

# Let's get serious about carp

We're concerned record carp numbers will wreck our waterways and ruin our fisheries, with an estimated 375 million in the Murray Darling River system.

That's why we're getting ready to trial the carp herpes virus, pending approval by the federal government. The National Carp Control Plan's (NCCP) 10 year investigation is comprehensive. The carp virus is found in 26 countries (not Australia) and has been studied for more than 20 years. Here's some key facts.

## The carp virus will:

- ✓ Restore fish habitat, aquatic plants and water quality

Reducing carp numbers will improve water clarity, enable aquatic plants to re-grow, reduce siltation and bank erosion and boost fishery productivity and biodiversity.

- ✓ Recover threatened native fish

Carp compete with native fish for food, habitat and eat fish eggs, larvae and juveniles. Less carp means the outlook for small and large bodied native fish will improve.

- ✓ Improve recreational fishing

Less carp means better breeding, growth and survival outcomes for higher valued angling species and will lead to better recreational fishing.



More information  
on the carp problem



## The carp virus won't:

**X** Infect other species  
(fish, birds, livestock or even people)

The World Organisation of Animal Health states that the carp virus only affects carp. Globally, there's been no reports of the carp virus infecting any species other than carp. Australia's CSIRO also injected 22 local species with the carp virus, but none of these were infected by the virus. There are no reports of the virus ever affecting people.

**X** Kill all carp, turn the water black or starve our native fish.

CSIRO advises the carp virus may reduce carp populations by 40% to 60%. In flowing rivers, decomposing carp won't significantly impact water quality or affect native fish. In other waters (such as wetlands), carp harvesting or flushing flows may be considered if necessary to manage water quality. Plans have been prepared under the NCCP to pre-empt or respond to a range of fishkill scenarios.



For more information go to the VFA's website which has links to all relevant carp related research: [www.vfa.vic.gov.au/carp](http://www.vfa.vic.gov.au/carp)

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