



This map is an attempt to visualise perception of the Common carp and “Asian” carp, the conflation of perception among them, as well as an abstract progression of attitudes, corresponding practices, and the emergence of invasive species ideology.

The top basemap represents the national stage, while the bottom basemap situates the narrative of the first scientific studies into carp aquaculture by Leon J. Cole in the early 1900’s.

Observations
 Invasive species rhetoric increases following the rise in Conservation Biology in the 1970’s, but the earliest “militaristic” language used to refer to migratory, “non-native” species took off following George Laycock’s book in 1966.

1. The concern for carp as an invasive species takes place after the emergence of the ideology
2. Perceptions of the carp as passively inferior change to actively “invading” following the emergence of Invasion biology.
3. There has yet to be conclusive scientific studies or evidence of the fish’s detriment to habitats. So far, there are only projections.

Invasive species

Invasive species ideology, planning, policies
 “Asian carp” “invasive species” discourse and policies

“Asian” carp

Positive: Introduced for aquaculture
 Actively threatening; e.g., destroying native species’ habitat
 Example action: bowfishing

Common carp

Carp for consumption
 Carp for fishing market
 Catch-and-release carp fishing as recreation and mandated “ethical treatment”
 Stories, observations, pictures and heresay
 Passively negative; e.g., “worthless”, “scavenging”
 “track-tossing”, referring to the act of disposing of carp on the railroad tracks
 Actively threatening; e.g., “intruder”, “foreign”
 pitchforking carp, bowfishing

Taste, Tracks Carp and Time in the States
 A reference showing the generalized progression of three areas that define American “knowledge” of the carp

Sources: Esri data bank; U.S. Geological Survey
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