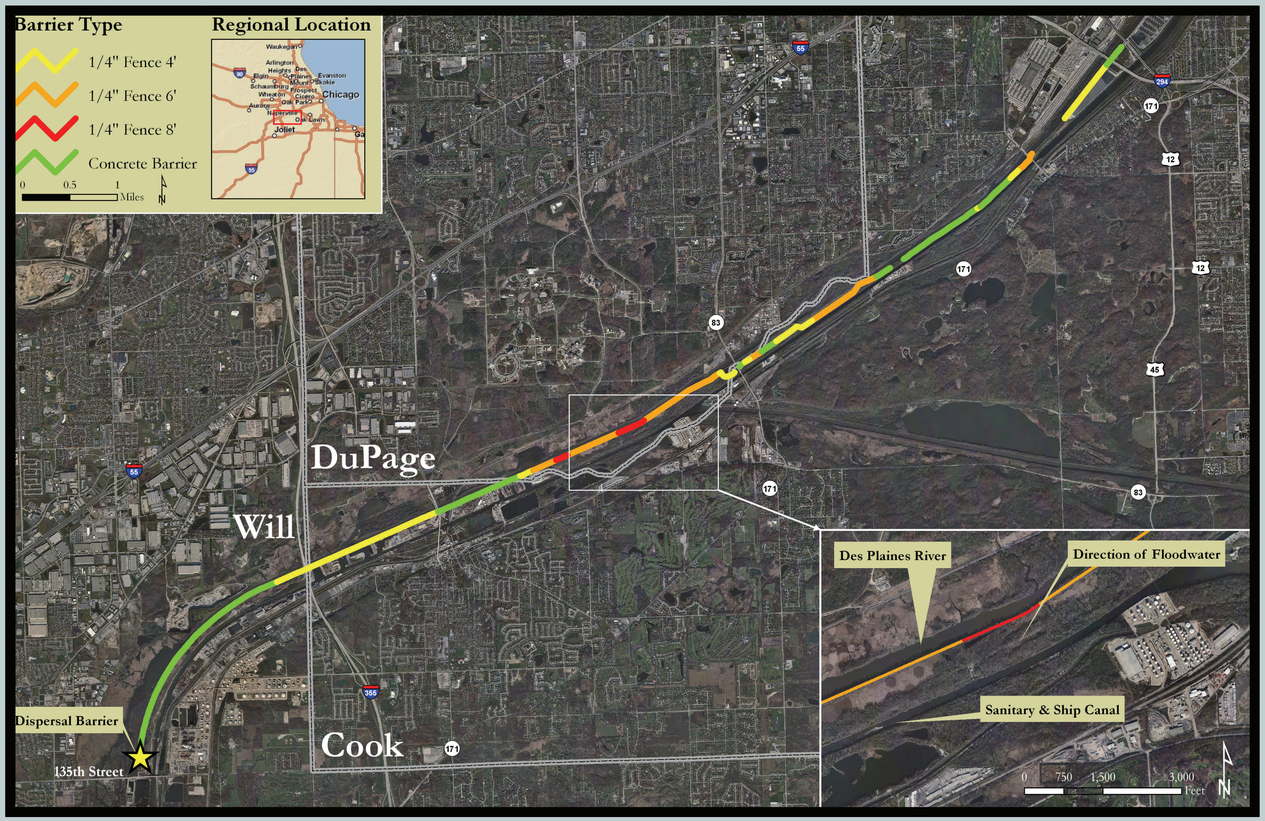
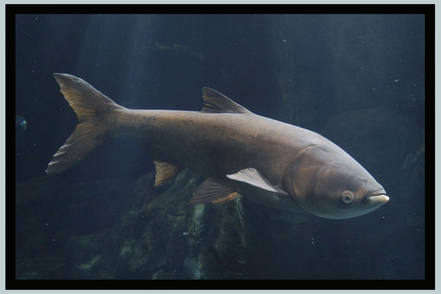
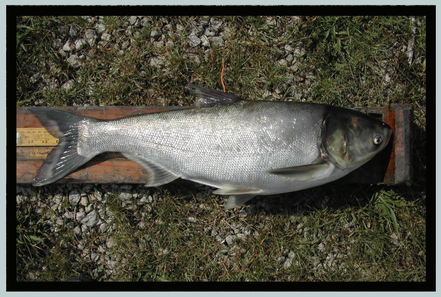
Des Plaines River Barrier



This barrier addresses potential Asian Carp migration around the electric barrier system. It is important to prevent transfer of aquatic nuisance species such as the Asian carp from gaining access to Lake Michigan in order to protect native ecosystems. In September of 2008, a large storm event triggered overland water flows between the Des Plaines River and into the Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is constructing a temporary barrier comprised of 1/4" woven wire mesh fence and concrete barriers to prevent Asian Carp from bypassing the electric dispersal barrier. This barrier extends from 135th Street in Romeoville, IL to Route 12 in Willow Springs, IL for a total of 13.2 miles. This barrier is effective against adult and juvenile fish during large flood events. The fence will require periodic maintenance after storm events, e.g. debris removal and repairing damage to barrier.





Top Left: Bighead Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*)

Bottom Left: Silver Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*)

Right: Overland flow between Des Plaines River and the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal 8 miles upstream of dispersal barriers.

US Army Corps of Engineers®