BioAcoustic Fish Fence (BAFF) Effectiveness Study



Rob Simmonds (USFWS); Andrea Fritts, Jessica Stanton, Marybeth Brey (USGS); Jessica Morris (formerly KDFWR)

Disclaimer: This information is preliminary and is subject to revision. It is being provided to meet the need for timely best science.















BAFF Effectiveness Study



Any use of trade, product, or firm names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.















Objective:

Determine effectiveness of the BAFF for deterring translocated Silver Carp

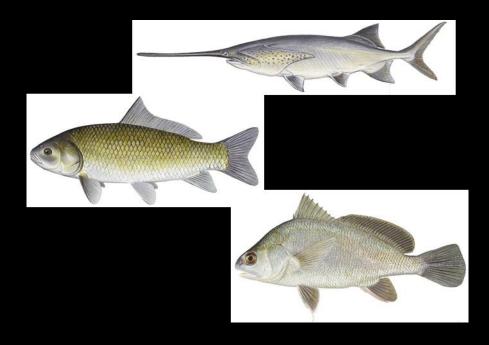






Objective:

Determine effects of the BAFF on native species



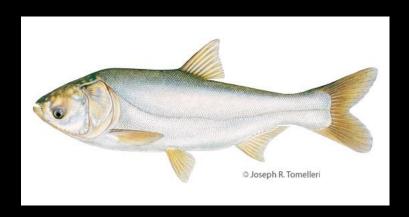




Methods and study design

Translocated Silver Carp

- >HTI Telemetry
- > 2D positioning in dwnstrm approach
- > 254 in fall 2020; 400 in spring 2021
- Tag through spring 2023
- BAFF operated week off week on

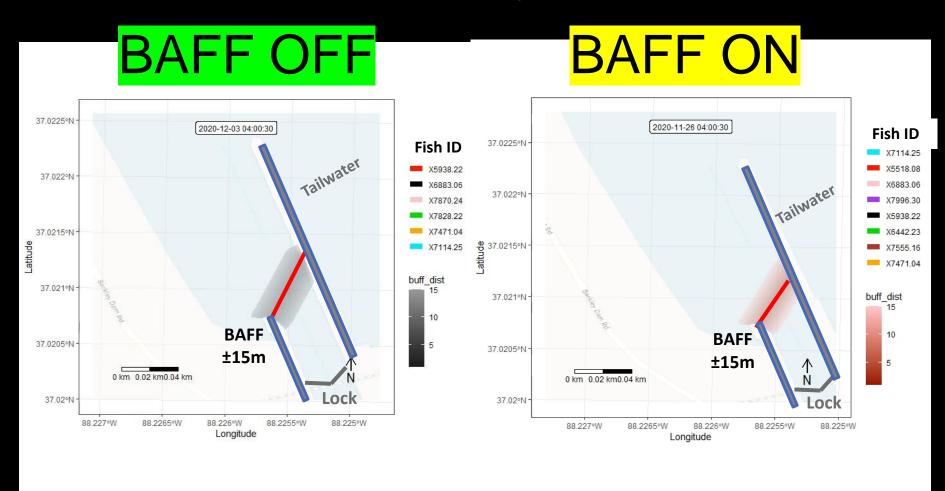






HTI receiver array

Silver Carp in downstream approach at Barkley Dam





Methods and study design

Non-translocated native fish

- > VEMCO Telemetry
- ≥ 20 PDFH, SMBF, FWDM
- Fall & Spr through Spr 2023



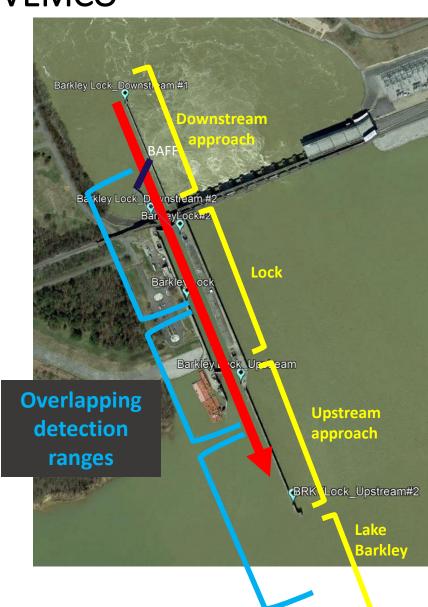


Upstream BAFF-crossing criteria - VEMCO

Sequence of detections:

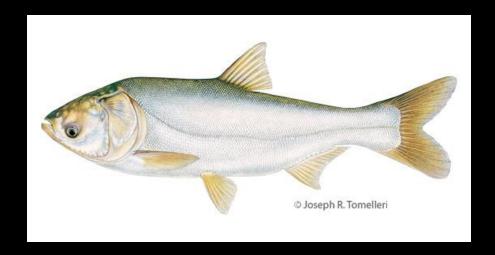
- downstream approach ->
- lock ->
- upstream approach or above





Translocated HTI Silver Carp

- 254 Silver Carp tagged Nov 2020
- Tracked Nov 1, 2020 Feb 13, 2021





Upstream BAFF crosses fall-winter

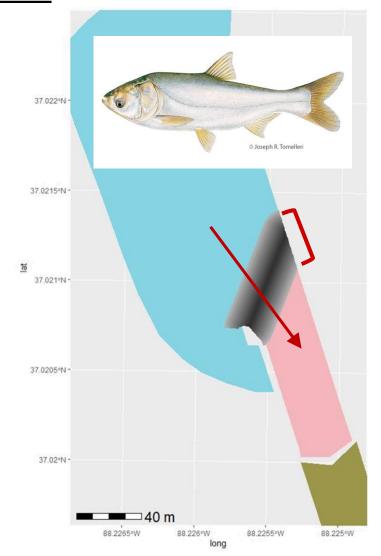
Status Crosses (fish)

