

# It is **ILLEGAL** to use bighead or silver carp as **LIVE** bait in Ohio.

Bighead and silver carp are invasive fish spreading within the Ohio River basin and may cause harm to native fish and wildlife.

## Bighead & Silver Carp Characteristics

- Low-set eye; large upturned mouth without barbels
- Scaleless head; body scales very small
- Adults may weigh more than 60 lbs. and measure 4 ft.
- Silver carp may jump out of water when disturbed by boat motors

## What You Can Do

- Learn to identify bighead and silver carp. **JUVENILES** are **DIFFICULT** to **DISTINGUISH** from **LOCAL BAITFISH** species such as **GIZZARD SHAD** or **SKIPJACK HERRING**.
- Never release live fish from one body of water into another.

**BIGHEAD CARP**  
**ILLEGAL** 



**SILVER CARP**  
**ILLEGAL** 



Similar native fish species that are okay to use as live bait in Ohio.

**GIZZARD SHAD (NATIVE)**



**SKIPJACK HERRING (NATIVE)**



Photo credit: Bill Stagnaro; eol.org

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from one body of water  
into another.

Want more information? Go to  
**wildohio.com** or call 1-800-WILDLIFE



**wildohio.com**