

# Peer Review Plan

**Date:** 4/27/2015

**Source Center:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)  
Ecosystems Mission Area  
Invasive Species Program  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS-301  
Reston, VA 20192

**Title:** Binational Ecological Grass Carp Risk Assessment for the Great Lakes Basin.

**Subject and Purpose:** This report presents an ecological assessment of the risks posed by grass carp to the Great Lakes ecosystem. The purpose of the report is to provide scientifically defensible advice for managers and decision-makers in the United States and Canada. The format of the ecological risk assessment follows guidance provided in the "National Detailed-Level Risk Assessment Guidelines: Assessing the Biological Risk of Aquatic Invasive Species in Canada". This process serves to summarize the best available information and identify the relative risks posed to a specified area within a specified timeframe by a nonnative species. This report will be published by Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and will follow science advice for government effectiveness, or SAGE guidelines and principals adopted by the Government of Canada.

**Impact of Dissemination:** This information product is considered by the USGS to be Influential Scientific Information.

**Timing of Review (Including Deferrals):** June 2015. Deferrals are not anticipated at this time.

**Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process:** Review will be conducted as part of closed meetings of a Peer Review Panel directed by an objective facilitator. Co-authors of the report submitted a list of potential reviewers to the panel facilitator for selection. Selected reviewers will represent a diversity of scientific professionals and perspectives with expertise relevant to the project; they will not represent any particular agency; and have no involvement of the risk assessment process or writing of the risk assessment. The resulting peer review report will combine recommendations from three peer reviewers and comments from the entire panel. USGS peer review requirements pursuant to Survey Manual chapter 502.3 –Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>) will be followed.

**Expected Number of Reviewers:** Anticipates 3 primary reviewers with input from a panel of approximately 20 technical experts.

**Requisite Expertise:** Fisheries biology, invasion ecology, Great Lakes ecology, botany, risk assessment

**Opportunity for Public Comment:** No opportunity for public comment is formally incorporated for this product.

**Agency Contact:** [peer\\_review\\_agenda@usgs.gov](mailto:peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov).