



Larry Miller, MP
Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 6th, 2014

MP Larry Miller Supports Call for 'Physical Barrier' to Keep Out Asian Carp

Ottawa, ON – Recently, U.S. representative, Candace Miller, has proposed a bill that calls for the construction of a physical barrier to keep Asian Carp out of the Great Lakes. Larry Miller, MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, has announced his support for the legislation that is tabled in the United States.

The bill would authorize the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to design and construct a barrier to separate the Mississippi River watershed (well-established area for Asian Carp) from the Great Lakes. Entry of the Asian Carp into the Great Lakes could devastate a \$7-billion a year commercial and sport fishing industry.

"I strongly support the legislation that has been put forward by Candace Miller. There have been instances where the current protection system has failed and Asian Carp seem to find a way into the Great Lakes," said Miller. "I fully agree that total separation is the only way to ensure that Asian Carp do not enter the Great Lakes."

Due to the fact that Asian Carp breed quickly, have no natural predators, and eat a great deal, they have the ability to drive out native fish. This could have very damaging effects on the Great Lakes.

Mr. Miller will be writing to the Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, as well as the Honourable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to urge them to support this legislation.

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News Release

For immediate release - February 7, 2014

Sarnia-Lambton MP Pat Davidson supports Efforts by US Congresswoman Candice Miller to Stop Asian Carp from reaching Great Lakes

Sarnia, Ontario — Today, Member of Parliament Pat Davidson (Sarnia-Lambton) announced her support for U.S. Congressional Representative (MI-10) Candice Miller's recent legislative proposal to stop Asian Carp from invading the Great Lakes.

“Scientific experts have come to the conclusion that the most foolproof option in the fight against Asian Carp that would ensure this species does not spread to the Great Lakes water basin is the complete separation of Asian carp-infested waters from waterways that access the Great Lakes”, stated Davidson. “Considering this, I wholeheartedly support this bill so that we can ensure the productivity and sustainability of our mutual recreational and commercial fishing industries across the entirety of the Great Lakes.”

Davidson also pointed out the important work done at the Federal level in Canada to combat the Asian Carp species, including a crucial study by the Fisheries and Oceans committee that she helped spearhead, as well as \$17.5 million in federal funding for research in the fight against this invasive species.

Despite these efforts, she is clear that much more must be done. “Although the Government of Canada is committed to preventing the influx of Asian Carp into the Great Lakes, we also rely on bi-lateral solutions. Our two countries have to do everything in our powers to prevent the Asian Carp from reaching the Great Lakes, and I fully support the construction of a physical barrier fully separating the infested waterways.”

Davidson is a lifelong resident of this area and agrees with Congresswoman Miller when she said, “I've lived on the Great Lakes my entire life and understand the dire need to protect and preserve them now and for generations to come.”

In the near future, Davidson will be calling on her Canadian parliamentary colleagues who represent Great Lakes communities to support bi-lateral efforts against the Asian Carp by speaking out in favour of Congresswoman Miller's important legislation.

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