



Name _____ Date _____

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- 1 What family do Asian carp belong to?
- 2 Describe the type of habitat that Asian carp prefer.
- 3 Do Asian carp care for their young?
- 4 What conditions are necessary for Asian carp to reproduce?
- 5 Why were Asian carp introduced?
- 6 Why have Asian carp been so successful in the Mississippi Basin?
- 7 What physical feature distinguishes a grass carp from a black carp?
- 8 Two riverine habitats are joined by an estuary (for example, San Francisco Bay). Asian carp invade one river. Is the other river at risk of invasion? Why or why not?

Asian Carp

- 9 How do bighead and silver carp use their pharyngeal teeth?

- 10 What physical features distinguish a silver carp from a bighead carp? How is this feature different in each fish?

- 11 List three ways in which we have benefited from Asian carp. Give an economic, a social, and an ecological benefit.

- 12 List three ways in which we have been negatively affected by Asian carp. Give an economic, a social, and an ecological impact.

- 13 Do you think the commercial harvest of Asian carp would be a good method for controlling Asian carp and reducing their ecological impact? Why or why not?

- 14 Bighead and silver carp may consume large amounts of blue-green algae. How might this affect the use of Asian carp as a food fish?

- 15 Do you think Asian carp would be able to survive and reproduce in a river near your home? Why or why not?

16 List some ways in which Asian carp could be accidentally introduced into your local river.

17 What are some things you can do to help prevent Asian carp from being introduced to the West Coast?

18 Cost benefit/risk analysis

You are the manager of a local pond valued for the wildlife diversity it supports. Unfortunately, your pond has recently been invaded by the aquatic plants elodea and parrot feather. The plants are causing huge problems: people can't swim or boat anymore, and the plants are taking up all the oxygen in the water and killing native species. Your supervisor suggests you stock the lake with grass carp to control the vegetation.

What are some potential benefits of stocking grass carp?

What are some of the risks or drawbacks of stocking grass carp? What would you do, and why?