

Asian Carp Sample Letter #1

As a resident of Tellico Village, I am writing to request immediate action to prevent the invasion of Asian Carp in East Tennessee rivers and lakes.

If not halted, an Asian Carp infestation will lead to complete devastation of these valuable waterways. This would decimate property values, businesses and economic growth that the TVA, your predecessors and you have worked successfully to build for more than 40 years. The research has proved the threat is real, and that the one known effective method of prevention is electric barriers.

We need to act now. Our only viable chance to protect these lakes is to immediately install electric barriers. This method has already been implemented and is ongoing to protect the Great Lakes from the kind of devastation experienced in other waters, like Lake Barkley in Kentucky.

The \$10M cost per lock plus the economic impact of temporary closures to build the electric barriers is miniscule in comparison to the estimated economic impact of more than \$1B annually if we allow these carp to infest our lakes. The ecological impact will also be devastating and largely irreversible.

We are asking that you, the leaders of this great state of Tennessee, work together to minimize the ecological and economic damage that would be caused by these invasive carp. Please let us know how our community can partner with you to inform, educate, and act to support your efforts. Time is not on our side.

Thank you for your urgent consideration,