

# Louisiana Aquatic Invasive Species Program 2022 Fall GSARP Meeting

Robert P. Bourgeois | Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

## Invasive species in LA



Apple Snails



Aquarium releases



Invasive carp



Tiger Shrimp



# Apple Snails in LA





# **Tiger Shrimp in LA**









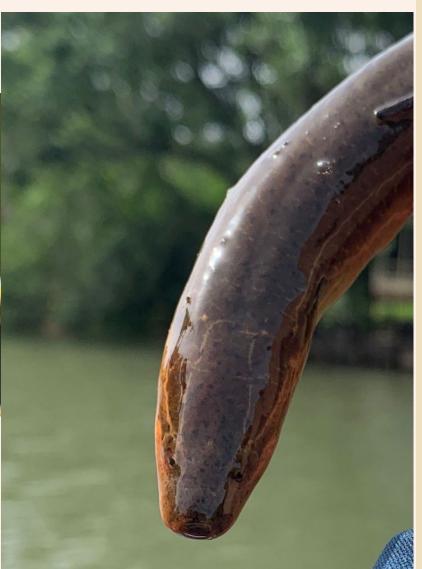
#### **Rio Grande Cichlid in LA**





# Asian Swamp Eel in LA







### **Aquarium Releases in LA**









## **Aquarium Releases in LA**





# **Aquarium Releases in LA**



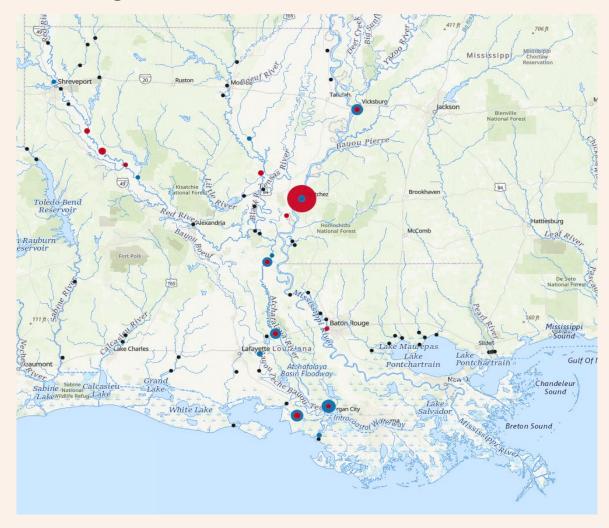


# Invasive Carps of Louisiana Family Xenocyprididae





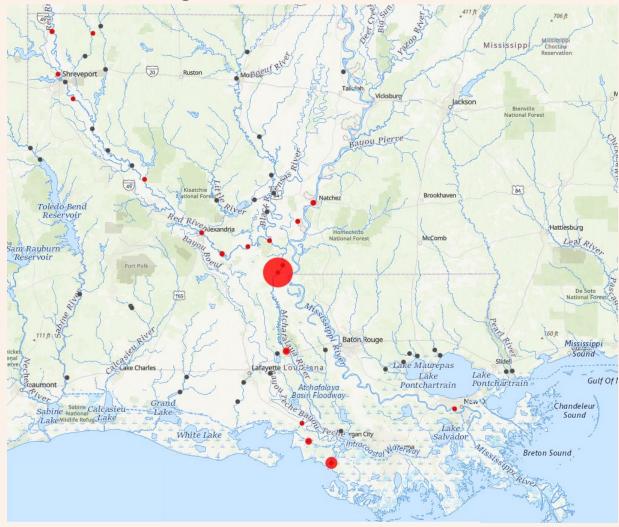
#### Past Projects – 2013 and 2014 Larval Tows



Red (2013) and Blue (2014) sites had invasive carp present Black sites indicate invasive carp not present



#### Past Projects – 2019 Larval Tows

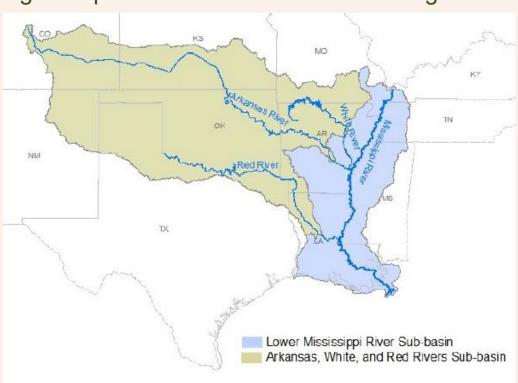


Red sites had invasive carp present Black sites indicate invasive carp not present



#### 2020 Invasive Carp Partnership

- \$25 million annually Invasive carp research and control in Mississippi River Basin
- LA part of LMR and ARW sub-basins
  - ~\$1 million annually in each sub-basin, cooperative/competitive grants
  - Encouraged to partner with other states and organizations





#### **Current Ongoing Underway – Larval Tows**

- Partnering with Dr. Quenton Fontenot at Nicholls State
  University
- Mix of new and old stations with focus south of ICWW

Sp Mississippi Sam Rayburn Mississippi Lake Maurepas Lake Chandeleur hite Lake



#### **Current Ongoing Projects - Telemetry**

- Partnering with Dr. Mike Dance at LSU
- Movement between basins and in coastal LA
- 40 receivers, 200 tags, 2020 and 2021





#### Funded Projects (started Jan 2022)

- Carp used as fertilizer for coastal restoration plants (NSU)
- Carp used as catfish feed (LUMCON)
- Survey of commercial fishermen and wholesalers to further understand the obstacles to increased harvest (LDWF)
- Impacts of carp on native fish condition and abundance (LSU)



#### Funded Projects (start Jan 2023)

- Carp used as Rainbow Trout feed (LUMCON)
- Impacts of carp on native fish condition and abundance (LSU)
- Impacts to the lower trophic levels of the food web in Atchafalaya River Basin (ULL)
- Seasonality of reproduction in Atchafalaya River Basin (NSU)
- Telemetry In the Atchafalaya River Basin (LSU)
- Testing of gear to aid removal of invasive carp by commercial fisherman( LDWF)



#### **Future Areas of Interest**

- Telemetry in the Red River
- Direct impacts to native fish using mesocosms
- Development of alternative uses for carp
- Increase commercial harvest
- Age and growth of the invasive carp in LA
- Population assessment of invasive carp



# Rob Bourgeois rbourgeois@wlf.la.gov

