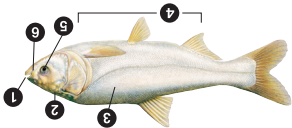
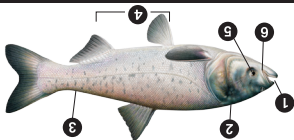




1. Small mouth without barbels
2. No scales on head
3. Silver in colour, small scales
4. Keel extends to throat
5. Low set eyes
6. Upturned mouth



How to Identify Silver Carp (*H. molitrix*)



1. Large mouth without barbels
2. No scales on head
3. Solid grey body with dark blotches,
- white underneath
4. Keel extends partway along belly
5. Low set eyes
6. Protruding lower jaw

How to Identify Bighead Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*)

Bighead and Silver carps WATCH

Bighead Carp



Silver Carp



Photos:
Joe Tomelleri©



Bighead and Silver carps WATCH

Bighead Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*) and Silver Carp (*H. molitrix*) are invasive fish threatening the Great Lakes and Ontario's native fishes. If they were to become established, they could potentially eat the food supply that our native fish depend on and crowd them out of their habitat. Silver Carp can be a hazard for boaters; the vibration of boat propellers can make them jump up to three metres out of the water.

Both carps were brought to North America from Asia in the 1960's and 70's. Since then they have migrated north through U.S. waterways towards the Great Lakes. Bighead and Silver carps have spread aggressively and can be considered one of the greatest threats to the Great Lakes. Preventing these fish from entering the Great Lakes is the best way to prevent them from harming Ontario's native fish species.

How you can help

- **Learn** to identify Bighead and Silver carps (see back cover).
- **Dispose** of unwanted baitfish into the trash – never into any waterbody. (It's illegal)
- **Don't** release any live fish into any waterbodies other than the body of water from which they were caught.
- **Don't** import live fish into Ontario.
- **Report** new sightings – if you believe you've caught one of these fish, remember that it is illegal to possess a live invasive fish! Once the fish is dead, double bag the whole fish in plastic bags and refrigerate or place on ice in a cooler; note the exact location; take a photo; and call the *Invading Species Hotline* (1-800-563-7711), visit EDDMapS.org/ Ontario or contact your local Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry office.

Reminder: Know the rules!

It is illegal to possess live Bighead, Silver, Grass, and Black carps. Unauthorized introduction of fish is illegal. Contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry office for additional instructions and information about current regulations.