

# Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

## Grass Carp Permitting Program



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*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**