 BAFF OFF
 129 (57)

 BAFF ON
 7 (4)

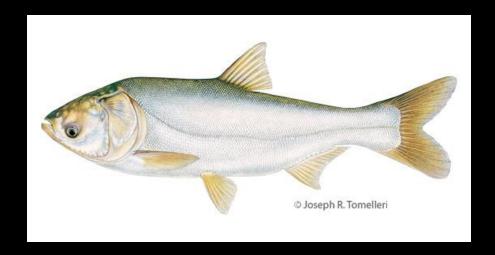
18:1 per cross basis

14:1 per fish basis



Translocated HTI Silver Carp

- 400 Silver Carp tagged late April; 80 Silver Carp previously tagged
- Tracked Apr 8, 2021 Aug 5, 2021





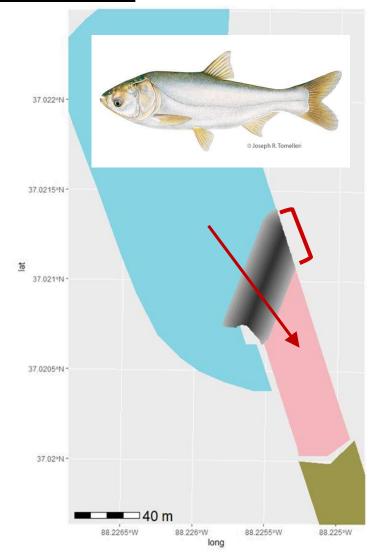
Upstream BAFF crosses spring-summer

Status Crosses (fish)

BAFF OFF 539 (190)
BAFF ON 163 (82)

<mark>3</mark>:1 per cross basis

2:1 per fish basis



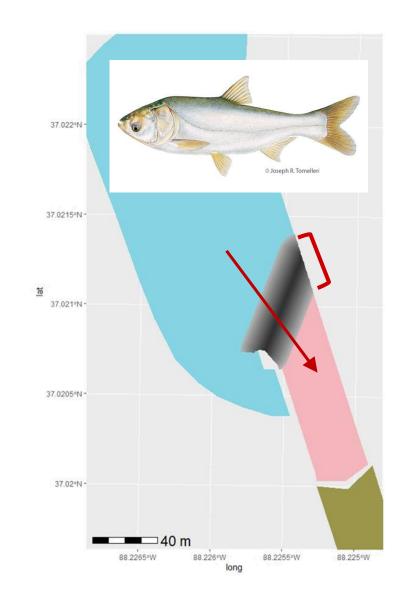


BAFF crosses fall-winter

- 18:1 per cross basis
- <mark>14:1</mark> per fish basis

BAFF crosses spring-summer

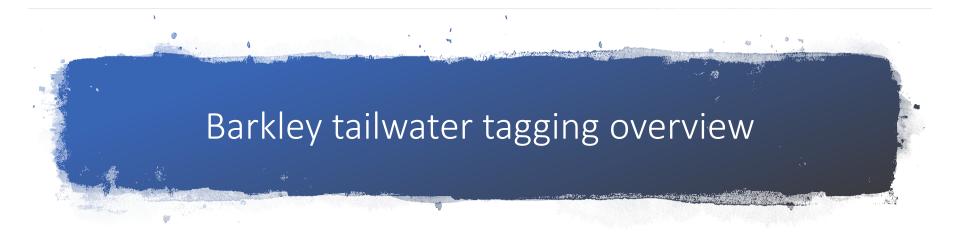
- <mark>3</mark>:1 per cross basis
- 2:1 per fish basis



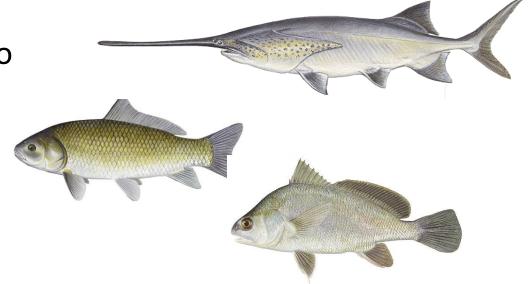


- Tailwater-captured fish (not translocated)
- Takes advantage of an ongoing study
- Passage through lock to confirm BAFF crossing





- → 73 Freshwater Drum
- **→** 53 Paddlefish
- → 102 Smallmouth Buffalo



Upstream BAFF Crossings (Oct 1, 2020 – Aug 12, 2021)

- 9 Freshwater Drum moved upstream across the BAFF
 OFF = 7 : ON = 2
- 15 Paddlefish moved upstream across the BAFF

OFF = 8 : ON = 7

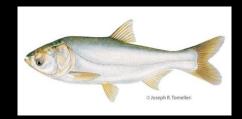
1 Smallmouth Buffalo moved upstream across the BAFF

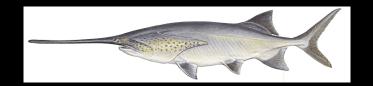
OFF = 0 : ON = 1

- 4:1 per fish basis
- 1:1 per fish basis
- <mark>0:1</mark> per fish basis



What's next?







- Continue the study
 - Additional Silver Carp and adding some Grass Carp
 - Additional numbers of our 3 native species



- Model results with time-to-event
 - **Environmental factors**
- Evaluate fine-scale behaviors
 - Individual fish behavior











