

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Grass Carp Permitting Program



Laura Tesler

Grass Carp Permit Coordinator

Background

Ctenopharyngodon idella
(grass carp, white amur)

Native to Eastern Russia
and Southern China

First introduced in the US
in 1963 to aquaculture
facilities in Alabama and
Arkansas

Escaped into US waters
soon after



Characteristics



- **Cyprinid family- distantly related to common carp**
- **Large scales- no barbels**
- **Stocked grass carp live about 7-8 years**
- **Can attain lengths of 36 inches or more**

Negative Impacts

- Interspecific competition with native macroinvertebrates
- Significant changes in the composition of macrophyte, invertebrate, and phytoplankton communities
- Decrease in refuge for other native fish species
- May carry parasites and diseases transmissible to native fishes



Grass Carp Rules

Classified as a “controlled” species in Oregon

Statutory authority:

- ORS 496.012 (protection of native wildlife from non- indigenous wildlife)
- 496.138 (general rule making powers of the Fish and Wildlife Commission)
- 496.146 (additional rule making authorities)

Administrative rule:

OAR 635-056-0075 (specific rules regarding grass carp permitting)

Grass Carp Rules

- Grass carp MUST be over 12 inches long and triploid
- No other carp species are allowed!
- Grass carp MUST come from an “approved supplier” and be PIT tagged
- Stocking rate cannot exceed 22 fish/acre
- Must complete a transport permit with application



Permitting Process

- All inquiries are routed to Salem HQ
- Coordinator does “screening” interview
- Application mailed after interview and tracked in database
- Application returned, Coordinator contacts appropriate district staff for on site inspection
- If applicant passes inspection, application is signed by regional manager and returned to Salem
- Final check by Coordinator and permit issued

Applicant questions (all from OAR's)

- **Acreage?**
- **Floodplain?**
- **Public Access?**
- **Screening?**
- **Vegetation?**
- **Other fish species present?**





The End